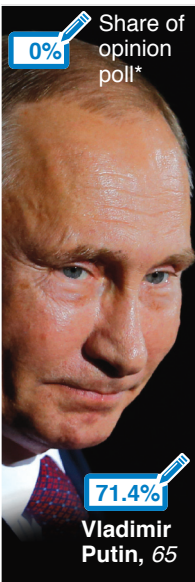


Who are Vladimir Putin's challengers?

Although Alexei Navalny, Vladimir Putin's most serious challenger, has been barred, Putin faces seven other candidates – the largest field he has faced since his first presidential election in 2000



Share of opinion poll*

0%

71.4%

Vladimir Putin, 65



6.9%

Pavel Grudinin, 57
Millionaire director of strawberry farm is **Communist Party (CPRF)** candidate. Nomination seen as attempt to broaden party's appeal beyond ageing voters



5.7%

Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, 71
Veteran firebrand ultranationalist, leader of **Liberal Democratic party (LDPR)**. Fiery populist rhetoric appeals to nationalist voters but he remains loyal to Kremlin



1.3%

Ksenia Sobchak, 36
TV celebrity who took part in 2012 anti-Putin protests. Her candidacy is seen by some as smart Kremlin manoeuvre to undermine support for Navalny – allegation she strongly denies



0.7%

Grigory Yavlinsky, 65
Head of **Yabloko** party helped liberalise Soviet economy under **Mikhail Gorbachev**. Yavlinsky wants greater political freedoms and more liberal economic course



0.4%

Boris Titov, 57
Chairman of centre-right **Party of Growth** and presidential commissioner for rights of entrepreneurs. Wants to create more favourable business environment



–

Sergei Baburin, 59
Former Duma deputy, now nationalist candidate of **Russian All-People's Union**. Supports Putin's foreign policy but criticises corruption and injustice at home



–

Maxim Suraikin, 39
Chairman of splinter group **Communists of Russia**, which broke away from CPRF in 2012. It wants to dismantle capitalist system and bring back USSR

*VCIOM poll of 3,000 voters conducted Feb 4, margin of error ± 1.8

Sources: Associated Press, BBC, Financial Times, wciom.ru

Pictures: AP, Getty Images, Vitebsk Popular News, Karina Gradusova, Facebook

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