

Putin as Greek Titan Graces Moscow Apartment Block's Facade

January 15, 2020

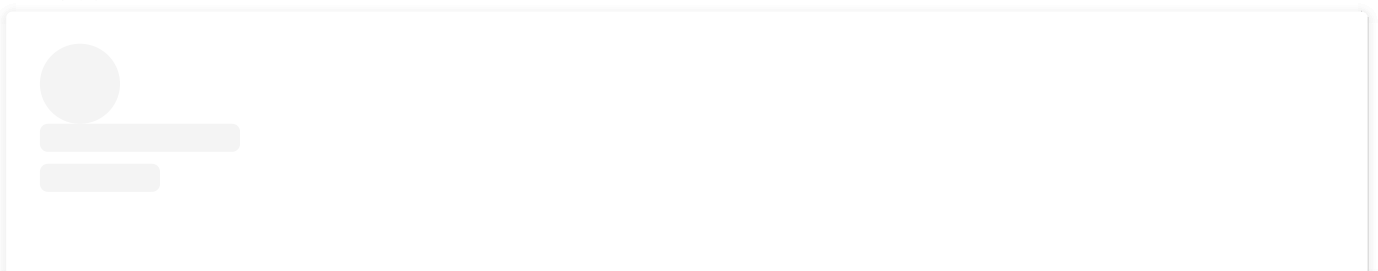


"You support the world, the world supports you," the mural's caption reads. [kolomna_gorod / Vkontakte](#)

A mural depicting Russian President Vladimir Putin as Greek mythological figure Atlas has resurfaced in a BBC dispatch from a town in the Moscow region [published](#) Wednesday.

The mural, which shows the well-toned Putin wearing nothing but a loincloth, [appeared](#) on the side of a nine-story apartment block in the ancient town of Kolomna in honor of the president's 67th birthday last fall.

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Публикация от  ХУДОЖЕСТВЕННАЯ РОСПИСЬ СТЕН (@pchelinivan) 7 Окт 2019 в 1:31 PDT

Its author told local media that he portrayed the Russian president as Atlas, the mythical Greek titan who carries the heavens on his shoulders, because he views Putin as a peacemaker.

“Atlas held the heavens, the world. And Putin supports peace,” artist Ivan Pchelin [said](#) in an Oct. 7 interview, using the Russian word *mir*, which translates as both “peace” and “world.”

To bring home the point, Pchelin captioned his art piece: “You support the world, the world supports you.”

The BBC drew other parallels between Atlas and Putin.

“Atlas was famed for his endurance. So is Mr. Putin: he's been in power in Russia for 20 years,” the broadcaster said.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2020/01/15/putin-as-greek-titan-graces-moscow-apartment-blocks-facade-a68909>