

SHOIGU, SERGEI KUZHUGETOVICH

STATUS

ALIVE DEAD UNKNOWN

LAST UPDATED
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[Image source](#)

KNOWN IDENTIFIERS

FULL NAME

Sergei Kuzhugetovich Shoigu EN

Сергей Кужугетович Шойгу RU

ALTERNATIVE NAMES / ALIASES

None found

POSITION & MILITARY RANK

Secretary of the Security Council of Russia; Army General

DOB	M	D	Y	TAX ID NUMBER
	05	21	1955 ¹	Unknown

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 Kuzhugetovich Shoigu is a Russian politician and military officer who has served as the secretary of the Security Council of Russia since May 2024. This appointment followed his 12-year tenure as Russia's minister of defense from 2012 to 2024.² During Shoigu's leadership of the Ministry of Defense, the Russian Armed Forces executed several significant military operations, including the unrecognized annexation of Crimea (2014), military intervention in Syria (2015), support for pro-Russian rebellions in the Donbas region (from 2014), and invasion of Ukraine (from 2022).³ Shoigu also oversaw Russia's military intelligence agency (GRU), which faced accusations of two nerve agent poisonings: a 2018 attack in Salisbury, United Kingdom, and the poisoning of opposition leader Alexei Navalny in Siberia in 2020.⁴ Shoigu's career has earned him numerous accolades, including the title "Hero of the Russian Federation," awarded by presidential decree on September 20, 1999, for his courage and heroism in extreme situations.⁵

Born on May 21, 1955, in Chadan, Tuvan Autonomous Oblast, Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic, in what was then the Soviet Union, Shoigu graduated from the Krasnoyarsk Polytechnic Institute and worked in Siberia's construction industry.⁶ He later served as Russia's minister of emergency situations from 1994 to 2012.⁷ Observers described Shoigu as a "perfect chameleon," adept at transforming himself to please his leaders and adapt to changing times.⁸ This adaptability enabled him to sustain a long-lasting political career spanning the reigns of the Communist Party before the Soviet Union's fall, Russia's first president Boris Yeltsin (who appointed Shoigu as the minister of emergency situations), and finally, the extended rule of Vladimir Putin.⁹

Sergei Shoigu's tenure as minister of defense was marked by a complex and volatile relationship with Yevgeny Prigozhin, head of the Wagner Group. Between 2012 and 2022, Prigozhin's personal calendar revealed 32 meetings with Shoigu or his assistant, indicating a degree of coordination. This included Prigozhin's appeals for tax write-offs on equipment he provided to the Ministry of Defense. However, tensions between the two men also ran deep, dating at least to the 2018 Battle of Khasham in Syria. During this engagement, U.S.-led forces killed dozens of Wagner fighters after official Ministry of Defense channels disavowed any connection to the paramilitary group, leading Prigozhin to blame Shoigu for the debacle.¹⁰ The 2022 Russian invasion of Ukraine further strained their relationship, with Prigozhin repeatedly accusing Shoigu and Chief of General Staff Valery Gerasimov of responsibility for thousands of Russian deaths due to the ministry's failure to provide necessary equipment for Wagner units.¹¹ This conflict reached a boiling point in June 2023 when Prigozhin announced a "march of justice" on Moscow, claiming that Shoigu had personally authorized missile strikes on Wagner camps.¹²

Journalistic investigations uncovered instances of alleged corruption involving Shoigu, including ownership of expensive undisclosed property often registered to his children.¹³ Companies registered to his daughter Ksenia Shoigu and alleged lover Elena Shebunova reportedly profited from various state projects, including the 2018 World Cup stadium construction and a nuclear power plant. These projects primarily involved Stroytransgaz, a company owned by billionaire Gennady Timchenko, a close friend and ally of Shoigu.¹⁴

