

Kneeling Russian Pensioner Confronts Medvedev Over Hot Water Shutoff

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Yekaterina Shtukina / POOL / TASS

A Russian pensioner has dropped to her knees in front of Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev in an encounter that drew comparisons to his iconic 2016 quote that turned into a [meme](#).

Cameras were rolling during Medvedev's visit to a Siberian village with his entourage when the woman knelt on the snowy ground in front of the prime minister, ignoring security agents urging her to stand up.

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"I'm tired of going through the channels [...] How long will they keep denigrating me?" she [said](#), voice cracking, begging for authorities to install hot water in her apartment building.

After hearing her out, Medvedev responded: "Don't worry, there will be water. All the best." Hours later, local media [published](#) footage of the regional governor visiting her apartment

and promising to solve the water issue.

Medvedev was later [filmed](#) recounting the unexpected meeting — omitting any reference to her kneeling.

“There’s always enough problems: A woman came up to me and told me about the lack of hot water,” the prime minister said during a press scrum in the same village.

“Still, there will be progress: We’ll probably build a sports complex here, you just [need to] file an application,” he was heard telling the Altai region villagers.

The woman’s pleas evoked a 2016 meet-and-greet where Medvedev [told](#) disgruntled Crimean pensioners that “There’s no money, but you hang in there.”

The off-the-cuff remark went viral on Russian social media and turned into a meme sensation. It later [became](#) a rallying cry during a 2017 wave of anti-corruption protests led by Russia’s opposition.

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