



**SeriouslyUS?**  
@USseriously.

Thread Reader App  
37 tweets - 23 Nov 2017

[USseriously/status/933536056036732928](https://twitter.com/USseriously/status/933536056036732928)

In September of 2004, armed terrorists took 1,100 hostages in a school in Beslan, Russia. After three days, Russian security forces stormed the building using tanks, rockets and other heavy weapons. The siege ended with the death of at least 385 people.

[#TrumpRussia](#) thread 📌



The incident sparked bitter controversy over the competence of the security forces and shook confidence in the Kremlin. To end the controversy, Putin assigned a parliamentary commission to investigate the incident, and put this man in charge of it: Aleksander Porfirievich Torshin



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPSWLH3W0AA71v7.jpg>

Torshin's report, made public in 2005, absolved the national security forces and blamed the local authorities in Beslan for not having done enough to contain the tragedy. Afterwards, Putin did not forget Torshin and rewarded him for his loyalty with political and financial power



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPSWYIPXUAExpYt.jpg>

By 2011 Torshin was vice speaker of the Federation Council, a leading figure in Putin's party and a controversial lobbyist. But, he was also becoming one of the key figures in the Kremlin's outreach to the conservative movement in the United States.



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPSWoibWkAAS7yX.jpg>

That year, 2011, a conservative Nashville lawyer named G. Kline Preston IV, who had done business in Russia for years, introduced Torshin to David Keene, then the NRA's president.



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPSXEGaXkAErXww.jpg>



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPSXGKyXUAUksCY.jpg>

Torshin and his aide Maria Butina, a photogenic activist originally from Siberia, began building a gun rights

movement in Russia. Butina founded a group called the 'Right to Bear Arms', while Torshin announced plans to introduce a law expanding access to handguns.



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPSXUTMXkAAizMx.jpg>



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPSXUVFXcAEv6oM.jpg>



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPSXUVGWAEC8c5.jpg>





[https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPSXUauXcAIWs\\_r.jpg](https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPSXUauXcAIWs_r.jpg)

Torshin was invited to attend his first NRA annual meeting in Houston, Texas in May 2013 and Butina and Torshin invited Keene and other U.S. gun advocates to their annual meeting in Moscow.



[https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPSYRb8W4AA\\_vXY.jpg](https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPSYRb8W4AA_vXY.jpg)

Alan Gottlieb (middle 👉) of the Second Amendment Foundation, recalled that Torshin and Butina took him and his wife out for dinner and gave them gifts that displayed research into their interests. “They wanted to keep communications open and form friendships,” Gottlieb said. 🙄



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPSYgCNX0AEzshq.png>

While Torshin is obtaining close access to NRA officials, Spanish national police starts an investigation into a Russian organized crime syndicate known as the 'Taganskaya'.

