

Putin Too Busy for NATO

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The  **Moscow Times**

BRUSSELS — President-elect Vladimir Putin is unlikely to attend NATO's summit in Chicago due to his busy schedule at home, the alliance's top official said Wednesday.

Relations between NATO and Moscow have become increasingly strained over U.S. plans for a missile shield in Europe.

NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen said he had spoken to Putin and that they "agreed that the timing is difficult because Russia has a very busy domestic political calendar."

(AP)

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