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INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

In Photos: Russians Vote in the First Wartime Parliamentary Elections

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Russia held elections for the lower-house State Duma for the first time since President Vladimir Putin ordered the full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. Alongside parliamentary races, gubernatorial elections and votes for local legislative assemblies took place in several regions. In what experts say was Russia's most restricted parliamentary elections to date, voters had few options to make a difference at the ballot box. The only party running on an anti-war platform, the liberal Yabloko party, was barred from the party-list ballot, and its candidates in single-member constituencies also faced exclusion and pressure from the authorities. Russia's Central Election Commission said it will announce the final results of the elections by Oct. 5.

REUTERS / Alexander Ermochenko

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