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Ivan Rybkin was born on October 20, , in the Voronezh countryside. He graduated from the Volgograd Agricultural Institute in , completed graduate school there, and worked as a teacher until . With the beginning of perestroika, he launched an ambitious political career and became the second secretary of the Volgograd Oblast committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. As of the fall of , he was a member of the Agrarian Party, on whose list he was elected to the Duma. In this capacity he proved a pragmatic politician. He lost the support of the leftists in he was excluded from the Agrarian Party , but gained the support of the Kremlin. In the summer of , the Kremlin brought forth an initiative to create two centrist blocs for the elections: This latter subsequently came to be called the "Ivan Rybkin bloc," which gained 1. The bloc was dissolved, but Rybkin was nonetheless elected to the Duma by single-mandate district in his homeland, Voronezh Oblast. Before the second round of presidential elections, Boris Yeltsin created the Political Advisory Council to the President of the Russian Federation , which included representatives of parties and public associations that had not made it into the Duma. Rybkin, who had recently registered the Socialist Party, was appointed chair of the council. A few months later, Rybkin replaced Alexander Lebed as secretary of the Security Council , in which capacity he worked until , focusing mainly on Chechnya. His deputy was for some time Boris Berezovsky, with whom Rybkin maintains close relations. In 1997, with the discussion and adoption of the law on political parties, which required the presence of branch offices in at least half the regions of the country, the processes of integration strengthened considerably. From mid onward, Rybkin participated in talks concerning the creation of a United Social-Democratic Party of Russia, along with Mikhail Gorbachev and other well-known politicians. The unification process was difficult, due not so much to divergence of views as to a clash of ambitions. It was effected only in March , and on a visibly more modest scale. Rybkin became its chair. The honeymoon period was short, however, and within a few weeks, Rybkin resigned as chair and the Socialist Party of Russia left the coalition. In April , at a congress of the Socialist United Party of Russia, he was officially removed from the position of chair and excluded from the party. His alleged offenses included an open letter to Putin, which called for ending the Chechnya war and beginning negotiations with Aslan Maskhadov; collaboration with the SPS; and unsanctioned contacts with Berezovsky.

Political Change from Gorbachev to Putin. McFaul, Michael, and Markov, Sergei. *The Troubled Birth of Russian Democracy: Parties, Personalities, and Programs*. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Reddaway, Peter, and Glinski, Dmitri. *Market Bolshevism against Democracy*. Institute of Peace Press. Nikolai Petrov Pick a style below, and copy the text for your bibliography.

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The demise of communism in the Soviet Union could not have occurred without the activism of dissident, anticommunist leaders who created and nourished a climate in which ordinary Russians gained the courage to stand up to and defeat communist control.

The bloc was formed in January at a conference of about candidates and campaign workers. This pressure was a major factor leading to the decision of the Soviet parliament in March to amend Article 6 of the Soviet Constitution by removing the reference to the Communist Party of the Soviet Union CPSU as "the leading and guiding force" of Soviet society. The bloc won the plurality of seats in the election on 26 March about out of It also won majorities in key local Soviets, including Moscow and Leningrad, as well as Sverdlovsk and other major cities. Its initial membership stood at around 60, but it had the support of allied factions "Democratic Platform" and "Left Center" set up by other deputies elected with the support of the DR bloc; together, they wielded large influence over unaffiliated deputies. In , the faction, led by Ponomaryov, lost members and allies mostly as a result of growing opposition to economic reforms and the shift of power toward the executive. Democratic Russia caucuses or blocs were also formed in the spring of in regional and local Soviets by deputies that won their seats with the support of the DR Election Bloc. These factions controlled the majority of votes in key cities, including Moscow and Leningrad. Their subsequent history mirrored the path of the DR caucus in the federal parliament. It was constituted as an umbrella organization to include both collective and individual members. DRM held its first, constituent congress in Moscow on 20â€”21 October It was governed by two bodies, a Council of Representatives, of over people delegated by regional affiliates and collective members; and a smaller Coordinating Council members representing functional units, collective members, and popular politicians. The overall political orientation of its leadership was liberal and united around the common goal of removing the CPSU from power, but internal factions immediately emerged both on the left and on the right. It was much more divided over local politics, particularly the high-speed privatization initiated by Moscow and St. Petersburg authorities including its own former leaders and candidates that many viewed as rigged in favor of Communist-era establishment and "the mafia". In foreign policy, DRM was pro-Western, supportive of foreign minister Andrey Kozyrev , and advocated closer relations with European institutions. It was neutral or supportive with regard to independence movements in Soviet republics. It also played a central role in mobilizing grassroots resistance to the abortive August hardline coup against Gorbachev and Yeltsin and defeating it. By this time, membership in DRM reached ,, [3] which made it the largest nationwide political organization when CPSU ceased to exist in the aftermath of the coup in late August At that point, it rapidly began to lose influence and membership. On the other hand, a number of liberal democrats, such as Yuri Afanasyev and his Independent Civic Initiative, a team of radical intellectuals Leonid Batkin, Yury Burtin et al. They wanted DRM to present Yeltsin with conditions of its continued support for his policies, a view that the rest of the leadership opposed. This led to their departure from DRM leadership in early After a brief struggle to regain control over DRM, Afanasyev and his one-time ally Marina Salye tried to build an alternative nationwide movement, but had to abandon this effort by late DRM rallies attracted fewer and fewer participants, and it was soon outperformed in this regard by the nationalist and leftist opposition. The rump organization remained one of the most consistently pro-Yeltsin during the power struggle between Yeltsin and the legislature. DRM tried to compensate for its decline by setting up short-lived umbrella associations, such as "Democratic Choice" and "Joint Committee of Democratic Organizations of Russia". Other DRM founders and leaders were elected to the Duma as candidates of other formations, such as "Yavlinsky-Boldyrev-Lukin" election bloc, the future Yabloko. DPR formed its own faction in the Duma, winning 5. DRM ceased to exist as an independent political force by A rump organization, led by Ponomaryov, Starovoitova et al. Its members remained divided between supporting Yeltsin vs. Yavlinsky, until it was de facto absorbed by the pro-Yeltsin Union of Rightist Forces in the election.

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