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INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

Former Austrian Chancellor Lands Russian Job

Christian Kern has joined the board of Russian Railways.

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Christian Kern. **SPÖ Presse und Kommunikation / Flickr**

Russia's state railway company appointed the former chancellor of Austria to its management board this week, continuing a trend of retired European politicians landing lucrative posts in Russia.

Christian Kern, 53, headed Austria's national railway system before serving as chancellor of the central European nation from 2016-2017. Austria has been among a minority of EU member states that have called for the lifting of Western sanctions against Russia.

Kern's name appears as an independent board member in a Russian Railways (RZhD) statement published Tuesday.

Kern is following in the footsteps of Gerhard Schroeder, the former German chancellor, who was appointed chairman of Russia's oil giant Rosneft in 2017 while remaining chairman of

Russia’s Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline project.

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