In May 2024, as Russia's invasion of Ukraine entered its third year, Vladimir Putin replaced Shoigu as defense minister with Andrei Belousov and appointed Shoigu as secretary of Russia's National Security Council.¹⁵ This dismissal coincided with the removal of Ruslan Tsalikov, who was the first deputy minister of defense under Shoigu, and the arrest of Deputy Defense Minister Timur Ivanov on corruption charges.¹⁶

On June 24, 2024, the International Criminal Court (ICC) issued arrest warrants for Shoigu and Gerasimov. The ICC accused them of committing international crimes in Ukraine from at least October 10, 2022, to March 9, 2023. Both allegedly bear responsibility for war crimes, including targeting civilian objects and causing excessive harm to civilians. The ICC also charged Shoigu and Gerasimov with crimes against humanity.¹⁷

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS



SEX Male	TAX ID NUMBER Unknown			NATIONALITY Russian, Tuvan ²¹	CITIZENSHIP(S) Russia
DOB	M 05	D 21	Y 1955 ²²	PLACE OF BIRTH Chadan, Russian SSR (now part of the Republic of Tuva) ²⁰	
EDUCATION					
Krasnoyarsk Polytechnic Institute, Civil Engineering (Graduation, 1977) ¹⁸					
Academy of Public Administration under the President of the Russian Federation, Candidate of Economic Sciences (1996) ¹⁹					

MILITARY SERVICE



RANKS ACHIEVED & ASSOCIATED DATES

- 1977, Reserve Lieutenant
- 1993, Major General
- 1995, Lieutenant General
- 1998, Colonel General
- 2003, Army General²³
- 1994-2012, Minister of the Russian Federation for Civil Defense, Emergency Situations and Disaster Relief²⁴
- 2012, Governor of the Moscow Region
- November 6, 2012, Shoigu was appointed Minister of Defense of the Russian Federation instead of Anatoly Serdyukov, who was dismissed. At the same time, he was appointed deputy head of the interdepartmental working group under the President of the Russian Federation to monitor the implementation of the state defense order and the implementation of the state weapons program²⁵
- January 21, 2020, reappointed as Minister of Defense of the Russian Federation²⁶
- May 12, 2024, by decree of the President of the Russian Federation, he was appointed Secretary of the Security Council of the Russian Federation²⁷
- June 2024, he was expelled from the coordination council of the Cabinet of Ministers, which is responsible for meeting the needs of the Armed Forces²⁸

AWARDS

- Hero of the Russian Federation
- Order of Saint Andrew with swords (2014)
- Order of Merit for the Fatherland 1st class (2016)
- Order of Merit for the Fatherland 2nd class (2010)
- Order of Merit for the Fatherland 3rd class (2005)
- Order of Alexander Nevsky (2014)
- Order of Honor (2008)
- Order for Personal Courage (USSR) (1984)
- Medal “For the Return of Crimea”
- Medal Defender of a Free Russia (1993)
- Medal “In Commemoration of the 850th Anniversary of Moscow”
- Medal “In Commemoration of the 300th Anniversary of Saint Petersburg”
- Medal “In Commemoration of the 1000th Anniversary of Kazan”
- Three Medals “For Strengthening Military Cooperation” (Ministry of Defense)
- Medal “200 Years of the Ministry of Defense” (Ministry of Defense)



AWARDS, CONTINUED

- Medal of Great Awareness in Geo-political Affairs (Foreign Ministry)
 - Medal “200 Years of the Ministry of Internal Affairs” (MVD)
 - Medal “For Merit of the Stavropol Territory”
 - Honored Rescue Worker of the Russian Federation
 - Order of Rightitude
 - Order of “Merit of the Altai Territory”
 - Honorary Citizen of Kemerovo Oblast
 - Honorary Citizen of Tula Oblast³³
- Shoigu was also awarded several medals by foreign states, including Syria, Serbia, and Kyrgyzstan.³⁴

BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS



NON-WAGNER EMPLOYERS	TIES TO OTHER PRIGOZHIN-LINKED ENTITIES	TIES TO STATE-OWNED ENTERPRISES
None found	None found	None found

