

# Russian “tandem” to switch roles again

Vladimir Putin, who is to stand again for the presidency in 2012 , has chosen Dmitry Medvedev to succeed him as Prime Minister



**Vladimir Putin**

*Considered  
real power  
in Russia*



**Dmitry Medvedev**

*Has continued  
Putin's policies  
as President*



■ **1952:** Born to working class family in St Petersburg

■ **1975:** Graduates in international law, joins KGB spy agency

■ **1990:** Appointed advisor on international affairs for St Petersburg

■ **1992:** Leaves KGB after abortive coup against **Mikhail Gorbachev**

■ **1997:** Becomes deputy chief of Presidential staff to **Boris Yeltsin**

■ **1998:** Appointed head of **FSB**, successor agency to KGB

■ **1999:** Becomes Prime Minister, with hard line on Chechen separatism. Acting President when Yeltsin resigns

■ **2000:** Elected President. Returns power from regions back to Moscow, oversees economic recovery

■ **2004:** Re-elected President in landslide victory. Arrest of oligarchs curbs challenge to his power, uses energy supplies to bully neighbours

■ **2008:** Obligated to stand down after second term, becomes Prime Minister

■ **Sep 2011:** Announces decision to stand in 2012 presidential election

■ **1965:** Born to family of academics in St Petersburg

■ **1987:** Graduates in civil law from St Petersburg University

■ **1991-96:** Works for St Petersburg mayor, friendship with Putin grows

■ **1992:** Co-founder, director of **Ilim Pulp** paper company

■ **1999:** Moves to Moscow as Kremlin deputy chief of staff

■ **2000:** Serves as Putin's election campaign manager, later appointed chairman of state gas giant **Gazprom** and Kremlin chief of staff

■ **2005:** Named first deputy prime minister, in charge of education, health, housing and agriculture

■ **2007:** Putin backs Medvedev as his choice for president

■ **2008:** Medvedev elected president, promising continuity

■ **2009:** Thaw in relations with west culminate in signing of START nuclear arms reduction pact with U.S.

■ **Sep 2011:** Nominated to head **United Russia** party list in elections