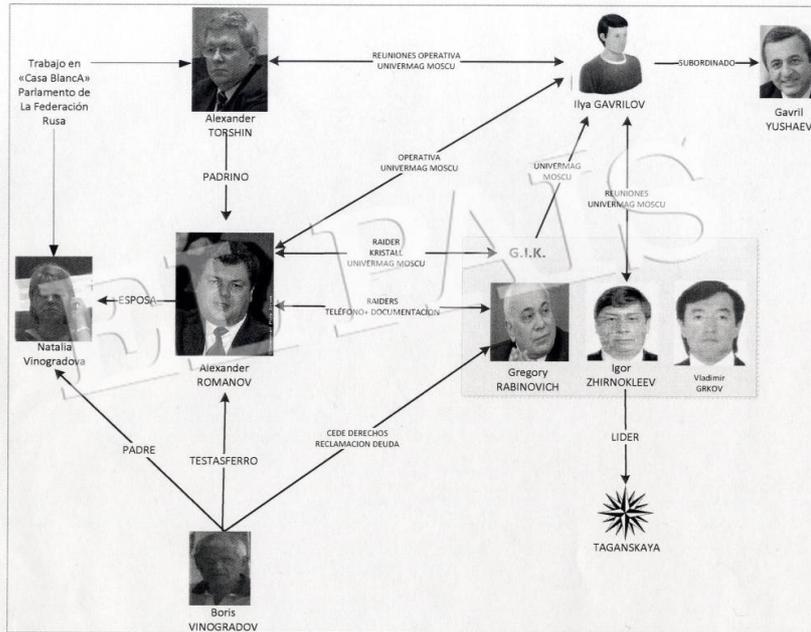


<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPSaGWeWAAEXKPA.jpg>

Spanish investigators recorded 33 phone conversations between Torshin and Moscow mob boss Romanov, in which Romanov referred to Torshin as “el padrino”. (godfather). Torshin had engaged in money laundering for the Taganskaya, channeling funds through banks and properties in Spain



FISCALIA ESPECIAL  
CONTRA LA CORRUPCIÓN Y LA  
CRIMINALIDAD ORGANIZADA  
DELEGACIÓN DE  
LAS ISLAS BALEARES



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPSafrxWAAAdBYx.jpg>

Torshin was planning to attend Romanov's birthday party in 2013. The Spanish national police prepared to arrest the banker, deploying a dozen officers at the airport. But a Russian official in the Ministry of Interior at the Russian Embassy in Madrid had tipped Torshin off.



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPSdIPwW0AA4F8b.jpg>

So instead of spending his time in Spanish prison, Torshin still got to visit his beloved NRA meetings. In 2015 Putin appointed him to be deputy head of Central Bank of Russia. He selected Maria Butina as his special assistant.



[https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPSfHD\\_XUAASCPH.jpg](https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPSfHD_XUAASCPH.jpg)

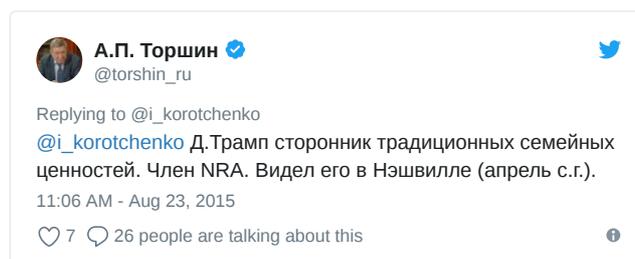
In April 2015, Torshin and Butina traveled to Tennessee to attend a fundraiser for a political group backing the presidential campaign of Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker, then viewed as a leading contender for the GOP

nomination.



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPSfro-X0AApdkT.jpg>

Here's where it gets interesting. On that same trip, Alexander Torshin, apparently met Trump in Nashville in 2015  
👉 Translation: "D. Trump supporter of traditional family values. A Member Of The NRA. Saw him in Nashville (April of this year)"\*



In June 2015 Butina wrote this column in the National Interest, a magazine published by the same think tank that hosted Trump's foreign policy speech in April 2016, where he met Russian ambassador Sergey Kislyak.



#### The Bear and the Elephant

"It may take the election of a Republican to the White House in 2016 to improve relations between the Russian Federation and the United States."

<http://nationalinterest.org/feature/the-bear-the-elephant-13098>

<http://nationalinterest.org/feature/the-bear-the-elephant-13098>

In July 2015 Butina flew to Las Vegas for one of Trump's first campaign events and gets to ask him whether he would end the "damaging" U.S. government sanctions on Russia. "I know Putin, and I'll tell you what, we'll get along with Putin."



At the end of 2015, Torshin and Butina welcomed a delegation to Moscow that included Keene, top NRA donors and Sheriff David Clarke. The group met with Russian Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin, who was among the officials sanctioned following Russia's invasion of Ukraine.



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPSoZfiX0AA4nWu.jpg>



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPSoeMXUAEzaRm.jpg>





<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPSogBnWkAABA2k.jpg>

According to the Milwaukee County ethics disclosure form David Clarke filled out, Butina's 'The Right To Bear Arms' paid \$6,000 for his trip to Moscow.



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPSggkRWsAUTxy.jpg>

THIS SPACE FOR ETHICS BOARD OFFICE USE ONLY

RCVD FEB 01 2016

**STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTEREST**

**Milwaukee County Ethics Board  
 Courthouse Room 212  
 901 North 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Milwaukee, WI 53233  
 Telephone – 278-5332 \* Fax – 223-1897**

**CURRENT INFORMATION:** All information given below must be current; that is, not prior to the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding the month this statement is prepared.

