

National Bolshevism

National Bolshevism, often shortened to **Nazbolism**,^[1] Russian: Нацболы) is a political movement that combines elements of radical nationalism (especially Russian nationalism) and Bolshevism.^[2]

Leading practitioners and theorists of National Bolshevism include Aleksandr Dugin and Eduard Limonov, who leads the unregistered and banned National Bolshevik Party (NBP) in Russia.^[3]

The Franco-Belgian Parti Communistaire National-Européen shares National Bolshevism's desire for the creation of a united Europe as well as many of the NBP's economic ideas. French political figure Christian Bouchet has also been influenced by the idea.^[4]



Members of the National Bolshevik Party

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German National Bolshevism

"National Bolshevism" as a term was first used to describe a current in the Communist Party of Germany (KPD) and then the Communist Workers' Party of Germany (KAPD) which wanted to ally the insurgent communist movement with dissident nationalist groups in the German army who rejected the Treaty of Versailles.^[5] They were led by Heinrich Laufenberg and Fritz Wolffheim, based in Hamburg. Their expulsion from the KAPD was one of the conditions that Karl Radek explained was necessary if the KAPD was to be welcomed to the Third Congress of the Third International. However the demand that they withdraw from the KAPD would probably have happened anyway Radek had dismissed the pair as "National Bolsheviks", the first recorded use of the term in a German context.^[6]

Radek subsequently courted some of the radical nationalists he had met in prison to unite with the Bolsheviks in the name of National Bolshevism. He saw in a revival of National Bolshevism a way to "remove the capitalist isolation" of the Soviet Union.^[2]

During the 1920s, a number of German intellectuals began a dialogue which created a synthesis between radical nationalism (typically referencing Prussianism) and Bolshevism as it existed in the Soviet Union. The main figure in this was Ernst Niekisch of the Old Social Democratic Party of Germany who edited the Widerstand journal.^[7]

A National Bolshevik tendency also existed with the German Youth Movement, led by Karl Otto Paetel. Paetel had been a supporter of the Nazi Party but became disillusioned with them as he did not feel they were truly committed to revolutionary activity or socialist economics. His 1930-formed movement, the Group of Social Revolutionary Nationalists, sought to forge a "third way"

between the Nazis and the Communists, emphasising both nationalism and socialist economics.^[8] He was especially active in a largely unsuccessful attempt to win section of the Hitler Youth over to his cause!^[9]

Although members of the National Socialist German Workers' Party under Adolf Hitler did not take part in Niekisch's National Bolshevik project and usually presented Bolshevism in exclusively negative terms as a "Jewish conspiracy", in the early 1930s there was a parallel tendency within the NSDAP which advocated similar views. This was represented by what has come to be known as Strasserism. A group led by Hermann Ehrhardt, Otto Strasser and Walther Stennes broke away in 1930 to found the Combat League of Revolutionary National Socialists (commonly known as the Black Front).^[10]

Russian National Bolshevism

Russian Civil War

In Russia, as the civil war dragged on, a number of prominent "Whites" switched to the Bolshevik side because they saw it as the only hope for restoring greatness to Russia. Amongst these was Professor Nikolai Ustrialov, initially an anti-communist, who came to believe that Bolshevism could be modified to serve nationalistic purposes. His followers, the Smenovekhovtsi (named after a series of articles he published in 1921) *Smena vekh* (Russian: change of milestones), came to regard themselves as National Bolsheviks, borrowing the term from Niekisch.^[11]

Similar ideas were expressed by the Evraziitsi party and the pro-Monarchist Mladorossi. Joseph Stalin's idea of "socialism in one country" was interpreted as a victory by the National Bolsheviks.^[11] Vladimir Lenin, who did not use the term 'National Bolshevism', identified the Smenovekhovtsi as a tendency of the old Constitutional Democratic Party who saw Russian communism as just an evolution in the process of Russian aggrandisement. He further added that they were a 'class enemy' and warned against communists believing them to be allies!^[12]

