



19 Dec, 2025 08:37 / Home / [Russia & FSU](#)

Putin to speak to the nation in traditional year-end press conference

Social issues are expected to lead the list of questions submitted by the public



FILE PHOTO: Russian President Vladimir Putin at his end-of-year press conference, Moscow, Russia, December 19, 2024. © Kremlin

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Russian President Vladimir Putin will hold his traditional end-of-year press conference on Friday at noon Moscow time. This year will again combine the event with the 'Direct Line', during which he will respond to questions from citizens and the press.

According to the Kremlin, Western journalists are also expected to take part in the event.

The collection of queries from the Russian public began on December 4 and has reportedly exceeded 1.2 million as of Sunday. Last year, Putin fielded questions from a total of more than 2 million submitted for four and a half hours.

The main topics are expected to be "social issues" and questions related to Russian frontline soldiers and their families, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told Izvestia in an interview on Thursday.

"While last year, healthcare-related issues were the most common, this year they're not even in the top three. In the top five, probably," he said. Many systemic problems have been ironed out in the past year, he noted.

The Russian president always prepares for the year-end event in advance, but the days ahead of the broadcast are hectic, when Putin brings questions to ministers and deputy prime ministers, according to Peskov.

Follow live updates on RT.com for the latest from the press conference and direct line session.

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