

## Elon Musk Challenges Russia's Space Chief to Rap Battle

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Elon Musk has threatened the head of Russia's state space agency with a rap battle, continuing the long-running rivalry between the SpaceX CEO and the Roscosmos head.

Earlier in June, scientists in the Siberian city of Tomsk <u>launched</u> a figurine of Roscosmos head Dmitry Rogozin into space in a red sports car in what seemed like a sarcastic reaction to SpaceX's triumphant Falcon Heavy launch in 2018.

## Embed:

Don't make me challenge you to a rap battle!!

— Daddy DotCom (@elonmusk) June 15, 2019

Musk soon took to Twitter to <u>respond</u> to an article about the Russians' mock launch with his characteristically zany humor: "Don't make me challenge you to a rap battle!"

**Related article**: <u>Russian Scientists Send Effigy Into Space in Toy Car, Mimicking SpaceX</u> <u>Launch</u>

Twitter users were quick to react this time around, instantly assuring Musk that a rap battle would indeed be epic to witness. Some <u>questioned</u> whether his opponent would be Rogozin or the Tomsk scientists behind the launch.

## Embed:

Need it soon. Elon "Rap God" musk mode on. <u>pic.twitter.com/rH823IDB4M</u>

- Suravy G. (@blaugrana\_su) June 15, 2019

Roscosmos has developed an informal rivalry with SpaceX as Russia's status as a cosmic superpower has faded, with Musk featuring as a central character in the world of Russian memes ever since.

In March, Rogozin<u>congratulated</u> Musk on the launch of the SpaceX Crew Dragon spacecraft, and Musk in return<u>explained</u> that "he had always admired Roscosmos' rocket/spacecraft technology."

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