**TYPE OR PRINT:** Additional directions, definitions and other pertinent information are contained in the Instruction Sheet (yellow insert). Please read it carefully BEFORE completing the Statement. If more space is needed, please use additional sheets.

**DATE PREPARED:** January 31, 2016  
(Month) (Day) (Year)

**NAME:** Clarke, Jr. David A.  
(Last) (First) (Middle Initial)

**POSITION SOUGHT/HELD w/COUNTY GOVERNMENT:** Sheriff

**SPOUSE'S NAME:** Clarke Julie A.  
(Last) (First) (Middle Initial)

**I. OFFICES, DIRECTORSHIPS & POSITIONS**

\* In this section, "Organization" means any corporation, partnership, proprietorship, firm, enterprise, franchise, association, trust, Board, Commission or other legal entity other than an individual or body politic.

**1A:** As of the date cited above, were you or your spouse an officer, partner, sole proprietor, director or trustee of any business or other organization?  Yes  No

**1B:** As of the date cited above, were you or your spouse an officer of or did you or your spouse hold a position with any organization doing business with Milwaukee County or receiving funds from Milwaukee County? (9.04(1)(a) and (f)).  Yes  No

If you have answered no to both above items, please check here:  Proceed to Item #2

If you have answered yes to either 1A or 1B above, identify each business or organization and position held:

Name of Business or Corporation	City & State	Position Held
National Sheriffs' Association	Washington DC	Legal Affairs Committee
National Rifle Association	Fairfax, VA	Law Enforcement Assistance Committee
National Rifle Association	Fairfax, VA	Outreach Committee
Julie - WI Realtor's Association	Madison, WI	Board of Director

January 2015

Delivered 2:45p to Alisha Terry

<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPSqjJKXkAAI8f8.jpg>

- **INCUMBENTS** now in elective public office and current County employees are to **SKIP** Item #8.
- **CANDIDATES** for elective public office are to **SKIP** Item #7.

**7. GIFTS, HONORARIA, FEES & EXPENSES**

List each individual and organization from which you or your spouse received a GIFT, HONORARIUM, FEE and EXPENSES during the preceding taxable year. (9.14) For a full understanding of this reporting requirement, it is important that you read Section 9.14, Code of Ethics, in its entirety.

**7A: GIFTS including ENTERTAINMENT.** A "gift" is the receipt of anything of value (9.02(1)), which is furnished without valuable consideration. Do not include anything received, which was made for a purpose unrelated to duties or responsibilities of the position of the official or employee. List all individuals and organizations from which you received in the past year entertainment or gifts having a total value of \$50 or more, not including the value of food or beverage offered coincidentally with a talk or meeting related to the business of the County. Include tickets to sporting or theatrical events, golfing fees, prizes, samples of promotional items from sales representatives or as part of business promotions and similar items.

**7B: HONORARIA, FEES AND EXPENSES FOR TALKS AND PUBLICATIONS RELATED TO PUBLIC OFFICE.** List each individual or organization from which you or your spouse received, in the past year, lodging, transportation, money or other things having a total value of \$50 or more, not including the value of food or beverage offered coincidentally with a talk or meeting where the subject matter of which was related to your duties or responsibilities of your position with the County. You do not have to list information about a payment: (1) if you returned it within 30 days; (2) if you received it from the County; or (3) if you have previously reported the payment to the Ethics Board as a matter of public record (9.14(2)(a) and (b) and 9.14(3))

If you or your spouse has no reporting(s), please check here:

If you or your spouse has reporting(s) for Item #7, please use the enclosed form titled for this purpose and submit with you Statement.

Proceed to signature section at the bottom of this page.

