

Deputies of Former Putin Aide Chubais Arrested in Moscow

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Moskva News Agency

Moscow police arrested "several" former deputies of exiled former Kremlin aide and veteran reformer Anatoly Chubais, Russian media <u>reported</u> Thursday, citing anonymous law enforcement sources.

The arrested individuals face charges of abuse of power, sources told the state-run news agency TASS.

Unconfirmed reports from the Telegram news channel VChK-OGPU <u>claim</u> that four people were arrested, including three former deputies of the state-owned corporation Rosnano, which Chubais led for over a decade. The channel, without citing its sources, identified two of the detainees as former Rosnano executives Boris Podolsky and Artur Galstyan.

Chubais himself may be a target of the investigation, with <u>estimated</u> damages of 45 billion rubles (\$457.7 million).

The Moscow Times could not independently verify that report.

Chubais served as the Kremlin's climate envoy before resigning and leaving Russia shortly after Moscow launched its full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. He later settled in Israel, where he founded a research center at Tel Aviv University.

President Vladimir Putin has suggested that Chubais fled Russia to evade potential criminal prosecution over financial irregularities at Rosnano. Other officials have <u>called for</u> his extradition on corruption charges.

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