

# Putin on Belarus State

By [The Moscow Times](#)

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**The  Moscow Times**

Prime Minister Vladimir Putin said Friday that Russia was discussing the creation of a common currency and single Central Bank with Belarus as part of a joint state. "Russia is ready for this," Putin said. "The ball's in the Belarussian side's court."

He also said he told Gazprom to ready a gas export contract for 2012 to 2015. All export duties on oil shipped to Belarus will be annulled when Minsk has signed and ratified documents related to the creation of a unified economic space, Putin said. ☒

*(Bloomberg)*

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