

TIMELINE OF SESSIONS, FLYNN AND RUSSIA.

By: <https://twitter.com/@ironstowe>

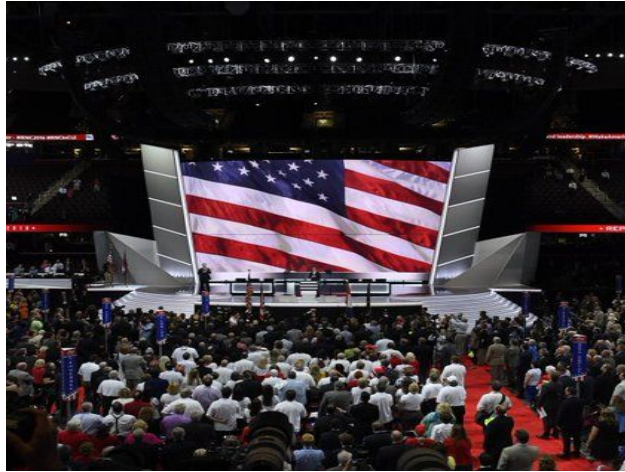
1. At a platform meeting on the week of July 11, Trump campaign officials intervened to change the Republican Party campaign platform to be less supportive of American assistance in helping Ukraine fight off Russian military.



Trump campaign guts GOP's anti-Russia stance on Ukraine

Campaign chairman Paul Manafort lobbied for years for the country's Russia-backed former president. [washingtonpost.com](https://www.washingtonpost.com)

2. On the morning of July 18, the Heritage Foundation staged a panel for an audience of foreign ambassadors in Cleveland for the convention at which, according to delegate Victor Ashe, "much of the discussion focused on Russia's incursions into Ukraine and Georgia."



[Delegate diary: Side events more interesting than the convention](#)

Through past associations and positions, former Knoxville Mayor Victor Ashe has been invited to several events in Cleveland during the Republican National Co... [archive.knoxnews.com](#)

3. Jeff Sessions, though apparently not a panelist , attended it and afterward “spoke individually to the ambassadors, including Kislyak.”



[Analysis | What Jeff Sessions said about Russia, and when](#)

[A timeline. washingtonpost.com](#)

4. On July 23, WikiLeaks released emails stolen from the Democratic National Committee that revealed nothing illegal and offered no smoking gun evidence of misconduct or primary rigging, but which angered supporters of Bernie Sanders. WikiLeaks published 20,000 private Democratic Party emails. Here's what they show.

http://www.vox.com/2016/7/23/12261020/dnc-email-leaks-explained?utm_campaign=vox&utm_content=entry&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter ... via @voxdotcom



[WikiLeaks published 20,000 private Democratic Party emails. Here's what they show.](http://www.vox.com/2016/7/23/12261020/dnc-email-leaks-explained?utm_campaign=vox&utm_content=entry&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter)

The emails show DNC staffers complaining about Bernie Sanders and being careless with private donor information. [Vox.com](http://www.vox.com)

5. On July 24 with the Democratic convention set to start the next day, DNC Chair Debbie Wasserman Schultz stepped down from her position as part of an ongoing effort by Sanders and Hillary Clinton's campaign to put the primary behind them and unify against Trump. Why DNC Chair Debbie Wasserman Schultz won't speak at her own party's convention

<http://www.vox.com/2016/7/24/12265380/dnc-chair-wasserman-schultz-em>

[ail-leaks?utm_campaign=vox&utm_content=entry&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter ...](#) via [@voxdotcom](#)



[Why DNC Chair Debbie Wasserman Schultz won't speak at her own party's convention](#)

The WikiLeaks email revelations are not a good look for the DNC, and the party knows it. [Vox.com](#)

6. On July 27, Donald Trump gave a press conference at which he sought to fan the flames of Democratic disunity and called on Russian hackers to assist his campaign: "Russia, if you're listening, I hope you're able to find the 30,000 emails that are missing.

