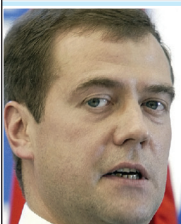


Putin's people for Russian succession

The next president of Russia will probably be elected from the so-called St Petersburg clan – an elite group of Vladimir Putin's ex-colleagues at the Federal Security Service (FSB) who control the Kremlin, government, the media, large parts of the economy, the military and security forces



Dmitry Medvedev, 41: Putin protégé and joint first deputy prime minister. The St Petersburg lawyer is widely seen as representing Kremlin's more liberal-technocrat forces. Responsible for health, education, housing and agriculture, Medvedev is also chairman of state-controlled **Gazprom**

Sergei Ivanov, 54: Former KGB colonel and defence minister, promoted to joint first deputy prime minister in February. Hardliner Ivanov has support of **siloviki** – powerful former army-KGB officers who control top Kremlin positions



Valentina Matvienko, 58: Governor of St Petersburg, fiercely loyal to Putin. Analysts say she could become "caretaker" president – Putin will continue to rule Russia from behind scenes then return as president in 2012



Sergei Chemezov, 55: Ex-KGB colleague of Putin and head of siloviki-controlled Russian arms company **Rosoboroneksport**. Exports generate \$5.5 billion a year



Sergei Naryshkin, 52: Powerful fixer, siloviki, and deputy prime minister



Vladimir Yakunin, 59: Putin friend and siloviki, head of **Russian Railways**

