The Moscow Times
30 YEARS
INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

Russian Bank Execs Vow to Fight 'Lord Dollar-de-Mort' in Harry Potter Cosplay

November 22, 2019

Andrei Kostin **Screenshot RBC / Kremlin.ru / MT**

Russian banking executives are just like us: They, too, like to pretend to be wizards from "Harry Potter" every once in a while.

Officials at Russia's state-backed VTB bank did just that this week, putting on a truly bewitching cosplay performance of J.K. Rowling's beloved book series at the "Russia Calls!" investment forum, the RBC news website reported.

Embed:

> Глава банка ВТБ Андрей Костин нарядился Альбусом Дамблдором из «Гарри Поттера»
>
> В волшебном образе он выступал для гостей инвестфорума «Россия зовет!».

> У Дамблдора даже был противник - злой волшебник Доллар-Де-Морт: https://t.co/PUU9LGqRjr pic.twitter.com/IVv9aAGpsQ
>
> — URA.RU (@ura_ru) November 21, 2019

VTB head Andrei Kostin donned his finest wizard robes to play "Andrei Dumbledovich," the head of Hogwarts City, while VTB executives Yuri Soloviev, Alexei Yakovitsky and Elena Kolesnik were cast as Harry Potter, Ron Weasley and Hermione Granger.

The costumed characters sought to defeat "Lord Dollar-de-Mort," an evil foe who wants to "conquer the planet" — not to be confused with He-Who-Must-Not-Be-Named himself.

"I remember he cost just 6 rubles when he was very young," Harry says at one point.

"We will fight him back!" Dumbledovich says, rallying his pupils to defeat the evil currency.

The story's three heroes are members of House Vetebor (a portmanteau of VTB and Gryffindor). The other Hogwarts "houses" follow a similar naming pattern: Sberebin (Sberbank and Slytherin), Alfenbach (Alfa and Ravenclaw), and Tinkomif (Tinkoff and Hufflepuff).

This isn't the first time Kostin has taken a thespian turn at the investment forum. In 2017, the VTB chief greeted investors in a Stalin costume, and in 2018 he became "Star Wars" hero Obi-Wan Kenobi to warn investors about the risks of space and the Death Star's attempts to "intimidate the Republic with sanctions."

Original url:
https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2019/11/22/russian-bank-execs-vow-to-fight-lord-dollarmort-in-harry-potter-cosplay-a68263