



Sokolov Bratva

"The home for angels is heaven, and the home for a Vor is prison."

The Sokolov Crime Group was founded in Moscow in the late 1970's. Based in the **Sokol District of Moscow**. The organized crime group was mainly composed of convicts, social outcasts, and scrappy opportunists. The Sokol District in the city of Moscow was a home to many wealthy individuals such as politicians, bankers, and other people of high standing.



(Flag of Moscow's Sokol District)

The young and contentious group of outcasts started their lifework of organized crime to escape from poverty and make a name for themselves. The gang would target affluent citizens, aristocrats, and eventually local politicians for profit. **Blackmailing** and **extortion** was their racket of choice, and they were experts at it. Lower ranking members would search around for information and then they would profit off of the people's dirty secrets.



(Sokolov gang's shestyorkas or "sixes" patrolling in Moscow)

It wasn't long until the gang had enough capital to start peddling narcotics and small weaponry to the masses. The small-time gang had grown into a criminal organization that had so much power, that even the **local police turned a blind eye.**

The gang took very few casualties until in the early 1980's the **Chechen Mafia** took notice of their operation. Multiple conflicts for power began and the members of the Sokolov gang were getting slaughtered. The Sokolov Crime Group was full of **opportunists** and the Chechen Mafia was full of **killers.**



(Most of the people in the Checheten Mafia were former military servicemen)

Eventually the battered Sokolov Crime Group looked to the surrounding area for assistance. The Chechen Mafia was involved in multiple conflicts in Moscow, most notably the Solntsevo District. This was the location of another aspiring crime syndicate, the **Solntsevskaya Bratva**. The two Russian gangs made an alliance to take out their common enemy. After a long and grueling period of warfare, the war effort was eventually a success. The Chechen Mafia was dismantled in Moscow. The long conflict led to increased funding for the local government and allowed the **local authorities to gain more power.** They started declining bribes and broke established agreements.

It was at this time that the Sokolov Crime Group decided to leave the Soviet Union. Mass riots, infighting, and social uprisings not only in their city but in their country made them forgo their homeland and **look for greener pastures.**



(New York City, New York, 1980's)

The uprooted slavs searched for new headquarters and eventually chose the location of New York City for their criminal enterprise. Opportunities were abundant in New York City but there were also a lot of risks. The Sokolov Crime Group started to peddle narcotics in small amounts around New York but were afraid to stir the pot with other gangs. At this time, the small foreign gang was struggling to make a profit when suddenly, their **leader**, Aleksánder Levitsky, an ex-KGB Agent **died in a small drug deal gone wrong**.

The crime group was on the brink of falling apart when a new leader took up the mantle. A well-respected earner of the crime group only known as **“Sokol”** changed the trajectory that the gang was heading. The new leader changed the unorganized band of convicts to professional criminals by instituting the traditions of the **“vory”** or **“thieves in [opposition of] the law”**. This transition forced the members of the crime group to honor the **“ponyatiya”** or **“understandings”**. The “ponyatiya” was a code of honor that each member of the crime group was forced to uphold. The crime group aligned themselves with these ancient traditions and they elevated themselves from selfish opportunists to a **“bratva”** or **“brotherhood”**. Now the Sokolov Bratva resides in New York City and is searching for alliances with other criminal factions to secure a better future and recover their lost reputation.



(The Sokolov Bratva in New York City, 1980's)

Ranking Structure

Stavka “High Command”

Pakhan “Boss” - (Don)

Two Spies

Sovietnik “Support Group” - (Consigliere)

Obshshak “Security Group” - (Underboss)

Krestniy Otets “Godfather” - (Senior Streetboss)

Derzhatel Obshchaka “Bookkeeper” - (Streetboss)

Avtoritet “Authority” - (Head Enforcer)

Brigadier - (Caporegime)

Crews “Brigades”

Kuzminki Brigade

Businovo Brigade

Sokolinaya Brigade

[Explanation: Districts in the Federal City of Moscow.]

Voryi v Zakone “Thieves-in-Law” - (Made Men)

Boyevik “Warrior” - (Lieutenant)

Krysha “Protection, Roofs, Covers” - (Enforcer)

Bratok “Soldier” - (Soldato)

Shestyorkas “Sixes” - (Associates)

Semyorka “Seventh” - (Senior Associate)

Shestyorka “Sixth” - (Associate)

[Explanation: Russian playing card decks usually only contain 36 cards, they still have the 4 suits. The card hierarchy looks like this: 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, Jack, Queen, King, Ace. So calling someone a “shestyorka” is basically calling them the lowest position in a game of cards and hence why the name is used for the lowest rank of associate.]

Miscellaneous

Advokat “Lawyer” - (Family Lawyer)

Comrade “Ally”

Druk “Friend”

Stazher “Trainee” - (Intern)

Ethnicity

Slavic Peoples

The majority of all men associated with the Sokolov Bratva are Russian, the origins are in Moscow after all. However even with the majority of all the members being Russian, Slavic people are within the ranks because they can most easily understand and speak the Russian language. Below I will outline what being Slavic means ethnically and will describe each ethnicity that is technically Slavic.

East Slavic

USSR [1991] - “Soviet”

Russia - “Russian” [🇷🇺]

Ukraine - “Ukrainian” [🇺🇦]

Belarus “Belarusian” [🇧🇪]

West Slavic

Poland - “Pole” [🇵🇱]

Czechoslovakia [1993] - “Czech / Slovak”

Czechia - “Czech” [🇨🇪]

Slovakia - “Slovak” [🇸🇰]

South Slavic

Bulgaria - “Bulgarian” [🇧🇬]

Yugoslavia [1992] - “Yugoslav”

Slovenia - “Slovene” [🇸🇮]

Croatia - “Croat” [🇭🇷]

Bosnia & Herzegovina - “Bosniak” [🇧🇦]

Serbia - “Serb” [🇷🇸] (*Serbian* is a language, a *Serb* is a native of Serbia)

Montenegro - “Montenegrin” [🇲🇪]

Macedonia - “Macedonian” [🇲🇰]

Used Resources:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sokol_District

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solntsevskaya_Bratva

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thief_in_law

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russian_mafia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russian_playing_cards

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Slavs>

<https://irp.fas.org/world/para/docs/rusorg1.htm#tc>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fenya>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russian_criminal_tattoos

RANK CONFIRMATIONS

https://sopranos.fandom.com/wiki/Svetlana_Kirilenko

https://sopranos.fandom.com/wiki/Igor_Parnasky

<https://sopranos.fandom.com/wiki/Agron>