Co-option of National Bolshevism

Ustrialov and others sympathetic to the Smenovekhovtsi cause, such as Aleksey Nikolayevich Tolstoy and Ilya Ehrenburg, were eventually able to return to the Soviet Union and, following the co-option of aspects of nationalism by Stalin and his ideologue Andrei Zhdanov, enjoyed membership of the intellectual elite under the designation "non-party" Bolsheviks.^[13] Similarly B.D. Grekov's National Bolshevik school of historiography, a frequent target under Lenin, was officially recognised and even promoted under Stalin, albeit after accepting the main tenets of Stalinism.^[14] Indeed, it has been argued that National Bolshevism was the main impetus for the revival of patriotism as an official part of state ideology in the 1930s.^[15]

Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn vs Eduard Limonov

The term *National Bolshevism* has sometimes been applied to Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, and his brand of anti-communism.^[16] However, in his *History of the Soviet Union* Geoffrey Hosking argues Solzhenitsyn cannot be labelled a National Bolshevik since he was thoroughly anti-Marxist and anti-Stalinist, and he wished a revival of Russian culture that would see a greater role for the Russian Orthodox Church, a withdrawal of Russia from its role overseas, and a state of international isolationism.^[16] Solzhenitsyn and his followers, known as *vozhzhedentsy* (*revivalists*) differed from the National Bolsheviks, who were not religious in tone (although not completely hostile to religion), and who felt that involvement overseas was important for the prestige and power of Russia.^[16]



Ernst Niekisch's *Widerstand* journal featuring the original National Bolshevik eagle symbol

There was open hostility between Solzhenitsyn and Eduard Limonov, the head of Russia's unregistered National Bolshevik Party. Solzhenitsyn had described Limonov as "a little insect who writes pornography", and Limonov described Solzhenitsyn as a traitor to his homeland who contributed to the downfall of the USSR. In *The Oak and the Calf*, Solzhenitsyn openly attacked the notions that the Russians were 'the noblest in the world' and that 'tsarism and Bolshevism ... [were] equally irreproachable', defining this as the core of the National Bolshevism to which he was opposed.^[17]

National Bolshevik Party

The current National Bolshevik Party was founded in 1992 as the National Bolshevik Front, an amalgamation of six minor groups.^[18] The party has always been led by Eduard Limonov. The group's early policies and actions show some alignment and sympathy with radical nationalist groups, but a split occurred in the 2000s which changed this to an extent. Opposed to Vladimir Putin, Limonov has somewhat liberalized the NBP, and joined forces with leftist and liberal groups in Garry Kasparov's United Civil Front to fight Putin.^[19]

See also

- Ba'athism
- Black Front
- Cold War II
- Eurasianism
- Greater Russia
- Marxism–Leninism
- Neo-Sovietism
- Neo-Stalinism
- Putinism
- Right-wing socialism
- Russian nationalism
- Russophilia
- Soviet socialist patriotism

