

ADDENDA WITH EPSTEIN'S EMAILS

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1. Early hope: Trump and Putin as partners

One voice is clearly hopeful. Helga (almost certainly Helga LaRouche¹) looks at Trump's contacts with Putin in a positive way. She sees Trump's "successful meetings" with the Russian president as **promising** and imagines a possible **U.S.-Russia-China partnership against terrorism**.

In her view:

- Trump has enough **popular support** to do what he promised.
- Working *with* Putin, not against him, could be useful for big global problems like terrorism.

So, there is at least one person who sees Trump-Putin interaction as **an opportunity**, not a threat.

2. European fear: NATO, the Baltics, and "Putin's takeover"

On the other side, we have strong **fear from Europe**, especially from Linda Stone's² sister in Germany.

She remembers Trump's line that he **might not come to the aid of NATO allies** if they were attacked. For someone living in Europe, this is not just rhetoric; it feels like a real risk. In her messages:

- She's "bracing" herself for **Putin's eventual takeover of the Baltic States**.
- She connects Trump's attitude to NATO with Putin's earlier moves in **Georgia, Crimea, and Armenia**.
- "Putin and NATO" are the two big points of concern she raises.

So, from her point of view, Trump's distance from NATO and his perceived closeness to Putin open the door to **Russian expansion** and **less security** for Eastern Europe.

¹ Helga LaRouche is **Helga Zepp-LaRouche** – a German political activist closely tied to the LaRouche movement. This movement named after **Lyndon LaRouche**, an American fringe political activist and conspiracy theorist. Helga is **anti-“globalist”**, very critical of mainstream Western institutions, and often sympathetic to Russian and Chinese government positions.

² Linda Stone is a former Apple/Microsoft executive and tech-culture thinker, later known for her work on attention and for having played a role in connecting Epstein to parts of the tech/academic world.

3. “Putin proximity” and personal distrust

Another important theme is **personal distrust** of Trump because of how close he seems to be to Putin.

Larry Summers (LHS), a well-known economist and former U.S. Treasury Secretary, appears twice:

- In 2016, he mentions Trump’s “**Putin proximity**” as one of the reasons he wants to stay “a million miles away” from him. He lumps this together with Trump’s “mindless” response to Castro’s death. In short, Summers is telling the recipient: *this guy is too reckless and too close to Putin for my taste.*
- In 2018, after a particularly bad day in Trump’s behavior (in Summers’ view), he asks a blunt question: “**Do the Russians have stuff on Trump?**” This does not claim that they do. It shows that for him this has become a **serious question** worth asking.

So, Summers’ comments show how someone from the U.S. establishment moved from **discomfort** with Trump’s closeness to Putin to **openly wondering about possible leverage** Russia might have over him.

4. Epstein’s view

Jeffrey Epstein appears in the files giving his own reading of Trump’s meetings with Putin.

On the same day as Summers’ “Do the Russians have stuff on Trump?” question (July 17, 2018), Epstein writes that:

- Trump probably thinks the meeting went “super well”.
- He believes he has **charmed his adversary** (implying Putin).
- Epstein adds that Trump has “**no idea of the symbolism**” and “no idea of most things”.

In other words, in Epstein’s eyes, Trump **overestimates his own charm** and **understands neither the optics nor the deeper meaning** of standing next to Putin, what it signals to the world, or how it may be interpreted.

In another note, Epstein also comments on Trump’s **travel ban**. He says it helps Trump because:

- It shows him “keeping his word”.

- And that this is **important “with Putin and North Korea”** – meaning, it matters for how strong or credible Trump looks to rivals like Russia and North Korea.

So, for Epstein, Trump's image of strength also plays into the **relationship with Putin**, although he personally thinks Trump is naive about the bigger picture.

5. Rumors and “maybe some truth” about Trump and Russians

One entry reports a comment by John Connolly, a writer working on a true-crime book. According to Jonathan Farkas, Connolly says there might be: “maybe some truth there” in the **rumors about Trump and the Russians**.

Again, this is not evidence; it is another example of how people in these circles **half-believe or half-suspect** that there is something real behind the stories linking Trump and Russia.

6. Russia, Brexit, and the wider geopolitical frame

Not all entries are about Trump directly, but they build the background mood:

- A social-media account, **FXS_Stocks_RU**, speculates that **Putin might be using the SVR**, Russia's foreign intelligence service, to push the Brexit debate in a pro-Leave direction.
- Belgian politician **Guy Verhofstadt** is quoted as saying that if Brexit passes, “**Putin will laugh**”.
- Another article claims that a Brexit would **cost the Russians 1% of GDP**, while Sputnik publishes pieces on different Brexit scenarios.

These items link **Russia, Brexit, and Western political turmoil** together. Trump sits inside that same frame: Western institutions weaken, Russia benefits, and people wonder how much of this is chance and how much is strategy.

Within that context there's also:

- A CNN headline about the **Obama administration debating how much to share with the incoming Trump team** regarding Russia – a sign of **mistrust and caution** even inside the U.S. government.

- The mention of the book "**House of Trump, House of Putin**", which Tim Zagat sends to Epstein. The very title ties Trump and Putin together and suggests a deep relationship between the two "houses".

All of this shows that, for the people in this correspondence, "Trump and Russia" is not a side topic; it's part of a **larger story about Russia's role in Western politics**, from Brexit to NATO.

7. Overall picture

If we step back, the table paints a clear emotional and political landscape:

- **One hopeful voice** (Helga) sees Trump–Putin cooperation as a chance to build a new anti-terror alliance.
- **Many worried voices** fear:
 - Trump might not defend NATO allies.
 - Putin will push further into Eastern Europe.
 - Russia may be influencing votes like Brexit.
 - There may even be compromising material on Trump.
- **High-profile figures** like Larry Summers do not state that Russia controls Trump, but the fact that they *ask* the question shows the **level of unease**.
- Jeffrey Epstein's comments add the idea that Trump **believes he's winning with Putin**, while at least some observers think he doesn't grasp the deeper meaning of what he is doing.

So the material does not prove any secret deal between Trump and Russia. What it does show, very clearly, is how **Trump's visible friendliness toward Putin and his distance from NATO and traditional allies** generated:

- hope among a small group who wanted a new U.S.–Russia partnership, and
- a much larger wave of **fear, suspicion, and speculation** among politicians, economists, journalists, and other observers watching him from both sides of the Atlantic.