

Austrian Ex-Minister Who Danced With Putin Quits Rosneft

By [AFP](#)

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Austrian ex-foreign minister Karin Kneissl, who once danced with Russian President Vladimir Putin at her wedding, has quit her board position at Russian oil giant Rosneft, the company said Monday.

Kneissl has submitted a letter of resignation effective from Friday, Rosneft said in a statement.

The 57-year-old made headlines when she invited Putin to her wedding in 2018 and was photographed dancing with him during the event.

She left the Austrian government the following year and joined the board of Rosneft as an independent director in June 2021.

Her resignation comes after Rosneft announced Friday that German ex-chancellor Gerhard

Schroeder was leaving the board after five years, a day after Germany stripped him of official perks over ties with Russia.

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On Friday, Kneissl told AFP that she intended to stay on for her one-year mandate but had told Rosneft in March that she would not seek a further term on the board.

Kneissl's personal website includes several interviews with RT, a Russian state-funded news organization, the latest two days before Russia launched its military operation in Ukraine on Feb. 24.

Rosneft in its statement thanked Kneissl for her work during the "complex" international situation, saying it was counting on future collaboration with her as an expert.

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