Footnotes

1. *Russian Nationalism, Foreign Policy and Identity Debates in Putin's Russia: New Ideological Patterns after the Orange Revolution* (<https://books.google.com/books?id=8943BAAAQBAJ&pg=PA147&lpg=PA147&dq=nationalist+bolshevism+%22nazbol%22&source=bl&ots=VqjgCs8E9M&sig=ibc5cYNT9zJHBQTjI6TvYK36LS8&hl=en&sa=X&vec=0ahUKEwixpdO835bYhVBQSYKHfMJDPM4ChDoAQguMAE#v=onepage&q=nationalist%20bolshevism%20%22nazbol%22&f=false>) Columbia University Press 2014. p. 147. ISBN 9783838263250 Retrieved 25 March 2018.
2. Von Klemperer, Klemens (1951). "Towards a Fourth Reich? The History of National Bolshevism in Germany". *Review of Politics* **13** (2): 191–210. doi:10.1017/S0034670500047422(<https://doi.org/10.1017%2FS0034670500047422>).
3. Court Upholds Registration Ban Against National Bolshevik Party(<http://en.rian.ru/russia/20060413/46148849.html>)
4. G. Atkinson, 'Nazi shooter targets Chirac'(<http://www.searchlightmagazine.com/index.php?link=template&story=48>) *Searchlight*, August 2002
5. Pierre Broué, Ian Birchall, Eric D. Weitz, John Archer, *The German Revolution, 1917–1923* Haymarket Books, 2006, p. 325-326
6. Timothy S. Brown, *Weimar Radicals: Nazis and Communists Between Authenticity and Performance* Berghahn Books, 2009, p. 95
7. Martin A. Lee, *The Beast Reawakens* Warner Books, 1998, p. 315
8. Brown, *Weimar Radicals*, pp. 31-32
9. Brown, *Weimar Radicals*, p. 134
10. Robert Lewis Koehl, *The SS: A History 1919–1945* Tempus Publishing, 2004, pp. 61–63
11. Lee, *The Beast Reawakens* p. 316
12. Speech by V.I. Lenin on 27 March 1922 in V.Lenin, *On the Intelligentsia* Moscow: Progress Publishers, 1983, pp. 296-9
13. S.V. Utechin, *Russian Political Thought: A Concise and Comprehensive History* JM Dent & Sons, 1964, pp. 254–255
14. Utechin, *Russian Political Thought* p. 255

15. Utechin, *Russian Political Thought* p. 241
16. G. Hosking, *A History of the Soviet Union* London: Fontana, 1990, pp. 421–2
17. A. Solzhenitsyn, *The Oak and the Calf* 1975, pp.119–129
18. M. A. Lee, *The Beast Reawakens* 1997, p. 314
19. Remnick, David (1 October 2007). "The Tsar's Opponent" (<http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2007/10/01/the-tsars-opponent>). *The New Yorker*. Retrieved 15 September 2015.

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Modern National Bolsheviks

National Bolshevism, also known as **Nazbolism**, is a neo-fascist and Third positionist ideology that combines wingnut and moonbat positions. The origin of National Bolshevism can be traced back to the years following the Russian revolution, when nationalist groups supportive of the new communist government broke with Lenin over the "national question" and sought their own countries, or for a more

Russian nationalist form of socialism.

The modern National Bolshevik Party came about in the aftermath of the collapse of the USSR. Originally formed by Aleksander Dugin and **Eduard Limonov**,^W the party combined traditional Bolshevik ideology with radical nationalism, and adopted neo-nazi symbolism. This includes their logo, a hammer and sickle on a flag similar to that of Nazi Germany.

By 2007, the Russian government had banned the party, and the former members split into two groups. Supporters of Limonov founded the **Other Russia party**,^W which followed a more traditional Leninist model and endorsed direct democracy and anti-fascism. Followers of the more fascistic Dugin created the National Bolshevik Front and embraced anti-semitism, ultra-conservatism and fascism as its primary ideological goals.

Currently, the nazbols are relatively disorganized with many members defecting to mainstream Russian nationalist parties

See also

- Nazism
- Third Position
- Alt-right
- Ba'ath Party

Frogs and swastikas Alt-right



Hitler wannabes

- Hoppe and Evola
- Taylor and Spencer
- Bannon and Milo
- SF, TDS, TRS and /pol/

Their loud fanboys

- Aleksandr Dugin
- Alex Jones
- John Derbyshire
- Mouthy Buddha

Rebuilding racism

- Nick Fuentes
- Pizzagate
- Steve Bannon
- The Storm

Buzzwords

- Alt-right glossary
- Manosphere glossary

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- Aleksandr Dugin
- Left-wing fascism
- Willis Carto
- National anarchism
- Jürgen Elsässer

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