

Sergey Kovalev

Russian human rights activist, former dissident, biophysicist, former political prisoner. Member of the Action Group for the Defence of Human Rights, co-founder of the Association Memorial and the Moscow branch of Amnesty International.

In post-Soviet Russia parliamentarian, member of the Presidium of the Supreme Council of the Russian Federation, Chairman of the Parliamentary Human Rights Committee, Chairman of the Human Rights Commission under the President of the Russian Federation and Human Rights Commissioner, member of the Russian delegation in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

Critic of authoritarian tendencies of the administration of Boris Yeltsin and Vladimir Putin. He publicly protested against the war in Chechnya. In April 2014 in an open letter he appealed to the international community to stop the Russian expansion in Ukraine.

Three times nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. The winner of the Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought awarded by the European Parliament. He was also awarded the Grand Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland.