

## **Twitter Unblocks Putin Parody Account After Free Speech Outcry**

By The Moscow Times

June 02, 2016



Twitter has unblocked a popular spoof account of Russian President Vladimir Putin after a storm of condemnation that the company was censoring free speech.

<u>@DarthPutinKGB</u> celebrated his return to Twitter after a two-day suspension with typical wisecracks:

I have noted the names of every single one of you who did not tweet to <u>@Support</u> against this fascist coup!!!

— Darth Putin (@DarthPutinKGB) June 1, 2016

The account, which has more than 60,000 followers, was suspended on Tuesday, along with

a <u>number of others</u> that spoof Russian officials and institutions. Twitter gave no public explanation for their blocking or unblocking.

During the suspension, the man who has been running the @DarthPutinKGB account <u>told The</u> <u>Moscow Times</u> he thought Russian authorities were behind the move.

"I think that they cannot take being laughed at," he said.

Original url: https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2016/06/02/twitter-unblocks-putin-parody-account-after-free-speec h-outcry-a53136