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Putin Dismisses Head of Presidential Administration

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Vladimir Putin talks with Sergey Ivanov (R) during their meeting at the Gorki presidential residence outside Moscow. **Kremlin Press Service / Reuters**

Russian President Vladimir Putin has dismissed long-term ally Sergei Ivanov as head of the presidential administration, the Kremlin announced Friday.

Putin has placed Ivanov in the role of special representative to the president for ecology and transport, noting that Ivanov had asked to remain in the role of presidential administration head for no more than four years.

Ivanov, thanking Putin for his high assessment of his work, commented that his four years and eight months in the role made him the longest-serving head of Russia's presidential administration.

"I will strive to work just as actively, dynamically and most importantly, successfully in my new duties," he said.

Ivanov's former deputy, Andrei Vaino, has been named as his replacement on the recommendation of his predecessor. Ivanov said that he was "absolutely convinced that he is ready for the job in every aspect."

After a long and distinguished career as a senior officer in the KGB and formerly the FSB security apparatus, Ivanov has previously served as defense minister and deputy prime minister before serving as head of the presidential administration.

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