BUSINESS REGISTRATIONS, INCLUDING LLCs

None found

POLITICAL & CIVIC SOCIETY ASSOCIATIONS



POLITICAL PARTIES	VETERANS ASSOCIATIONS	ACTIVIST GROUPS	OTHER
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 1999–2000, Shoigu was the head of the interregional movement “Unity.” • In 2001, “Unity,” together with the “Fatherland” and “All Russia” movements, formed a new political party, “the Unity and Fatherland–United Russia” (since 2003, United Russia). Sergei Shoigu became a cofounder of “United Russia” and one of the three co-chairs of the party’s Supreme Council.²⁹ • From 2001 to 2002, he was co-chairman of the United Russia party (together with Y. Luzhkov and M. Shaimiev). Member of the Supreme Council and founder of the United Russia party.³⁰ • Member of the Supreme Council of the United Russia party.³¹ 	None found	None found	In 2016, on the initiative of Shoigu, the All-Russian children’s and youth military-patriotic movement “Yunarmiya” was created. ³²

UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA

February 25, 2022

Reason statement: “The United States is inflicting unprecedented costs on President Putin and those around him for their brutal and unprovoked assault on the people of Ukraine. We are united with our allies and partners in our commitment to ensure the Russian government pays a severe economic and diplomatic price for its further invasion of Ukraine, a sovereign and democratic state. In coordination with allies and partners, we are imposing sanctions on President Putin and three members of Russia’s Security Council directly responsible for the further invasion of Ukraine: Minister of Foreign Affairs Sergei Lavrov, Minister of Defense Sergei Shoigu, and First Deputy Minister of Defense and Chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation Valery Gerasimov. President Putin rejected the good faith efforts of the United States and our allies and partners to address our mutual security concerns through dialogue and to avoid needless conflict and human suffering. In response to this aggression, the Department of the Treasury has designated Russian President Putin and Foreign Minister Lavrov. In a corresponding action, the Department of State has designated Shoigu and Gerasimov pursuant to E.O. 14024 Section 1(a)(i) because these individuals have been determined to operate or have operated in the defense and related materiel sector of the Russian economy.”

EUROPEAN
UNION

Sanctioned under EU regulation 2023/1765 on February 23, 2022

Reason statement: “Sergei Shoigu is the Defense Minister of the Russian Federation. He has made public comments about Crimea being and remaining Russian. Under his command and orders, Russian troops have held military drills in the illegally annexed Crimea and launched a full-scale military invasion against Ukraine. Due to his position as Defense Minister, he is ultimately responsible for any military action against Ukraine. He is therefore responsible for actively supporting and implementing actions and policies that undermine and threaten the territorial integrity, sovereignty, and independence of Ukraine, as well as stability and security in Ukraine.”³⁵

UNITED KINGDOM

March 15, 2022³⁶

CANADA

February 28, 2022

Reason statement: “The following individuals are members of Russia’s Security Council, who bear the greatest responsibility for Russia’s unprovoked and unjustified invasion of Ukraine.”³⁷

AUSTRALIA

April 20, 2023

Reason statement: “Defence Minister of the Russian Federation [...] He is therefore responsible for actively supporting and implementing actions and policies that undermine and threaten the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine, as well as stability and security in Ukraine.”³⁸
“Instrument of first designation and declaration: Autonomous Sanctions (Designated Persons and Entities and Declared Persons—Russia and Ukraine) Amendment (No. 2) Instrument 2022.”³⁹

NEW ZEALAND

March 21, 2024

Reason statement: “Minister for Defence; Permanent Member of the Security Council of the Russian Federation.”



