



The Assassination of Alexei Navalny

Dr Robert Horvath and Petr Kuzmin

Tuesday 12 March 2024: 5:30pm for 6 – 7pm AEDT Level 13, 356 Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

Russian opposition leader and political prisoner Alexei Navalny died under suspicious circumstances in a Russian Arctic prison on February 16.

His death followed years of anti-Putin and anti-corruption activism, imprisonment in Siberia, and poisoning in August of 2020. After treatment in Germany for his attempted assassination, Navalny returned to Russia, where he was sentenced to 19 years in prison.

Details surrounding the cause of his death are limited.



The future of the Russian opposition remains unclear with Navalny's wife Yulia Navalnaya vowing to continue his work with the Anti-Corruption Foundation.

What are the immediate and long-term implications of Navalny's death? Will it strengthen or weaken the Putin regime? What does it mean for the Russian pro-democracy movement and for protest within Russia?

AIIA Victoria invites you to join Dr. Robert Horvath and anti-war activist Petr Kuzmin to discuss this significant event and its implications.



Dr Robert Horvath is a specialist in Russian Politics. His most recent book, *Putin's Fascists: Russkii Obraz and the Politics of Managed Nationalism in Russia*, focuses on the link between the Putin regime and radical nationalism in Russia. Horvath is currently pursuing research into the Putin regime's manipulation of Russian nationalism, its assault on international human rights institutions, and its intervention in Africa. His commentary has been published in *The Age*, *The Australian*, *The Conversation*, *The Lowy Interpreter*, and *The Canberra Times*. He has appeared on ABC's *Four Corners*, the *BBC World News*, Channel 9's *Under Investigation* and *A Current Affair*.

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Petr Kuzmin is a Russian-Australian anti-war activist and one of the founders of a grassroots pro-democracy movement Svoboda Alliance AU&NZ that sprang up organically in Australia and New Zealand in the wake of protests that swept Russia in 2021 upon Alexei Navalny's return and arrest. This movement has adopted a strong anti-war stance and is conducting ongoing solidarity rallies to emphasise strong cultural and human links between the people of Ukraine and Russia.