

Russia bans 'The Death of Stalin' from movie theaters
Art/Bks/Film

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The film sheds a comic light on the power struggle after Joseph Stalin's death in 1953. A group of officials and film directors said the film was "extremist" and "aimed at humiliating the Russian people." What the government action on the film highlights is that the Putin regime, which never had much in the way of a sense of humor, has lost what it had. Of course, what the Kremlin has really done is to insure that VTR copies get distributed in the hundreds of thousands and that just about anyone in the country who really wants to see the film will have an opportunity.

From Deutsche Welle, Jan 23, 2018 Russia's Culture Ministry on Tuesday banned the satirical film "The Death of Stalin" from Russian theaters after politicians and prominent film figures criticized it for mocking Russian history. The ministry said it decided to pull the movie's license because it contained "information whose distribution is legally banned in Russia," according to AFP news agency. The film by Scottish writer-director Armando Iannucci, based on a French graphic novel of the same name, comically portrays the power struggle after Soviet leader Joseph Stalin's death in 1953. It premiered in September at the Toronto International Film Festival and was set to open in Russia on Thursday. Read more: [Seeking justice for Stalin's victims](#) [⋮]
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