UKRAINE	By Decree 637/2022 of 07/09/2022 Appendix 1, item 434 ID in register: 10597 ⁵⁰
SWITZERLAND	<p>March 4, 2022 on measures related to the situation in Ukraine (RS 946.231.176.72), annexes 2, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12,13, 14, 15 and 25. Art. 15 para. 1 and 4 (Financial sanctions) and art. 29 para. 1 (Travel ban), annexe 8</p> <p>Reason statement: “a) Sergei Shoigu is the Defence Minister of the Russian Federation. He has made public comments about Crimea being and remaining Russian. Under his command and orders, Russian troops have held military drills in the illegally annexed Crimea and launched a full scale military invasion against Ukraine. Due to his position as Defence Minister, he is ultimately responsible for any military action against Ukraine. b) He is therefore responsible for actively supporting and implementing actions and policies that undermine and threaten the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine, as well as stability and security in Ukraine. Other information: Function: Defence Minister of the Russian Federation Modifications: Listed on 25 Feb 2022, amended on 2 Nov 2023.”⁴²</p>
JAPAN	<p>March 1, 2022. Asset freeze for four entities and six individuals, including Shoigu⁴³</p> <p>Reason statement: “In light of the current international situation surrounding Ukraine, and in order to maintain international peace and security and to contribute to international efforts for international peace aimed at resolving this issue, Japan will implement various measures based on the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act, taking into account the content of the measures that major countries have decided to take. This is being implemented based on the Cabinet decision made today regarding ‘Measures such as freezing the assets of Russian Federation related parties and certain Russian Federation banks.’ For details of these measures, please see the attached press release jointly issued by the three ministries (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Finance, and Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry).”⁴⁴</p>

ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS



NAME	NATURE OF ASSOCIATION
Valery Gerasimov	<p>The Chief of General Staff of the Russian Armed Forces. He was appointed to this position in 2012, within weeks of Shoigu’s appointment as the Minister of Defense. Shoigu and Gerasimov are considered part of Putin’s inner circle and the “masters of Putin’s wars,” in particular Russia’s operations in Ukraine and Syria. Yevgeny Prigozhin continuously criticized both of them for their alleged incompetence that led to the deaths of tens of thousands of Russian soldiers.⁴⁰</p> <p>On June 24, 2024, the ICC issued arrest warrants for Sergei Shoigu and Valery Gerasimov. They are accused of allegedly committing international crimes in the context of the situation in Ukraine from at least October 10, 2022, to March 9, 2023.⁴¹</p>



Gennady Timchenko

Gennady Timchenko is a Russian billionaire, founder of the “Volga-Group” LLC, and the primary shareholder of JSC “Stroytransgaz,” a state-owned enterprise specializing in the construction of residential and non-residential buildings.⁴⁵

According to journalist investigations, the family of Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu, particularly his youngest daughter, Ksenia Shoigu, has profited from state construction projects through their connection with Timchenko. Namely, the company Consortium Energoresurs, where Ksenia is a stakeholder, claimed involvement in significant construction projects like the 2018 World Cup stadiums and a nuclear power plant, all primarily constructed by Stroytransgaz, a company owned by billionaire Gennady Timchenko, a close friend of Shoigu.

Consortium Energoresurs reported a net profit of 2.1 billion rubles between 2018–2020. The company’s revenue appears disproportionately high considering its small scale of operations and minimal number of employees and equipment.⁴⁶

Elena Shebunova

Elena Shebunova is a former flight attendant who became a billionaire after allegedly starting a romantic relationship with Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu. According to the journalist investigation published in The Insider, Shebunova benefited from lucrative contracts with the Ministry of Emergency Situations and the Ministry of Defense, earning enough to purchase a mansion in an elite area near Moscow.

Shebunova’s companies, which were involved in government contracts related to construction, food supply, and other services, earned billions of rubles.

