

Putin Says Without Environmental Policy Russia Could Be 'Left With Nothing'

By [The Moscow Times](#)

November 21, 2013



Putin chairing the Security Council meeting Wednesday.

During a Security Council session on Wednesday, President Vladimir Putin said that Russia should draft and adopt an environmental protection strategy as soon as possible.

Putin warned that if environmental policies remain the way they are, Russians will eventually be "left with nothing" despite the country's seemingly huge territory and vast natural resources.

During the session devoted to environmental issues, the president said that the proposed strategy should "contain evaluations of external and internal threats [to the environment] as well as threshold parameters for protection."

Putin said that Russia also lacked a comprehensive system for businesses to pay compensation for the use of natural resources, adding that such a system would "create

an additional burden for businesses," and lawmakers should be cautious to "not overload the economy with such demands."

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