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May 10 · 19 tweets · [P_Kallioniemi/status/1656244377646256130](https://twitter.com/P_Kallioniemi/status/1656244377646256130)

In today's [#vatniksoup](#), I'll introduce a British politician and TV presenter, Nigel Farage ([@Nigel_Farage](#)). He's best-known for his prominent role in the Brexit campaign, and for his bootlicking of Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin.

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Farage joined the Conservative party at the age of 14. From early on, euroscepticism was at the core of his politics and he voted for the Green Party in 1989 due to their "sensible" policies towards the EU. He left the Conservative party in 1992 in protest to the signing...

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Broadening appeal

Mr Farage is a founder member of UKIP, having defected from the Conservatives after John Major signed the Maastricht Treaty.

He says he wants to broaden UKIP from a single issue party to occupy ground vacated David Cameron's Conservatives on issues such as immigration, taxation and education.

"UKIP is a national political party, and it must begin to act like one," he said in his campaign literature.

He believes that by taking local elections seriously and having a detailed national manifesto the party can emulate the success of the Scottish National Party - achieving a longed-for breakthrough into Westminster politics.

He beat Labour into fourth place at the recent Bromley and Chislehurst by-election, although some in the party believed he should have done even better, given the amount of cash spent on the campaign.

In his more expansive moments, Mr Farage speaks of waging war on the entire Westminster establishment - claiming UKIP is the only voice of opposition to what he sees as the cosy left liberal consensus of the three main parties.

But he is expected to leave the day-to-day running of the party in the UK to party chairman and defeated leadership rival David Campbell Bannerman.

...of the Treaty on European Union, which forms the basis of the EU law. In 1993, Farage was a founding member of the Eurosceptic, right-wing populist UK Independence Party (UKIP). He was elected as a Member of the European Parliament (MEP) in 1999, and was re-elected in...

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...2004, 2009, 2014. While in the EP, he exposed various political figures for their shady deals, including Jacques Barrot and the President of the European Commission, José Manuel Barroso. He also attacked Belgian politician Herman Van Rompuy, declaring that...

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A screenshot of a BBC News website page. The main headline reads "Tirade against 'damp rag' EU president shocks MEPs". The article text includes a quote from Nigel Farage: "You have all the charisma of a damp rag" and describes his attack on Herman Van Rompuy. The page layout includes a navigation menu on the left, a main content area, and a sidebar with "INSIDE EUROPE" and "LATEST NEWS" sections. The page is dated Wednesday, 24 February 2010.

...he had the "charisma of a damp rag" and that he looked like "a low grade bank clerk".

In 2009, Farage boasted about using over 2 million £ of taxpayer money in staff, travel, and other expenses. In 2014 he declared 205 603 £ over ten years in gifts.

5/24

The Observer
European elections

This article is more than 13 years old

Ukip leader Nigel Farage boasts of his £2m in expenses

Farage used EU allowances to finance his eurosceptic message

Toby Helm, Whitehall Editor
Sun 24 May 2009 00:01 BST



© Nigel Farage, leader of Ukip, became an MEP in 1999. Photograph: Frantzeo Kargaris/EPA

The following correction was printed in the Observer's For the record column, Sunday May 31 2009

BBC NEWS

Home | War in Ukraine | Coronation | Climate | Video | World | UK | Business | Tech | Science

Politics | Parliaments | Brexit

UKIP leader Nigel Farage declares £205,603 in gifts

12 June 2014



A senior member, Kevin Ellul Bonici, of Nigel's parliamentary EU group was known for making trips to the Russian embassy in Belgium and for organizing smear campaigns against Kremlin critics. One former staffer stated that Ellul Bonici returned from each of these...

