

Former Moscow Mayor Yury Luzhkov Dies at 83

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Luzhkov, who served as Moscow's mayor for 18 years from 1992-2010, reportedly died during a heart operation. **Vyacheslav Prokofyev / TASS**

Yury Luzhkov, the former mayor of Moscow who led the city's transformation into a modern metropolis, died Tuesday at age 83, a source close to him [told](#) Interfax.

Luzhkov, who served as Moscow's mayor for 18 years from 1992-2010, was in Europe when he died, Interfax quoted the source as saying.

An unnamed source [told](#) the REN TV television channel that Luzhkov died after undergoing heart surgery at a clinic in Munich.

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Luzhkov's family plans to hold a funeral ceremony in Germany before returning his body to Moscow, Interfax [reported](#). His family has asked permission for him to be buried at the

famous Novodevichy Cemetery.

He is survived by his wife, Yelena Baturina, one of Russia's two female [billionaires](#) and its reigning richest woman since at least 2014.

Luzhkov's successor, current Moscow Mayor Sergei Sobyanin, [tweeted](#) his condolences, calling him an "energetic, cheerful person who led Moscow in the difficult post-Soviet period."

Luzhkov was appointed mayor by then-President Boris Yeltsin in 1992. He was [fired](#) for poorly managing Moscow and fostering "exorbitant corruption" in the Russian capital, the Kremlin said in 2011. Then-President Dmitry Medvedev had initially only [said](#) he had "lost confidence" in Luzhkov when he dismissed him after 18 years as mayor in September 2010.

This year, Luzhkov [revealed](#) that his team had had contacts with U.S. President Donald Trump on the construction of a sprawling underground mall near the State Duma in the late 1990s. "The matter didn't go further," the ex-mayor said in February.

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