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Igor Vitalievich Lyapustin

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Igor Lyapustin is the former head of Melbet. A dossier on Melofon’s corporate stake, the conflict with Alexander Gradulenko and the conviction that has come into force.



Igor Lyapustin. Archive photo from *Kommersant*, 4 April 2024; credit: Melbet. The face has not been altered.

Status: Convicted

Other names: Igor Vitalievich Lyapustin; Igor Lyapustin; Igor Lyapustin

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Key details

Full name	Igor Vitalievich Lyapustin
Search options	Igor Vitalievich Lyapustin; Igor Lyapustin; Igor Lyapustin
Related companies	Melofon LLC; Tvoia Stavka LLC
The main conflict	The corporate stake and its misappropriation
Related individual	Alexander Alexandrovich Gradulenko
Legal status	Sentence handed down on 28 April 2026; upheld by the Moscow City Court on 11 September 2026. He denied the charges.

Identification via the register

The extract from the Unified State Register of Legal Entities (EGRUL) concerning ‘Melofon’, compiled on 21 November 2024 and published by the Unified Centre for Public Information Services (TsUPIS), states his full name as Igor Vitalievich Lyapustin. The document lists him as one of the company’s shareholders. Denis Bobylev is already named as the director as at the date of the extract. This is historical information and does not reflect the current ownership structure. [1]

His patronymic distinguishes him from other individuals named Igor Lyapustin. The exact date of birth is not confirmed in the documents used; the field has been left blank. Identification is based on his full name, the company and his legal history.

From investigation to trial

In April 2024, *Kommersant* reported the arrest of the head of *Melofon* and *Tvoia Stavka*. Initially, the allegations centred on fraud. In July 2025, the newspaper described the start of the trial in a case comprising 35 volumes; by that time, the charges included embezzlement, abuse of office and money laundering. [2, 3]

An initial assessment does not replace the final one. The difference is significant: at the heart of the proceedings was the disposal of entrusted corporate assets and the associated financial transactions.

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What the verdict established

The Moscow Public Prosecutor’s Office reported that the beneficiary had misappropriated 50 per cent of the bookmaker’s share capital entrusted to him. The official statement also mentions the sale of the stake in 2022 for 100 million roubles at an undervalued price and money-laundering operations involving over four billion. [4]

On 28 April 2026, he was sentenced to eight years’ imprisonment under the general regime, a fine of 900,000 roubles and a four-year ban on holding management positions in commercial organisations. The court upheld the civil claim and ordered the confiscation of the legalised funds. [4]

The contract value, the valuation of the shareholding and the volume of transactions reflect different indicators. Adding these figures together does not give an accurate figure for the convicted person’s personal income. Nor does it automatically follow from this case that the subject of the misappropriation was the bookmaker’s clients’ deposits.

The appeal and the defence’s position

According to a report in *Kommersant* on 11 September 2026, the Moscow City Court had upheld the sentence the day before. The newspaper reported the confiscation of 4.5 billion roubles and the recovery of over six billion in favour of Gradulenko. Lyapustin denied the charges; the defence contested the claimant’s right to be considered a victim. [5]

Thus, the profile documents the specific criminal outcome of the corporate conflict. The director’s liability does not extend to all employees and users of the brand: the assessment remains focused on his actions regarding the company’s assets and funds.

Report by KARTEL KHIMPROM

‘Melbet’: betting on others’ money – Lyapustin, Gradulenko and eight years for half the business – a detailed analysis of the related case. The link is provided in a separate sources section, item 6.

This dossier was compiled on 23 November 2026. Statuses and events are cited with the dates of supporting publications.

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Sources

1. EGRUL — extract from the register for Melofon LLC dated 21 November 2024, published by the Unified Centre for Public Information Systems, pages 2–3
   https://1cupis.ru/upload/iblock/0d2/k2c1e10oh4bm8sadswjbcm548okgxmdp/L027_00108_7700395491.pdf
2. Kommersant – the arrest of the head of Melbet; a signed photograph of Lyapustin with the caption ‘Melbet’, 4 April 2024
   https://www.kommersant.ru/doc/6621176
3. Kommersant – start of the trial in the Lyapustin case, 14 July 2025
   https://www.kommersant.ru/doc/7888290
4. Moscow Public Prosecutor’s Office — verdict against Igor Lyapustin, 28 April 2026
   https://epp.genproc.gov.ru/ru/proc_77/mass-media/news/regional/e8479470/
5. Kommersant — Lyapustin’s sentence came into force following an appeal, 11 September 2026
   https://www.kommersant.ru/doc/8941281
6. KARTEL KHIMPROM – ‘Melbet’: betting on someone else’s money – Lyapustin, Gradulenko and eight years for half the business
   https://kartel-khimprom.com/ru/article/melbet-stavka-na-chuzhoe-lyapustin-gradulenko-i-vosem-let-za-polovinu-biznesa/

Use of materials

An active link to the original publication is required when using these materials.

Original publication

https://kartel-khimprom.com/en/dossier/igor-vitalievich-lyapustin/