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Putin: Speculation on Russia's Problems 'Dangerous'

By The Moscow Times

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Russian President Vladimir Putin

Russian President Vladimir Putin has spoken out against the risks of "speculating on Russia's current difficulties," in the run-up to the general election.

Speaking at the annual United Russia party conference, Putin said that although criticism of the government was both "necessary and very important," politicians who wanted to come to power "at any cost" could not be tolerated by Russian society.

"I am talking about lies and the distortion of facts, about the direct betrayal of the interests of this country, and about empty, unsubstantiated promises which are worse than any treason," he said. "I am speaking about the desire to destabilize and divide society and to break through to power, at all costs. This is too dangerous to be allowed. We must do everything possible to stop such things happening."

The 2016 United Russia party conference began yesterday in Moscow. The meeting is being used by the party to put forward its list of candidates for the upcoming State Duma Elections on September 18.

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