

# Russian power-sharing

With Dmitry Medvedev taking over as Russia's president and Vladimir Putin moving to the post of prime minister, there is inevitable speculation at the beginning of Medvedev's presidency over whether or not some of the presidential authority will be transferred to the prime minister



## PRESIDENTIAL POWERS

- ▶ Head of state and commander-in-chief of armed forces – in charge of nuclear weapons
- ▶ Sets foreign and domestic policies
- ▶ Appoints and sacks Prime Minister, subject to parliamentary approval
- ▶ Can veto laws passed by Duma, which needs two-thirds majority to overcome president's opposition
- ▶ Controls and appoints Security Council, which oversees Russia's defence and security policies
- ▶ Can call state of emergency or impose military law

## PRIME MINISTERIAL POWERS

- ▶ Heads cabinet of ministers
- ▶ Implements domestic and foreign policy and Presidential decrees
- ▶ Coordinates economic and fiscal policy, manages federal property
- ▶ Sets prices for gas, electricity and domestic transport
- ▶ Controls social, labour, migration and family policies
- ▶ Becomes acting president if president "is not in condition to fulfil his responsibilities"

Sources: Kremlin, wire agencies

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