

Putin mocks Democrats as shameless losers

Covering numerous topics, from foreign politics to the Russian budget, the price of oil, sports doping allegations as well as the US election during his [annual end-of-year news conference](#), Russian president Vladimir Putin slammed the US Democratic party saying "**the party that is called the Democrats has clearly forgotten the original meaning of that name**" and added that "**the use of administrative resources (by the Democrats) is absolutely shameless.**"

He continued the rout saying "outstanding figures in American history from the ranks of the Democratic Party would likely be turning in their graves. Roosevelt certainly would be. They (the Democrats) are losing on all fronts and looking elsewhere for things to blame. In my view this, how shall I say it, degrades their own dignity. **You have to know how to lose with dignity.**"

Continuing his barrage against the Democratic Party, Putin said it is "losing on all fronts" and that it is wrongly trying to blame President-elect Donald Trump's victory on external factors. "**You need to learn how to lose gracefully,**" he said.

He added that "**losers always look for someone to blame, but they should first of all look at themselves.**"

Putin then said that "**the most important thing is what was revealed. It's not like people invented this information - what they reported is true.** It showed how the Democratic Party manipulated the system against Bernie Sanders. **Instead of apologizing, they began to look for people to blame.**"

Putin added that the question of who hacked the U.S. Democratic party was not important, but that the **hacks revealed that public opinion in the United States was being manipulated.**

Putin also mocked the "archaic" U.S. electoral system, which he said "is a problem" and that it's up to U.S. people to sort it out, however he conceded that the "U.S. is great country, will draw conclusions from vote."

Putin also spoke about Trump, lauding the President-elect for his win, and [said it was no surprise](#). "Right up to the end, nobody believed he would win — except us." He credited Trump's victory to his ability to keep his "finger on the pulse of the mood of society" adding that Trump "**went all the way, even though no one believed that he would win, apart from you and me.**"

The Russian president said on Friday he wanted constructive relations with the United States under President-elect Donald Trump.

Putin also acknowledged his own rising support among Republican voters in the US: "I don't put it down to me, the fact that a large part of Republican voters support the Russian president," he said. "It means that a large part of the American people have the same idea of how the world should be, of our common dangers and problems."

Additionally, Putin addressed Trump's comments about the need to boost the U.S. nuclear arsenal, saying they were perfectly normal. Trump's comments, made in a tweet on Thursday, seemingly in response to Putin's own comments earlier in the day. But Putin said he was surprised by the fuss Trump's tweet had caused and how it had been linked to his own statements about Russia's plans to modernize its own nuclear arsenal.

Putin said on Thursday Russia's military was "stronger than any potential aggressor". He made clear on Friday he did not regard the United States as a potential aggressor.

"I was a bit surprised by the statements from some representatives of the current U.S. administration who for some reason started to prove that the U.S. military was the most powerful in the world," said Putin.

"Nobody is arguing with that."