

RUDSKOY, SERGEI FEDOROVICH

STATUS

ALIVE DEAD UNKNOWN

LAST UPDATED
SEPTEMBER 2024



[Image source](#)

KNOWN IDENTIFIERS

FULL NAME

Sergei Fedorovich Rudskoy^{1,2} EN

Сергей Фёдорович Рудской^{4,5} RU

ALTERNATIVE NAMES / ALIASES

None found

POSITION & MILITARY RANK

Head of the Main Operational Directorate of the General Staff of Russian Armed Forces & First Deputy Chief of the General Staff; Colonel General

DOB	M	D	Y	TAX ID NUMBER
	02	10	1960 ³	770401648770

M-NUMBER

N/A

B-NUMBER

N/A

COUNTRIES OF INTEREST

Russia, Ukraine, Syria

ASSOCIATED EMAIL(S)

None found

ASSOCIATED TELEPHONE NUMBER(S)

None found

Sergei Fedorovich Rudskoy was born on October 2, 1960, in Nikolaev, in what was then the Ukraine Soviet Socialist Republic within the Soviet Union.⁶ He is the head of the Main Operational Directorate of the General Staff (GOU) of the Russian Armed Forces and the First Deputy Chief of the General Staff. He holds the rank of colonel general, attained in 2017.⁷

Born to a father with a distinguished military career, Rudskoy graduated from the Minsk Suvorov Military School in 1977 and the Moscow Red Banner Higher Combined Arms Command School in 1981.⁸ His combat experience is extensive, particularly in the North Caucasus region, where he served from 1994 to 1996 and again from 1999 to 2009.⁹ During this time, he commanded the 25th Guards Motorized Rifle Stalingrad-Korsun Regiment of the 20th Guards Motorized Rifle Division.¹⁰

In 2015, Rudskoy was appointed to his current leadership role within the General Staff.¹¹ In this capacity, he has been instrumental in coordinating Russian forces in Syria against ISIS and, more recently, in the invasion of Ukraine in 2022. His involvement with the Wagner Group became more apparent through a February 2018 letter from Yevgeny Prigozhin's employees to Rudskoy, advocating for increased Russian engagement in Africa and outlining potential geostrategic goals.¹² Furthermore, internal Wagner Group documents from July 2020 reveal Prigozhin's team drafting an urgent letter to Rudskoy regarding the arrest of 33 Wagner members in Minsk, suggesting a closer relationship than previously known.

Rudskoy's role in these conflicts and his connections to the Wagner Group have drawn international attention, resulting in sanctions from the European Union, United Kingdom, Switzerland, and Ukraine. These sanctions cite his responsibility for actions undermining Ukraine's territorial integrity, sovereignty, and independence. Despite his high-profile position and significant involvement with both official and unofficial military operations, Rudskoy maintains a relatively low public profile, though he is a member of the editorial board of the journal *Military Thought*.¹³

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS				
SEX Male	TAX ID NUMBER 770401648770 ¹⁵		NATIONALITY Russian/Former USSR	CITIZENSHIP(S) Russia
DOB	M 10	D 02	Y 1960 ¹⁶	PLACE OF BIRTH Nikolaev, Ukraine ¹⁴
EDUCATION				
Minsk Suvorov Military School (1977)				
Moscow Higher Combined Arms Command School (1981)				

MILITARY SERVICE	
RANKS ACHIEVED & ASSOCIATED DATES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chief of the Main Operational Department of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation²² First Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation²³ Lieutenant Colonel, 1995²⁴ Major General²⁵ Lieutenant General, 2012²⁶ Colonel General,²⁷ 2017²⁸ 	AWARDS <p>For Merit to the Fatherland, Second Degree with swords, 2018; Third Degree with swords, 2016; and Fourth Degree with swords, date unknown¹⁷</p> <p>Courage, 1996¹⁸</p> <p>Military Merit, date unknown¹⁹</p>
UNITS SERVED IN <p>Commander of the 255th Guards Motorized Range of the 20th Guards Motorized Range Division of the 8th Guards Army Corps of the North Caucasus</p>	<p>Professional Prize in the field of Information Security “Silver Dagger” of National Forum of Information Security “Info-forum,” 2012²⁰</p>
MILITARY DEPLOYMENTS <p>North Caucasus, 1994–1996</p> <p>Chechen Campaign, 1999–2009</p> <p>Coordinated Russian Forces in Syria during military operations against ISIS, ~2017²¹</p> <p>Invasion of Ukraine, 2022</p>	<p>Hero of the Russian Federation Gold Star Medal, 2020</p>

BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS**NON-WAGNER EMPLOYERS**

None found

TIES TO OTHER PRIGOZHIN-LINKED ENTITIES

None found

TIES TO STATE-OWNED ENTERPRISES

None found

BUSINESS REGISTRATIONS, INCLUDING LLCs

None found

POLITICAL & CIVIC SOCIETY ASSOCIATIONS**POLITICAL PARTIES**

None found

VETERANS ASSOCIATIONS

None found

ACTIVIST GROUPS

None found

OTHERMember of the editorial board of the journal *Military Thought*²⁹

NOTABLE QUOTES BY INDIVIDUAL

“

“Initially, we did not plan to storm them in order to prevent destruction and minimize losses among personnel and civilians. And although we do not rule out such a possibility, however, as individual groups complete their tasks, and they are being solved successfully, our forces and means will concentrate on the main thing – the complete liberation of Donbas.

Significant territories of the Lugansk and Donetsk people’s republics have also been liberated. The people’s militia has taken control of 276 settlements that were previously under the control of the Ukrainian army and the national battalions.

Demilitarization of Ukraine is achieved both by high-precision strikes on military infrastructure facilities, locations of formations and military units, airfields, control points, arsenals, and warehouses of weapons and military equipment, and by the actions of troops to defeat opposing enemy groupings.

I would like to emphasize that the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation do not strike at civilian infrastructure facilities, including the destruction of bridges across rivers.

The rampant crime, looting and marauding, and civilian deaths have been caused by the Ukrainian regime’s massive, uncontrolled distribution of tens of thousands of small arms to the civilian population, including to criminals released from prisons. The situation will only get worse in the future.

The course of hostilities, the testimonies of civilians who left the blockaded settlements, and captured Ukrainian servicemen show that today the AFU’s ability to resist is based on fear of reprisals by neo-Nazis. Their representatives are embedded in all military units.

The militants of the Azov battalion drive women and children out of the basements, threatening them with weapons, and send them towards the advancing units of the DPR in order to hinder the advance of the people’s militia. This has become a common practice for them.

Civilians caught in a war zone are always advised to stay in their homes.

Humanitarian corridors are being organized in all cities to get the population out of the area of hostilities, and their security is also maintained.

Humanitarian corridors are being created in all towns to allow people to leave the area where the fighting is taking place, and their security is being maintained.

All weapons and military equipment, including foreign-made, seized by the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation during the special military operation are handed over to the People’s Republics. Already 113 tanks and other armored combat vehicles, 138 Javelin and 67 NLAW grenade launchers and other trophy weapons have been handed over.

The Armed Forces of the Russian Federation will continue to conduct a planned special military operation until the tasks set by the Supreme Commander-in-Chief have been completed.”³⁰

UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA

Not applicable as of November 2023

EUROPEAN
UNION

Sanctioned under EU Regulation 2023/1216 on June 23, 2023.³¹

Reason statement: “Colonel General Sergei Rudskoy is the Head of the Main Operational Directorate of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation since 2015. Among its responsibilities, the Main Operational Directorate oversees strategic and operational planning for the use of the Armed Forces, including operational control of troops in peacetime and wartime. Therefore, the Directorate directly contributes to and facilitates Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine. In taking on and acting in this capacity, Colonel General Sergei Rudskoy is responsible for supporting and implementing actions and policies which undermine and threaten the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine.”³²

UNITED KINGDOM

Asset freeze and travel ban imposed on June 29, 2022.

Reason statement: “Sergei Fedorovich Rudskoy is Head of the Main Operations Directorate of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation - First Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation, Colonel General since 2015. In this role he has overseen the Russian forces in Syria. As such he has supported the regime and been involved in the violent repression of Syria’s civilian population.”³³

CANADA

Not applicable as of November 2023

SWITZERLAND

Sanctioned under Embargo Act (EmbA), measures related to the situation in Ukraine, on June 28, 2023.³⁴

