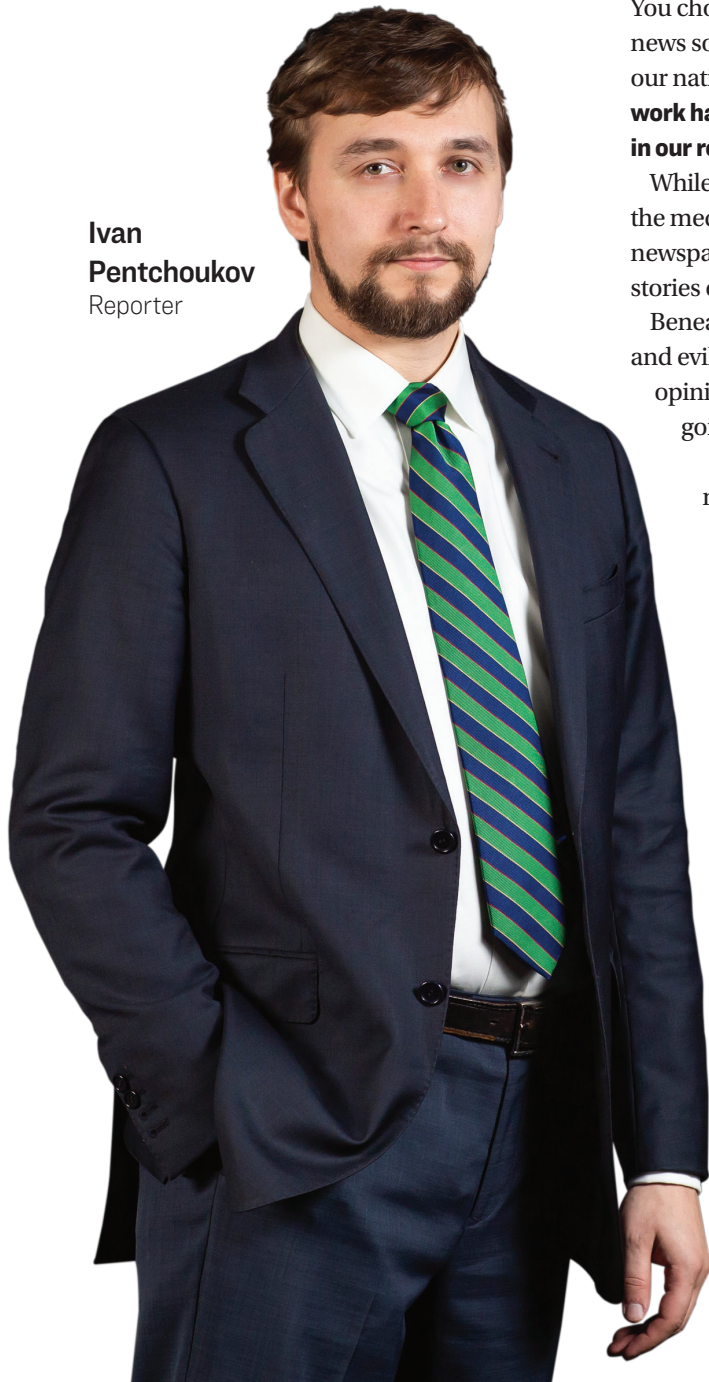


Communism Versus Freedom

Ivan
Pentchoukov
Reporter



Dear Epoch VIP,

You choose to read The Epoch Times out of a myriad of news sources during one of the most crucial periods for our nation and the world. **Your choice inspires me to work harder every day to honor the trust you have vested in our reporting.**

While partisanship and division have dominated the media's headlines for more than three years, our newspaper's independence has allowed me to report on stories other media won't.

Beneath the tumult and confusion, the forces of good and evil are vying to decide America's future. In my opinion, three words are enough to sum up what's going on—communism versus freedom.

I am a legal immigrant who became a proud naturalized citizen of the United States, the greatest nation in the world. My ancestors in Russia were Cossacks and hardworking farmers, making them targets for communist persecution twice over.

The Communists in Russia had feared the Cossacks' fiercely independent nature and directed a campaign to eliminate this ethnic group. As a result, my great-grandparents were forced out of their home, packed onto a horse cart, and told to start their lives over in a barren field hundreds of miles from their homeland.

They built a mud hut and worked hard to survive and then thrive. Decades later, my grandfather, who spent his life on crutches due to a childhood injury, built on what his parents had achieved. His greenhouses and exotic livestock—pheasants and coypu—were the pride of the village.

That was unacceptable for the communists, who wrecked and ransacked what he had spent years cultivating—"for the greater good."

In the United States, communists and their witting and unwitting conspirators

have engaged in a long march to control the nation's vital institutions: schools, universities, the media as well as government departments at the local, state, and federal levels.

President Trump's victory in 2016 was a shock to the establishment in Washington and around the world. But unbeknownst to us, the establishment already had an "insurance policy" in the unlikely event he won the election.

Over the past three years, I've spent countless hours analyzing the growing body of evidence about the weaponization of America's government institutions against the Trump campaign and administration. While we have learned much from the thousands of pages of depositions, reports, and declassified records, much more remains unknown.

From what I've seen, I believe that what we now know about Crossfire Hurricane, the FBI's codeword for the Trump campaign investigation, makes it just as big a scandal, if not bigger, than Watergate.

The scandal may appear removed from the lives of ordinary Americans because it involves politicians, foreign agents, and government officials, but it cuts to the heart of what our Founding Fathers sought to prevent with the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The incredible force of the government we fund should never be illicitly used to target law-abiding Americans. If the previous administration could target the campaign of the opposing party, nothing could stop it from doing the same to my family and yours.

As a result, I am dedicated to finding out what happened so we can prevent it from ever happening again, for the sake of our children and grandchildren.

And I am grateful that you're joining me on this journey.

In Truth and Tradition,

Ivan Pentchoukov
The Epoch Times

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