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Nigel Farage

This article is more than 5 years old

The Farage staffer, the Russian embassy and a smear campaign against a Kremlin critic

Worker for Farage's group in EU parliament was 'frequent visitor to embassy' and accused of role in propaganda stunt

Stephanie Kirchgaessner
@skirchgy
Mon 18 Dec 2017 11:18 GMT



© Nigel Farage is part of the Europe of Freedom and Direct Democracy group (EFDD) in the European parliament. Photograph: Jean-Francois Badias/AP

A senior member of Nigel Farage's parliamentary group staff in Brussels was known for making trips to the Russian embassy in Belgium and was accused of orchestrating a smear campaign against a critic of the Kremlin, the Guardian has been told.

Two former staffers who worked for Farage's Europe of Freedom and Direct Democracy group (EFDD) and who spoke to the Guardian on condition of anonymity said a senior member of the group's staff, a native of Malta named

...trips with "a bootload of propaganda". Ellul Bonici was also responsible for uploading Farage clips on "many fringe sites".

Since the beginning of his political career, Farage's politics has been all about one thing and one thing only: UK leaving the EU.

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He was one of the main drivers of the Brexit campaign, and was involved in both the Vote Leave and [Leave.EU](#) movements. Farage's main financial backer over the years has been businessman Arron Banks.

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When Obama flew to London to "convince" Brits to stay in the EU, Farage called it a "monstrous interference". Ironically, a month later, Farage himself said in an interview with Robert Peston that if "he were an eligible US voter he would vote for Trump in the 2016 presidential..

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LEADERSHIP · BREXIT

President Obama Flies to London to Convince Brits to Stay in the EU

BY REUTERS
April 21, 2016 at 11:16 AM GMT-3



WASHINGTON, DC — APRIL 21 U.S. President Barack Obama (L) talks to Prime Minister of the United Kingdom David Cameron (R) during a scenario-based policy discussion of the 2016 Nuclear Security Summit April 1, 2016 in Washington, DC. U.S. President Barack Obama is hosting the fourth and final in a series of summits to highlight accomplishments and make new commitments towards reducing the threat of nuclear terrorism. (Photo by Alex Wong/Getty Images)

PHOTOGRAPH BY ALEX WONG—GETTY IMAGES

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May 6, 2023
BY RACHEL REIFF ELLIS

COMMENTARY
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... election". Few months later he visited the Republican convention with his aide, George Cotrell, and engaged in discussions with Trump's people. Before they could leave the US, Cotrell was arrested on 21 federal counts, including fraud, money laundering and extortion.

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Nigel Farage aide, George Cottrell, denies 21 counts of fraud, money laundering and extortion

By David Milward, ENCORRESPONDENT
20 August 2016 - 7:26am

READ MORE ABOUT:
Drugs, Gambling, Nigel Farage, Brexiters, Channel 4

A photograph of George Cottrell standing in front of a white door of a house. He is wearing a dark suit and a blue tie. A silver car is partially visible to the right.

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Nigel Farage's aide arrested as FBI probe links to money laundering and 'drug traffickers'

By Luke Shillington
19 August 2016 - 11:32am

READ MORE ABOUT:
FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation), UK Independence Party (UKIP), US Politics, Mitt Romney, Conservative Party, Donald Trump, Labour Party, Crime

A photograph of Nigel Farage speaking on a television screen. He is wearing a dark suit and a pink tie. The background shows a cityscape at night with the word "NIGHT" visible in large letters.

In Aug 2016, Farage, his funder Arron Banks, and Andy Wigmore met with Trump at a fundraiser in Mississippi. Later they attended Trump's campaign rally, where he asked Farage to give a speech and introduced him as "Mr. Brexit".

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The Washington Post
Democracy Dies in Darkness

This article was published more than 4 years ago

Politics Fact Checker Biden administration The 202s Polling Democracy in America Election 2024

How the 'Bad Boys of Brexit' forged ties with Russia and the Trump campaign — and came under investigators' scrutiny

By Manuel Roig-Franzia, Rosalind S. Helderman, William Booth and Tom Hamburger
June 28, 2018 at 7:14 p.m. EDT



What do the 'Bad Boys of Brexit' have to do with Trump?
2:53

Three British men who played major roles in the Brexit vote had several meetings with a Russian Ambassador sometimes days before meeting with Trump's campaign. (Video: Joyce Koh/The Washington Post. Photo: (Wigmore/Finr/WENN)/The Washington Post)

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After Trump won the presidency, Farage stated that he "couldn't be happier".

