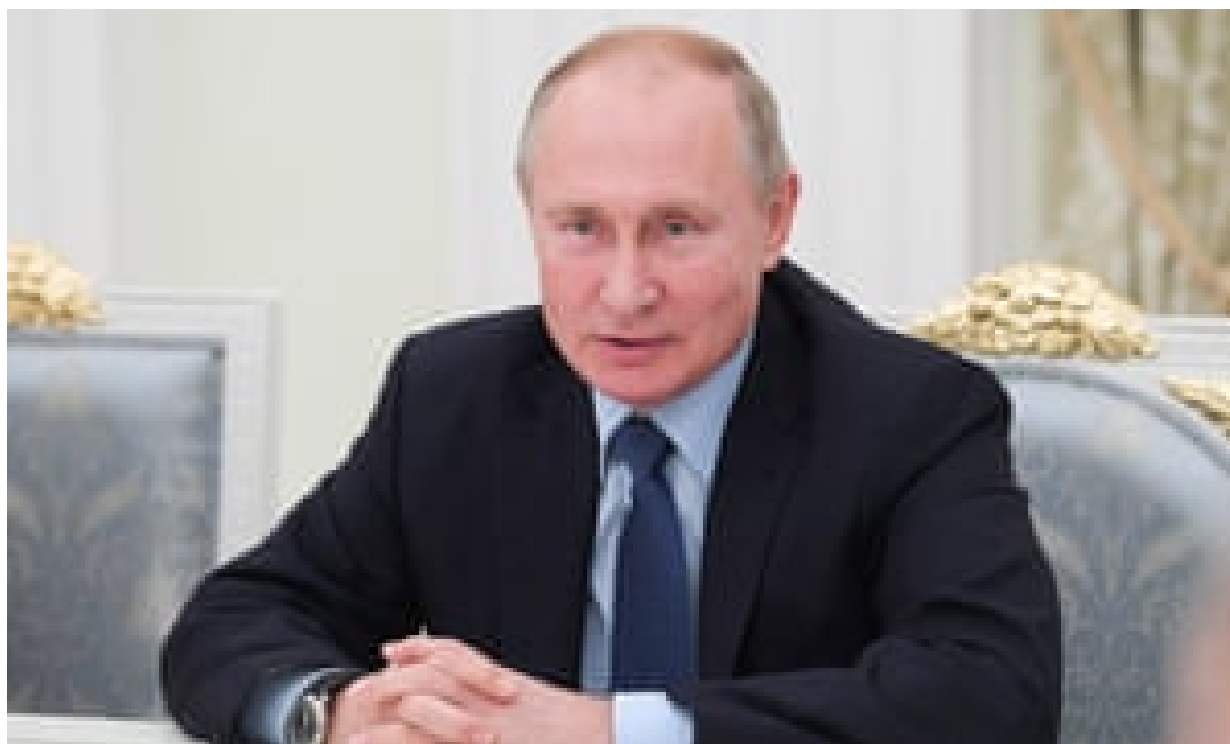


# Vladimir Putin calls for ‘reliable’ Russian version of Wikipedia

President says user-edited site should be replaced with Big Russian Encyclopaedia



Vladimir Putin was speaking at a Kremlin meeting on the future of the Russian language. Photograph: Alexei Druzhinin/Tass

---

Vladimir Putin has called for the creation of a more “reliable” Russian version of Wikipedia.

The president told a Kremlin meeting on the future of the Russian language: “As for Wikipedia ... it’s better to replace it with the new Big Russian Encyclopaedia in electronic form,” RIA Novosti news agency reported. “At least that will be reliable information, presented in a good, modern way.”

Putin was referring to a Russian encyclopaedia published between 2007 and 2014 in paper form.

The government plans to allocate nearly 1.7bn rubles (£20.7m) to developing a

Russian online reference resource similar to Wikipedia in the next three years, according to government documents published in September.

Putin was responding to a comment by a university rector who complained about the use of Wikipedia by courts to reach verdicts.

The widely used Russian-language Wikipedia, known as Vikipedia, says it has more than 1.5m articles.

In 2015, Russia briefly banned Wikipedia over an entry on a form of cannabis.

---

Source:

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/nov/05/vladimir-putin-calls-for-reliable-russian-version-of-wikipedia>

[Disclaimer]