**8. CANDIDATES ONLY for elective public office are to furnish the following information:**

Name of present employer and position you hold:  
 County of Milwaukee Sheriff  
(Employer) (Position)

**9. ALL FILERS SIGNATURE:**

By signing this form, I certify that the information contained in this Statement of Economic Interests is true, correct and complete to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

*[Handwritten Signature]*

*[Handwritten Signature]*

X Nancy A. Lerner Jr.  
 Signature of person filing Statement  
 414-278-4766

1/16/2016  
 Date of Signature

Telephone number during normal business hours

**NOTES:**

- Chapter 9, County General Ordinances, authorizes this form and prescribes penalties for the failure of a County Officer or employee and candidate for County Public Office to file this form in a timely manner. (S. 9.03 & 9.04, Code of Ethics, C.G.O.)
- In all cases when the Statement is submitted, it is to be accompanied by the completed form titled "Appendix A Affidavit", (form enclosed) pursuant to S. 0.03(5) and Appendix A of Chapter 9, Code of Ethics, C.G.O.

January 2015

<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPSgkqWkAAVsFn.jpg>

Date	Sponsor/Event	Location	Meals	Hotel	Transportation	Honoraria Speaker's Fee Gifts Tickets	Misc. or Notes	Total
Nov. 9	Myrtle Beach, S.C. Police Dept. Best Practices Summit speaker	Myrtle Beach, S.C.	200.00 per diem	250.00 est.	893.98 airfare 222.00 ground	51.34 welcome basket		1617.32
Nov. 21	NRA-Law Enforcement Assistance Committee meeting	Fairfax, VA	148.07	155.76	325.00 airfare 145.46 ground			785.29
Nov. 28 - Dec. 8	NRA Ring of Freedom	Israel			10,149.00 airfare to Israel		20,006.00 Ground transportation hotels & meals - Israel	20,155.00
Dec. 8-13	Pete Brownell	Russia			12,302.92 airfare to Russia	1,482.18 Visas		13,785.10
Dec. 8 - 13	All-Russia Public Organization "The Right to Bear Arms"	Russia	1200.00	3000.00	1000.00 ground		800.00 Exclusions	6000.00
2015	Car service for media interviews							22,500.00

February 1, 2016

<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPSqmNWX0AA4xYo.jpg>

In February 2016 Torshin tweets this. Translation: "Maria Butina now in the United States. He writes me that d. Trump (member of the NRA) really for cooperation with Russia."



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPSrnfwXUAEPC1.jpg>

On May 20, 2016, the NRA endorsed Donald Trump for president of the United States at their annual meeting in Louisville, Kentucky. Torshin is there. Ultimately the NRA would spend more than \$30 million to elect Trump—more than Trump's top super PAC.



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPSsKSyXkAAqxEw.jpg>

Torshin was seated with Donald Trump Jr., during a private dinner on the sidelines of the May 2016 NRA event in Louisville. Torshin had been trying to set up a meeting with Donald Trump but ended up being introduced to Trump's son.



After the election, Butina and Torshin began expanding their Washington profile, until his mob ties were discovered. Torshin and Butina returned to the US with a delegation of prominent Russians to attend the annual National Prayer Breakfast in Washington in February 2017.



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPSxjAWSAAhml9.jpg>

Torshin, accompanied by 15 Russian church and government officials, requested to meet Trump before he spoke at the event. However, the White House abruptly canceled the planned meeting after reports surfaced that Torshin led an organized crime and money-laundering operation.



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPSzpDqXcAABMo0.jpg>

That night, Torshin gathered for a festive dinner at the Bistro Bis dinner in DC, with two Republicans who supported warmer ties with Russia; Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (CA-48) and Rep. Thomas Massie (KY-04).



**He's a Member of Congress. The Kremlin Likes Him So Much It Gave Hi...**  
Longtime ties to Russia have led to some suggestions that Dana Rohrabacher, Republican of California, is a valued asset there. He has laughed it off, but now investigators are calling.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/11/21/us/politics/dana-rohrabacher-putin-trump-krem...>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/11/21/us/politics/dana-rohrabacher-putin-trump-kremlin-under-fire.html?mtrref=www.google.nl&gwh=EAE623CAA4BA7BC51923AB85CA8BA9E1&gwt=pay>

Torshin, and his protégée Maria Butina have been part of a years-long campaign to build connections between Russia's leaders and American conservatives. I wouldn't be surprised if they were financed by both the Kremlin and the NRA.



