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# Russia Recognizes Outcome of Self-Rule Referendums in Eastern Ukraine

By The Moscow Times

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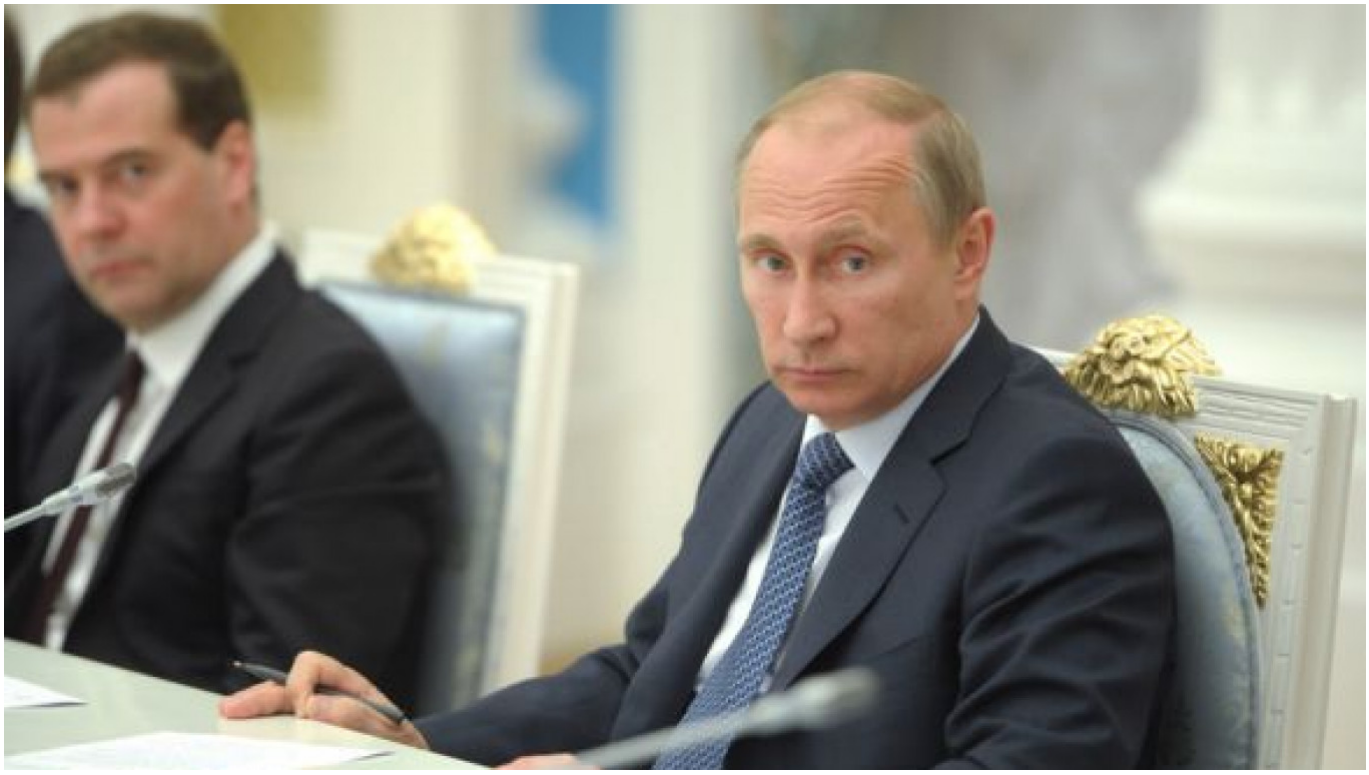

Russian President Vladimir Putin at a meeting on economic and social issues, in Moscow.

Russia said Monday that it respected the outcome of a referendum on self-rule in two eastern Ukrainian regions and that the results should be implemented peacefully.

Pro-Russian rebels declared a landslide victory in Sunday's referendum held in Ukraine's Donetsk and Luhansk regions. The Ukrainian authorities dismissed the vote as a farce and the European Union criticized the referendum.

"In Moscow, we respect the will of the people of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions and are counting on practical implementation of the outcome of the referendum in a civilized manner, without any repeat of violence and through dialogue," the Kremlin said in a statement.

See also:

[Donetsk Separatists Claim 90% Support Independence in Referendum]

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