### Who will succeed Lenin?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bukharin</th>
<th>Kamenev</th>
<th>Rykov</th>
<th>Stalin</th>
<th>Trotsky</th>
<th>Zinoviev</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image1" alt="Bukharin" /></td>
<td><img src="image2" alt="Kamenev" /></td>
<td><img src="image3" alt="Rykov" /></td>
<td><img src="image4" alt="Stalin" /></td>
<td><img src="image5" alt="Trotsky" /></td>
<td><img src="image6" alt="Zinoviev" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Connection to Lenin
- **Bukharin**: Close to Lenin but opposed the Brest-Litovsk Treaty.
- **Kamenev**: Was in exile with Lenin, but criticised his attitude in 1917.
- **Rykov**: Always supported Lenin’s line, Lenin disliked his growing power within the party.
- **Stalin**: Close to Lenin from the beginning, was with him in exile from 1903-17 editing papers.

#### Party Popularity
- **Bukharin**: Declining due to his enthusiasm for NEP.
- **Kamenev**: Strong in his own political district, but not at party level.
- **Rykov**: Seen as a moderate, but a good administrator.
- **Stalin**: Extremely popular within the party.
- **Trotsky**: Had the backing of most of the Red Army, few in the Politburo.
- **Zinoviev**: Strong in his own political district, but not at party level.

#### Powers of patronage
- **Bukharin**: Appointed people within his department.
- **Kamenev**: Vastly appointed all the officials in the provinces and inspected all Government departments; he also appointed all party positions.
- **Rykov**: Had control of appointments within the Army.

#### Service to the party
- **Bukharin**: Played a major part in the October revolution; editor of Pravda from 1918.
- **Kamenev**: Controlled the Moscow Soviet before and after the October Revolution; Lenin’s deputy in Sovnarkom.
- **Rykov**: Escaped seven times from exile in Siberia, always stayed active.
- **Stalin**: He was an active revolutionary throughout 1905-17.
- **Trotsky**: Headed the Petrograd Soviet and helped it to take power in October 1917.
- **Zinoviev**: Always active, but did not like the official line in October and criticised it openly.

#### Marxist theory
- **Bukharin**: Lenin said he was ‘the party’s best theoretician’ – supported NEP.
- **Kamenev**: Considered to be on the left of the Party, wanted much more equality in the Party.
- **Rykov**: Did not have a good reputation as a theoretician.
- **Stalin**: Probably the closest in USSR to the true Marxist model, a very strong speaker.
- **Trotsky**: Was against Kulaks and USSR’s isolation, wanted to build links with other countries.

#### Links with other members of the Politburo
- **Bukharin**: In 1922 he formed a triumvirate with Stalin and Zinoviev to block Trotsky’s power.
- **Kamenev**: Anti-Trotsky triumvirate 1922
- **Rykov**: Anti-Trotsky triumvirate 1922

#### Government experience
- **Bukharin**: People’s Commissar for the Interior 1917-18; Chairman of Supreme Council for the National Economy 1918-20 and 1923-4. He was elected to succeed Lenin as PM of USSR.
- **Kamenev**: Commissar for Nationalities 1917-; Head of Rabkin; General Secretary of the Party 1922-.
- **Rykov**: Commissar for Foreign Affairs 1917; for War 1918-21; joined Politburo in 1919.

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After an original by Joanne Philpott at www.thinkinghistory.co.uk