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPS8lOwX4AAbcf.jpg>





<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPS8mO6XcAdD2y.jpg>



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPS8m34XUAAMWbt.jpg>

OK, sorry for this extremely long thread. I'm almost done, but here's a little bonus that blew my mind, because once you start digging, e-v-e-r-y-t-h-i-n-g seems to be connected. Here's Torshin again, with a woman named Yulya Alferova.



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPS9WXbWsAAxgqv.jpg>

Alferova is a Russian businesswoman with links to the Kremlin. She is married to Artem Klyushin, a rich politician. Emin and Aras Agalarov, who helped arrange the Trump Tower meeting with Russian lawyer Veselnitskyaka, hired her to organize the Miss Universe 2013 social media.



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPTAe7NX4AES8Q9.jpg>

Here she is with Rob Goldstone, the music publicist who contacted Donald Trump Jr. and helped set up the 2016 Trump Tower meeting,



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPTB7AfXUAICzUV.jpg>



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPTB9S4X4AlieLA.jpg>

Alferova promised Trump support from Russia back in 2014 (!)



 **Alferova Yulya**  
@AlferovaYulyaE



I'm sure [@realDonaldTrump](#) will be great president! We'll support you from Russia! America needs ambitious leader!

9:26 PM - Jan 22, 2014

♥ 2,553 💬 4,406 people are talking about this

Alferova seems to have spent a good deal of time with Trump in Moscow in 2013.



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPTekHOWsAAU1Jl.jpg>



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPTewSNXUAEVPL.jpg>





<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPTFIHYWAADigE.jpg>



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPTFMYCWSAA6y9Q.jpg>

Yulya Alferova posted this on the day the alleged Trump 'pee pee tape' would have been recorded. Apparently

Trump couldn't stop talking about Obama. Ok, tell me more.. 🗨️

 **Alferova Yulya**  
@AlferovaYulyaE Follow

I'm tweeting, Donald Trump  
[@realDonaldTrump](#) is talking... Again and  
again about Obama))



7:24 AM - 9 Nov 2013 from [Moscow, Russia](#)

4 Retweets 7 Likes



 1  4  7 

<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPTFXG1WAAAmRLO.jpg>

How many Russians have selfies with both Trump and Putin on their timeline?



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPTICYhWkAAkXLJ.jpg>

And of course she's met Steven Seagal, who seems to know every Russian of interest personally. I did a whole thread on him here:



**SeriouslyUS?**  
@USseriously



Steven Seagal met with Aras Agalarov and his son Emin this weekend, Agalarov's the Russian oligarch connecting the Trumps And Putin. #WTF 🙄🙄

12:13 AM - Oct 3, 2017

70 78 people are talking about this



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPT13JSXkAEN1iz.jpg>

Wow. I guess this thread was a little too close for comfort? Aleksander Torshin blocked me..



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPXUdwDXcAAj0b1.jpg>

Anyway, back to Yulya Alferova and her husband Artem Klyushin, pictured here with Trump. Klyushin is close friends with one of the leading pro-Kremlin bloggers in Russia; Konstantin Rykov, the man behind the Russian pro-Trump website [trump2016.ru](http://trump2016.ru)



<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPX54jWkAEyLVQ.jpg>

In March of 2016 Klyushin posts a tweet describing a "secret meeting" he had with Konstantin Rykov.



**АРТЕМ КЛЮШИН**   
@ARTEM\_KLYUSHIN



Секретное совещание... Идеология сверхпотребления более опасна для нас, чем идеология тоталитаризма. Ищем альтернативу

11:18 AM - Mar 1, 2016 · Moscow, Russia

 28  77 people are talking about this

Shortly after Trump won the election in November 2016, pro-Kremlin blogger and former lawmaker Konstantin Rykov posted these two posts on Facebook, detailing a four year effort to elect Trump. 🇷🇺



**Konstantin Rykov**

12 November 2016 · 🌐

Follow



It's time for wonderful stories. I'll tell you about (now it's possible) how Donald Trump and I decided to free America and make it great again. This took us as much as 4 years and 2 more days.