The investigation also suggests that Shoigu and Shebunova had a son, Danila, whose existence is not officially recognized in Shoigu’s biography.⁴⁹

OTHER ASSOCIATED ENTITIES

NAME	NATURE OF ASSOCIATION
Russian Ministry of Civil Defense, Emergencies, and Elimination of Consequences of Natural Disasters	Founder ⁴⁷
Redut	Shoigu is connected to the establishment of the Redut paramilitary formation through his former role as head of the Ministry of Defense ⁴⁸





Chief of General Staff of the Russian Armed Forces Valery Gerasimov and Sergei Shoigu listen to Russian President Vladimir Putin during their meeting in Moscow on February 27, 2022

[Source](#)



Sergei Shoigu with Gennady Timchenko

[Source](#)



Putin and Shoigu hiking in the mountains of Tuva

[Source](#)



Shoigu at the "United Russia" Party congress

[Source](#)



Shoigu's first Victory Parade as Defense Minister, 2013

[Source](#)

ENDNOTES

- 1 <https://archive.is/qqWBi>
- 2 <https://archive.is/osg32>
- 3 <https://archive.is/Ikq3O>; <https://archive.is/s3fj6>
- 4 <https://archive.is/c8HgY>
- 5 <https://archive.is/RIn93>
- 6 <https://archive.is/jq2AN>
- 7 <https://archive.is/RIn93>; <https://archive.is/jq2AN>; <https://archive.is/oHw2B>
- 8 <https://ghostarchive.org/archive/e9CMG>
- 9 <https://archive.is/s3fj6>
- 10 <https://archive.is/cLBnV>
- 11 <https://archive.is/c8HgY>; <https://archive.is/YTOcJ>; <https://archive.is/OhF3C>; <https://web.archive.org/web/20240826165839/>; https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dIbJujBR5_E
- 12 <https://archive.is/WX9Ro>
- 13 <https://archive.is/uomf6>
- 14 <https://archive.is/NAVvC>; <https://archive.is/VchTZ>
- 15 <https://archive.is/osg32>
- 16 <https://ghostarchive.org/archive/zbiyy>; <https://ghostarchive.org/archive/OzAK9>; <https://archive.is/9DixO>; <https://archive.is/eQBBh>
- 17 <https://archive.is/bwXne>
- 18 <https://archive.is/jq2AN>
- 19 <https://archive.is/Ikq3O>
- 20 <https://archive.is/RIn93>
- 21 <https://archive.is/oHw2B>
- 22 <https://archive.is/qqWBi>
- 23 <https://archive.is/vton2>; <https://archive.is/urlnl>
- 24 <https://archive.is/jq2AN>
- 25 <https://archive.is/vton2>
- 26 <https://archive.is/vton2>
- 27 <https://archive.is/vton2>
- 28 <https://archive.is/IEz3p>
- 29 <https://archive.is/Ikq3O>
- 30 <https://archive.is/vton2>
- 31 <https://archive.is/vton2>
- 32 <https://archive.is/Ikq3O>
- 33 <https://archive.is/RIn93>; <https://archive.is/urlnl>; <https://archive.is/Ikq3O>
- 34 <https://archive.is/urlnl>; <https://archive.is/Ikq3O>
- 35 <https://archive.is/sdxD2>
- 36 <https://archive.is/aLfxN>
- 37 <https://archive.is/7HuXC>
- 38 <https://ghostarchive.org/archive/Ks8oL>
- 39 <https://archive.is/qqWBi>
- 40 <https://archive.is/s3fj6>; <https://archive.is/c8HgY>
- 41 <https://archive.is/bwXne>
- 42 <https://ghostarchive.org/archive/Ks8oL>
- 43 <https://archive.is/NTEzY>
- 44 <https://archive.is/maZ9e>
- 45 <https://archive.is/NiRTI>; <https://archive.is/5VCP7>
- 46 <https://archive.is/NAVvC>; <https://archive.is/aCMaa>
- 47 <https://archive.is/RIn93>
- 48 <https://archive.is/YTOcJ>; <https://archive.is/Rzw9E>
- 49 <https://archive.is/VchTZ>
- 50 <https://bit.ly/4cCFaiC>