



The Consequences and Advancements made by protests:

Anticorruption Walks, Russia

Alexei Navalny, the leader of The Progressive Party (formerly The People's Alliance) and the Russian non-profit organization Anti-Corruption Foundation was arrested after organized protests on the corruption of Russian police forces broke out (Higgins, Andrew, 2017). The outbursts of protests in Russia's capital city Moscow and St. Petersburg and other small cities was formatted as peaceful walks through the city's main streets. Playing close attention to remove themselves from the unlawful stationary protests happening concurrently around the outside of the city. These demonstrations were put on by Alexei Navalny's anticorruption foundation, becoming the largest demonstration in Moscow in the past 5 years. These two large protests were only a portion of nearly 99 similar rallies as far as Vladivostok to Kaliningrad that concluded in nearly 1,400 arrests (Higgins, Andrew, 2017). However, all but 17 of these rallies were declared illegal by the authorities and any demonstrators were forcefully detained, the very same law enforcement in question.

Much of Navalny's political reform stands for decentralizing power in Putin's Russia and ensuring independence in the judiciary. The marches were therefore created as peace walks to promote the questionable political actions taking place within the Kremlin. During his sentencing following the demonstrations Navalny accused the judge of meddling with the justification of his arrest written by the police (Lister, Tim, 2017). This coupled by his attitude towards centralized power and trickle-down corruption has erupted large debate over the ethics of the police and judicial forces. Though the protests have been shadowed quite enormously by the medias centralized interest on the assaults and arrests that took part, the purpose of the demonstration must remain intact for any justice for the peaceful demonstrators to occur. White House Secretary Sean Spicer has requested that all peaceful protestors be released and has condemned the detention of peaceful protestors. Noting that the unlawful arrests interfere with core democratic values.



The large backing for Navalny's anticorruption foundation is due in part to his criminal conviction of embezzlement last February (Mortimer, 2017). Omitting Navalny from the 2018 election as the opposition leader to Putin. The 5-year suspended prison sentence he says was organized to prevent him from running for president and holds no truth in the allegations (Mortimer, 2017). As a public figure and leader of the political reform group the arrests hold heavy as Navalny's political platform was centered on justice, the limitation of presidency power, and the division of the courts and political parties.

Protests of this fashion will remain a prominent action against corruption and though Alexei Navalny will not be able to be a candidate in the upcoming election, his consistent presence will certainly spark more support with other political parties. This spark is the outcome of perseverance and the cause for community development that will continue to grow in areas affected in Russia and resembling countries facing similar injustices.

written by Harrison C. Fox

Additional information:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/26/world/europe/moscow-protests-aleksei-navalny.html>

<http://www.cnn.com/2017/06/12/europe/alexey-navalny-russia-protests-moscow/index.html>

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/russian-presidential-election-2018-aleksei-navalny-opposition-leader-formally-barred-putin-a7805141.html>