

## **Vladimir Putin**

### **President of Russia**

Vladimir Putin was born on Oct. 7, 1952, in Leningrad and graduated from the law faculty of Leningrad State University in 1975.

An employee of the state security services from 1975 to 1991, Mr. Putin worked in the German Democratic Republic from 1985 to 1990. In mid-1991, Mr. Putin became the chairman of the External Relations Committee for the Saint Petersburg mayoralty. He was transferred to Moscow in 1996 to become deputy manager of business administration for the President of Russia. In 1997, Mr. Putin became the deputy director of Presidential Administration and chief of the Main Control Directorate.

In 1998, Mr. Putin was appointed director of the Federal Security Service. In early 1999, he became Secretary of Russia's Security Council. In August of that year, Mr. Putin was appointed Prime Minister. On Dec. 31, 1999, he was named acting President.

On March 26, 2000, Mr. Putin was elected President of Russia. He took office on May 7.

Mr. Putin is married and has two children.