

# НОВОЕ РУССКОЕ СЛОВО



*Novoe russkoe slovo* (New Russian Word) was first published in 1910 in New York under the founding editorship of the Russian émigré journalist and writer Ivan Okuntsov, who served as editor until 1917. Published initially as *Russkoe slovo* with pro-Communist leanings, the newspaper underwent nominal and ideological changes a decade later, in 1920. First it changed the name by adding *Novoe* (or New) to *Russkoe slovo* and secondly and perhaps most importantly it shed its pro-Communist sympathies establishing itself as the premier newspaper of the Russian émigré community in New York and beyond.

In the absence of Russian language schools, the newspaper also came to assume an unexpected educational role -- many immigrant families used the newspaper to teach their children the mother tongue.



In the 1920s the newspaper grew in stature and popularity. Contributing to the growth was the increasing wave of émigrés, many prominent intellectuals among them, in search of better fortunes in Europe and the United States after the Bolshevik revolution. Writers and journalists such as A. Vetlugin, George Grebenstchikoff, Aleksei Fovitsky in the US and Ivan Bunin, Don Aminado, Arkady Averchenko from Europe, among others, became regular writers for *NRS*. Along with publishing émigré authors, the newspaper began republishing Soviet authors as well, connecting the information-hungry Russian community with the goings on in the far-off motherland.

Over time the newspaper introduced new features such as book and film reviews, modeling itself after publications in other immigrant communities as well as the more mainstream publications such as the *New York Times* and the *New York Herald*.



*Novoe russkoe slovo* experienced its true height of popularity only during WWII and the immediate aftermath. No longer counting on émigré writers and publicists, the community had begun producing homegrown talent who thought and wrote stylistically in a very different manner than their first-generation immigrant predecessors, with many of them cutting their journalistic and literary teeth on the pages of the newspaper.

## DATABASE SPECIFICATIONS

Title:	<i>Новое Русское Слово, Novoe Russkoe Slovo</i>
Publication City:	New York, New York, USA
Coverage:	1910 to 2010
Format:	Text searchable, full-image pages
Language:	Russian and English
Platform:	East View Universal Database

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The third wave of immigration from the Soviet Union in 1970s brought with it a new infusion of talent into the New York Russian community. *Novoe russkoe slovo*, by then a recognizable and a reputable institution in the community, became one of the beneficiaries of the changing immigrant scene. Positioning itself as the premier immigrant publication, and certainly the most sophisticated, it soon became a lively forum for a varied group of authors, both old and new, under the editorial leadership of Andrey Sedykh, the erstwhile personal secretary of Ivan Bunin, the famed Nobel Prize winner for literature.

Due to financial difficulties and other less direct factors the oldest Russian language periodical in North America ceased publication a century after it was first established, in 2010.

### Why *Novoe russkoye slovo* is Important to Researchers Today

The uniqueness of the *Novoe russkoye slovo* lies in the fact that unlike any other Russian language publication it both documented and shaped the Russian immigrant experience in the United States in significant ways.

### *Novoe russkoye slovo* Digital Archive, Accessible Online

East View's *Novoe russkoye slovo* includes the predecessor title *Russkoye slovo*. These will be available in East View's Universal Database online platform soon. Contact East View at [info@eastview.com](mailto:info@eastview.com) for more details.



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