In the same interview he described Obama as a "loathsome individual" and as "that Obama creature".

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Nigel Farage causes controversy describing Barack Obama as a 'loathsome creature' - and warns Donald Trump not to 'touch' Theresa May

By Laura Hughes, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT
10 November 2016 • 7:53pm

READ MORE ABOUT:
Nigel Farage, Donald Trump



Nigel Farage has described Barack Obama as a "creature" and joked about warning Donald Trump not to "touch" Theresa May.

The interim Ukip leader said the current US President was a "loathsome individual who couldn't stand our country."

Mr Farage also suggested he could act as a middle man between the next Republican President and the British Prime Minister, as he [called on Mr Trump](#) to try and "schmooze" her.

Speaking on talkRADIO, he said: "I'm now going to [become a diplomat](#). Come and schmooze Theresa - don't touch her, for goodness sake."

The radio programme's presenters said: "Only in an affectionate way - like Bush did to the Queen." To which Mr Farage replied: "I could be there as the responsible adult to make sure everything is OK."

Nigel was listed by the FBI as a person of interest in their investigation on the Russian interference in the 2016 US election due to his connections to Trump, WikiLeaks and Julian Assange. One source claimed that "he's right in the middle of these relationships.

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Nigel Farage

This article is more than 5 years old


Nigel Farage is 'person of interest' in FBI investigation into Trump and Russia

Exclusive: FBI interested in former Ukip leader's ties with people connected to US president and WikiLeaks' Julian Assange

Stephanie Kirchgaessner, Nick Hopkins and Luke Harding

Fri 2 Jun 2017 10.31 BST

f t e



📷 Donald Trump with Nigel Farage during a campaign rally in Jackson, Mississippi, in August 2016
Photograph: Jonathan Bachman/Getty Images

Nigel Farage is a "person of interest" in the US counter-intelligence investigation that is looking into possible collusion between the Kremlin and Donald Trump's presidential campaign, the Guardian has been told.

Sources with knowledge of the investigation said the former Ukip leader had raised the interest of FBI investigators because of his relationships with individuals connected to both the Trump campaign and [Julian Assange](#), the WikiLeaks founder whom Farage visited in March.

He turns up over and over again. There's a lot of attention being paid to him." Farage had met with Assange and his lawyers, and Assange and his lawyer were even given an opportunity to contribute to the speeches given by the UKIP. In return, UKIP organized people...

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Farage has not been accused of wrongdoing and is not a suspect or a target of the US investigation. But being a person of interest means investigators believe he may have information about the acts that are under investigation and he may therefore be subject to their scrutiny.

Sources who spoke to the Guardian said it was Farage's proximity to people at the heart of the investigation that was being examined as an element in their broader inquiry into how **Russia** may have worked with Trump campaign officials to influence the US election.

"One of the things the intelligence investigators have been looking at is points of contact and persons involved," one source said. "If you triangulate Russia, WikiLeaks, Assange and Trump associates the person who comes up with the most hits is **Nigel Farage**."

"He's right in the middle of these relationships. He turns up over and over again. There's a lot of attention being paid to him."

The source mentioned Farage's links with Roger Stone, Trump's long-time political adviser who has admitted being in contact with Guccifer 2.0, a hacker whom US intelligence agencies believe to be a Kremlin agent.

...for a pro-Assange demonstration in London. Documentarian Daniel DiMauro said that Farage had a dinner with Roger Stone and Alex Jones. In Oct 2017, Farage was attending a discussion on LBC radio station where one of the callers suggested that the pro-Israeli lobby in..

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Mother Jones Smart, Fearless Journalism

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CRIME AND JUSTICE | JUNE 9, 2017


Roger Stone: I Hooked Up Nigel Farage With Donald Trump

Farage says Stone did no such thing.