Trump to the Russians: If you're listening, I hope you find Hillary Clin... [youtu.be/ZnY7D4M4k68](#) via [@YouTube](#)



[Donald Trump Calls on Russia to Find Hillary Clinton's Missing Emails](#)

“Russia, if you’re listening, I hope you’re able to find the 30,000 emails that are missing,” Mr. Trump said, essentially encouraging a foreign power’s ...
[Nytimes.com](#)

7. On July 31, Sessions (who used to be a conventional GOP Russia hawk) went on CNN and took a new, softer line on Russia: “This whole problem with Russia is really disastrous for America, for Russia, and for the world. Donald Trump is right. We need to figure out a way to end this cycle of hostility that’s putting this country at risk, costing us billions of dollars in defense.

Interview with Jeff Sessions: U.S. and Europe "Have to Unify" Against Russia | [RealClearWorld](#)



[Interview with Jeff Sessions: U.S. and Europe "Have to Unify" Against Russia | RealClearWorld](#)

[Sen. Jeff Sessions \(R-Alabama\) sounded notes of sharp concern last weekend at the Brussels Forum conference. He chided European states on their defense spending I... realclearworld.com](#)

8. On August 14, the New York Times reported the existence of a ledger that claimed Trump campaign chair Paul Manafort had been paid \$12.7 million in cash by a pro-Russian political party in Ukraine for which he used to work.



[Secret Ledger in Ukraine Lists Cash for Donald Trump's Campaign Chief](#)

An examination of the activities of Paul Manafort shows how he benefited from powerful interests that are now under scrutiny. [nytimes.com](#)

9. On August 19, Manafort resigned from the Trump campaign, in part due to the cloud of suspicions regarding his ties to Russia.

http://www.vox.com/2016/8/19/12552738/trump-campaign-paul-manafort-resigns?utm_campaign=vox&utm_content=entry&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter ... via [@voxdotcom](#)



[Donald Trump's campaign chair Paul Manafort just resigned](#)

Another attempt to save the struggling Trump campaign. [vox.com](#)

10. On August 21, longtime Trump associate and veteran GOP campaign operative Roger Stone tweeted a prediction: “Trust me, it will soon be the [sic] Podesta's time in the barrel. [#CrookedHillary](#)”

Roger Stone [@RogerJStoneJr](#)

Trust me, it will soon be the Podesta's time in the barrel.

[#CrookedHillary](#) 7:24 AM - 21 Aug 2016

11. On September 7, Trump made a primetime NBC News appearance during which he made comments favorable to Russia and Putin that played very poorly with most US political pundits. Chris Cillizza called them “bananas,” for example. NBC News Commander-in-Chief Forum: how to watch Trump, Clinton online, TV

http://www.vox.com/2016/9/7/12830404/trump-clinton-commander-in-chief-forum-nbc-news-pre-debate?utm_campaign=vox&utm_content=entry&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter ... via @voxdotcom



[NBC News Commander-in-Chief Forum: how to watch Trump, Clinton online, TV](#)

The pre-presidential debate begins at 8 pm Eastern Wednesday.

vox.com



[Donald Trump's answer on Russia and Vladimir Putin at the NBC forum was totally bananas](#)

B-A-N-A-N-A-S [washingtonpost.com](https://www.washingtonpost.com)

12. On September 8, Sessions and Kislyak met in Session's office. It's not clear what they talked about, but an administration official told NBC that during this kind of meeting between a senator and a diplomat, people "often make superficial comments about election-related news" without the election being the subject of the meeting per se.



[Analysis | What Jeff Sessions said about Russia, and when](#)

A timeline. [washingtonpost.com](https://www.washingtonpost.com)

13. Starting on October 7 and continuing throughout the month, WikiLeaks published emails stolen from Clinton campaign chair John Podesta.

The emails were not released as a single dump, the way one might do for simple public information purposes, but rather dribbled out to create a steady drip-drip-drip of stories.

14. Over the final month of the campaign, Trump mentioned WikiLeaks or emails published by WikiLeaks 164 times.

15. On November 8, Donald Trump was elected president.

16. On December 29, President Barack Obama announced sanctions against Russia.

17. The same day, Flynn had a conversation with Kislyak during which sanctions were discussed.

18. On December 30, Putin somewhat unexpected announced there would be no retaliation for the sanctions.

19. Later that day, Donald Trump tweeted: "Great move on delay (by V. Putin) - I always knew he was very smart!"