It all started at night from 6 to 7 November 2012.

It was the night of the presidential election. Sparring between Obama and Republican Romney. I then madly fanated from twitter and entertained myself by leading online broadcast and commented on the results.

It's no secret that I have always sympathized with Republicans (except McCain) and drowned against the democratic State Department. Professor [Michael McFaul](#) remembers this story well and we will return to his role in it.

So! All normal people then it was obvious that if Barack Obama was re-elected for a second term, then it would be a catastrophe for the whole world.

Even then, we perfectly understood that the Arab Spring will not end, and Ukraine, sanctions, Syria and so on are ahead of us. The victory of Obama will be destructive not only for Russia, but for the whole world.

Unfortunately, Romney was unable to wrest then the victory of the vile liberals and already at 8:20 am admitted his defeat. He's just a weak-willed politician. Nothing personal.

To say that I was very worried .. means nothing to say. I was furious. He wrote angry tweets and sent curses.

The only person on the whole network, who then fought to the end, did not want to recognize and put up with the results, was Donald Fredovich.

He lifted his plane to the sky and flew between New York and DC, calling the whole world through his twitter - to start a march on Washington!

Without a moment's thought, I wrote him a replay, which sounded like this in Russian: "I'm ready." What should I do? "

But .. there was no answer from Trump.

Frankly, I thought then that Donald had moved off the topic. I was even more upset and decided to go to sleep.

I could not fall asleep. He was lying. I looked at the ceiling and horrified images of the future unfolded in my head. Wars. Global terrorism. State coups.

Suddenly! There was a thin squeak of warning in the DM.

I opened the app and did not believe my eyes.

It was a message from Donald Trump. More precisely a picture. In the picture he was sitting in the armchair of his jet, smiling cheerfully and showing me the thumb of his right hand.

To be continued...

Part two:

<https://www.facebook.com/konstantin.rykov/posts/1021064355867544>

6



**Konstantin Rykov**

14 November 2016 · 🌐

 Follow



Part two.

What was our idea with Donald Trump?

For four years and two days .. it was necessary to get to everyone in the brain and grab all possible means of mass perception of reality. Ensure

the victory of Donald in the election of the US President. Then create a political alliance between the United States, France, Russia (and a number of other states) and establish a new world order.

Four years and two days is, on the one hand, a very long time, and on the other very small. Our idea was insane, but realizable.

In order to understand everything for the beginning, it was necessary to "digitize" all possible types of modern man.

Donald decided to invite for this task - the special scientific department of the "Cambridge University."

British scientists from Cambridge Analytica suggested making 5,000 existing human psychotypes - the "ideal image" of a possible Trump supporter. Then .. put this image back on all psychotypes and thus pick up a universal key to anyone and everyone.

Development as a result cost Donald Fredovich \$ 5 million. But! He got his hands on - a secret super weapon.

Who was engaged in targeted advertising .. will understand what it means.

Remember how much money Clinton funds and "their supporters" spent on campaigning around the world? 5 times more than Trump.

But who invested in network promotion is 5 times more than Hillary and became president? Also Donald Trump.

Then it was only necessary to upload this data to information flows and social networks. And we began to look for those who would have coped with this task better than others.

At the very beginning of the brave and romantic was not very much. A pair of hacker groups, civil journalists from WikiLeaks and political strategist [Mikhail Kovalev](#) .

The next step was to develop a system for transferring tasks and information, so that no gebuha and NSA could not burn it.

How to make it so that even people who do not speak each other's language, could exchange information faster than everyone, understand each other from a half-word, feel the trends and influence their development?

The programming of such a system took about a year. Another year left for tests and revision. Eventually. For a year with a little, we installed a "Media Filter" for everyone who had time to pull up our conspiracy and on August 18, 2015, opened the portal Trump-2016.

August 19. At 9:00, I received a message from Vladimir Volfovich in DM.  
To be continued...

Part one:

<https://www.facebook.com/konstantin.rykov/posts/10210621124674610>

<https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DPX-uUZW4AA5Ump.jpg>