BY DAVID COHN
Washington, DC, Bureau Chief
Bio | Follow

THE LINCOLN MOTOR COMPANY TRIBECA FILM FESTIVAL

Brent N. Clarke/AP



Stone makes his own appearance in the timeline. One of the film-makers behind the brilliant 2017 documentary *Get Me Roger Stone*, Daniel DiMauro, spoke to me about a meeting that he witnessed between Stone, Alex Jones and Farage during the Republican National Convention, 18-21 July 2016.

"Stone had arranged to have dinner with Alex Jones and Nigel Farage," he tells me. And they followed him with the camera crew. "But we got to the restaurant and Farage's people were: 'No, no, no! You can't film. You can't film.' It was weird. Jones and Stone were totally open to it. But Farage was 'No way'. He didn't want any record of it. We didn't know what to make of it."

Another member of the crew told me: "It was the first time that Alex Jones, Roger Stone and Nigel Farage met face to face. We'd had a wire on Roger everywhere we went but when we turned up to meet Farage and his guy, he [Farage's aide] was absolutely adamant."

"What was so noticeable was how Alex Jones was so pumped up afterwards about the leaks that were coming. He was saying it openly on his show. And then days later, the DNC leaks dropped [on July 22] and blew apart the Democratic National Convention."

Less than two weeks later, on August 4, 2016, Roger Stone would also go on Alex Jones's radio show and trail a new release. There would be "proof" of a scandal involving "Clinton Foundation", a new "devastating" leak. "I think Julian Assange has that proof," he said.

...the US was equally dangerous to the Russian interference in the US politics. Farage called it a "reasonable point", and stated that "there are about 6 million Jewish people living in America, so as a percentage it's quite small, but in terms of influence it's quite big".

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Farage has also appeared alongside conspiracy theorists from LaRouche movement and InfoWars, and shared content from Pizzagate promoter and serial liar Jack Posobiec. He has also described George Soros as "the biggest danger to the entire western world".

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After his Brexit Party didn't gain any seats in the 2019 UK general election, Nigel traveled yet again overseas to work as a warm-up speaker for Trump in his 2020 campaign. In 2021 he did a six-week tour in the US, where he addressed Republican audiences across the country.

18/24

The screenshot shows a news article from The Telegraph. The main headline is "Nigel Farage flies into America for speaking tour to re-energise 'disillusioned' Conservative voters". Below the headline is a sub-headline: "The tour has been organised by FreedomWorks, a Conservative group which advocates for smaller government, lower taxes and free markets". The author is listed as "By Jamie Johnson, US CORRESPONDENT" and the date is "26 April 2021, 6:40pm". There are social media sharing icons for Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, and Email. Below the text is a photograph of Nigel Farage and Donald Trump standing together at an event. A large blue sign in the background reads "FIGHTING FOR THE AMERICAN DREAM" with "2020" at the bottom. The sign also features five stars at the top.

Farage has also suggested that the UK should work more closely with Putin, and that "on this bigger overall battle we need to start recognizing we're on the same side". If the "same side" he's referring to means that we have to conduct chemical attacks on children and...

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Farage has arguably shown more friendship towards Russia than the EU, and in November 2015, **suggested working more closely with Russia** and its president Vladimir Putin on Syria. "The European Union, and the West, view Putin as the devil. They want to view Putin as the devil. I'm not saying I want take him around for tea and meet mum on Sunday afternoon ... But the point is, on this bigger overall battle we need to start recognizing we're on the same side," he said to LBC Radio.

It wasn't his only controversial opinion on Syria. In 2013, **Farage called** some members of the EU parliament "extreme militarists," alleging they supported intervention in Syria. And when former prime minister of Belgium Herman van Rompuy interrupted him during that session, he said "why don't you shut up and listen for a change?" on the parliament floor. "You must be—you really must be the vilest and rudest man in European politics! And you rant on, and the Chair lets you get away with it because you're the former Prime Minister of Belgium!" concluded Farage.

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