**The politics of Russia**

The President is the head of state and is elected every six years for a maximum of two terms. The **original1** constitution had four-year presidential terms, but this **was amended2** to six years by parliament late in 2008.

 The head of government is the Prime Minister. He organizes the work of the government. The **Council of Ministers3** helps him.

 The **Federal Assembly4** of Russia is the Parliament of Russia.

It consists of the [**State Duma**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/State_Duma)**5** (the lower House) and the [**Federation Council**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federation_Council_of_Russia)**6** (the upper House).

The Council isn’t elected. It consists of representatives of Russia’s federal **entities**7 – each has two. The 450 **deputies8** of the State Dumaare elected each five years.

The Constitutional Court has the right to declare actions of the President, the Federal Assembly and the Federal Government unconstitutional.

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original1 – зд. действующая

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Federal Assembly4 – Федеральное собрание

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