Reason statement: “a) Colonel General Sergei Rudskoy is the Head of the Main Operational Directorate of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation since 2015. Among its responsibilities, the Main Operational Directorate oversees strategic and operational planning for the use of the Armed Forces, including operational control of troops in peacetime and wartime. Therefore, the Directorate directly contributes to and facilitates Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine. b) In taking on and acting in this capacity, Colonel General Sergei Rudskoy is responsible for supporting and implementing actions and policies which undermine and threaten the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine.”³⁵



AUSTRALIA Not Applicable as of November 2023

NEW ZEALAND Not Applicable as of November 2023

UKRAINE Sanctioned under decree 772/2023 by the National Security and Defense Council on November 23, 2023, as well as the National Agency on Corruption Prevention on November 23, 2023.³⁶

JAPAN Not Applicable as of November 2023

ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS

NAME	NATURE OF ASSOCIATION
Sergei Shoigu	Former Minister of Defense, Ministry of Defense
Sergei Surovikin	Former Commander-in-Chief of Aerospace Forces, Ministry of Defense
Valery Gerasimov	Head of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Russia and former commander of the troops of the Central Military District, Ministry of Defense

OTHER ASSOCIATED ENTITIES

NAME	NATURE OF ASSOCIATION
None found	

KNOWN LOCATIONS


DATE	COUNTRY	CITY	EVIDENCE	ACTIVITIES
1977	Belarus SSR	Minsk	MNSVU ³⁷	Education
1981	USSR	Moscow	MNSVU ³⁸	Education
1994-1996	North Caucasus	Unknown	MNSVU ³⁹	Military campaign
1999-2009	Chechnya	Unknown	MNSVU ⁴⁰	Military campaign
2015	Syria	Unknown	MNSVU ⁴¹	Area of operations command



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[Source](#)



[Source](#)



[Source](#)

- 1 <https://archive.ph/Rdk83>
- 2 <https://archive.ph/mpaR5>
- 3 <https://archive.ph/Rdk83>
- 4 <https://archive.ph/Rdk83>
- 5 <https://archive.ph/mpaR5>
- 6 <https://archive.is/PsxMN>
- 7 <https://archive.is/5gkyo>
- 8 <https://archive.is/PsxMN>
- 9 <https://archive.is/PsxMN>
- 10 <https://archive.is/PsxMN>
- 11 <https://archive.is/5gkyo>
- 12 <https://archive.is/9TGky>
- 13 <https://archive.is/6fQiq>
- 14 <https://archive.ph/Rdk83>
- 15 <https://archive.ph/Rdk83>
- 16 <https://archive.ph/Rdk83>
- 17 <https://archive.is/kRoCW>
- 18 <https://archive.is/kRoCW>
- 19 <https://archive.is/kRoCW>
- 20 <https://archive.is/kRoCW>
- 21 <https://archive.ph/Xaz8R>
- 22 <https://archive.ph/Rdk83>
- 23 <https://archive.ph/Rdk83>
- 24 <https://archive.ph/5gkyo>
- 25 <https://archive.is/kRoCW>
- 26 <https://archive.is/kRoCW>; <https://archive.is/4LWh4>
- 27 <https://archive.ph/Rdk83>
- 28 <https://archive.is/kRoCW>; <https://archive.ph/mpaR5>
- 29 <https://archive.ph/MVDdT>
- 30 <https://ghostarchive.org/archive/JyloO>
- 31 <https://archive.ph/Rdk83>
- 32 <https://archive.ph/Isf6L>
- 33 <https://archive.ph/9kIAk>
- 34 <https://archive.ph/Rdk83>
- 35 <https://archive.ph/NoJsn>
- 36 <https://archive.ph/UFTaI>
- 37 <https://web.archive.org/web/20201028080341/>; <https://mnsvu.org/vypuskniki/geroi/rudskoj-sergej-fedorovich-geroj-rf/>
- 38 <https://web.archive.org/web/20201028080341/>; <https://mnsvu.org/vypuskniki/geroi/rudskoj-sergej-fedorovich-geroj-rf/>
- 39 <https://web.archive.org/web/20201028080341/>; <https://mnsvu.org/vypuskniki/geroi/rudskoj-sergej-fedorovich-geroj-rf/>
- 40 <https://web.archive.org/web/20201028080341/>; <https://mnsvu.org/vypuskniki/geroi/rudskoj-sergej-fedorovich-geroj-rf/>
- 41 <https://web.archive.org/web/20201028080341/>; <https://mnsvu.org/vypuskniki/geroi/rudskoj-sergej-fedorovich-geroj-rf/>