# Three convicted Russian spies confirmed at 2016 Brexit debates in Westminster



An ongoing investigation into a Russian espionage cell operating in the United Kingdom has revealed that three individuals previously convicted for spying were present during Brexit debates held in the Palace of Westminster in 2016. The convicted spies—Orlin Roussev, Biser Dzhambazov, and Katrin Ivanova—have been confirmed to have attended these debates, with at least two confirmed through photographs captured during the event.

The images, identified by the BBC, depict Roussev and Dzhambazov among the attendees, who gathered to discuss the implications of the United Kingdom's potential departure from the European Union. Acquaintances from that period corroborated the presence of Roussev and Dzhambazov, and there is a strong likelihood that Ivanova was also in attendance.

Roussev, identified as the leader of the spy cell, successfully pleaded guilty to various spying charges, a decision mirrored by his associate Dzhambazov. Ivanova, along with co-defendants Tihomir Ivanchev and Vanya Gaberova, was convicted of related offences following a lengthy trial that spanned four months at the Old Bailey in London.

The contribution of these individuals to the Brexit discussions remains unclear. Baroness Brown of Silvertown, the event's organiser, noted that she had no recollection of the group in question. In response to these revelations, a parliamentary spokesperson stated that while the building is accessible to the public, there are comprehensive security measures in place. Notably, there is currently no suggestion that Baroness Brown or any parliamentary authorities have engaged in wrongdoing.

Roussev’s involvement has raised questions about the broader security implications surrounding foreign nationals attending public deliberative events within the UK’s legislative framework. The investigation underlines the ongoing concerns regarding espionage and foreign influence in British politics, particularly in the context of key national issues such as Brexit.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.ft.com/content/6282209a-5f3e-48fe-9242-ad0e6d5eaa68> - This article discusses the use of video-recording glasses by a Bulgarian spy ring to monitor journalists and dissidents in the UK, corroborating the claim about the group's surveillance activities.
2. <https://apnews.com/article/70ecdfe510f63e2d1ab2b3d5f3272e79> - This report details the convictions of three Bulgarian nationals for espionage activities across Europe, supporting the information about the group's convictions and their operations.
3. <https://www.cps.gov.uk/cps/news/bulgarian-trio-convicted-conspiring-spy-russia> - This official statement from the Crown Prosecution Service outlines the convictions of the Bulgarian trio for conspiring to spy for Russia, confirming their involvement in espionage activities.
4. <https://www.ft.com/content/d91d6ffc-28ef-4abf-9d55-f48bce9d32f0> - This article provides insights into the coordination between Bulgarian IT expert Orlin Roussev and Wirecard's former COO Jan Marsalek, highlighting their involvement in espionage activities.
5. <https://www.ft.com/content/a3be7f26-f452-4585-9389-c6dc5c4b4978> - This piece discusses the convictions of three Bulgarian nationals linked to Wirecard's Jan Marsalek for spying for Russia, supporting the information about their convictions and operations.
6. <https://www.ft.com/content/0c18388c-f4a6-4c07-9a73-0cc866367067> - This article reveals the links between the UK-based spy ring and top Bulgarian politicians, providing context to the group's activities and their connections.
7. <https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2050881/russian-spies-brexit-debate-parliament> - Please view link - unable to able to access data