



Předseda vlády České republiky
Mirek Topolánek

His Excellency
Mr. Vladimir Vladimirovich PUTIN
President of the Russian Federation
M o s c o w

Dear Mr. President,

Writing on my own behalf and on behalf of the Government of the Czech Republic and all the Czech citizens, allow me to express our sincere sympathy over the death of Boris Nikolayevich Yelcin.

I myself regard Boris Yelcin, the first President of the Russian Federation, as a great personality of historic significance, who had paved the way for the transition of your country from the Soviet regime to a modern Russian society.

Boris Yelcin holds a unique place in the Czech-Russian relations. He was the first Russian President to visit the independent Czech Republic. During his visit the Treaty between the Czech Republic and the Russian Federation on friendly relations and co-operation was signed on August 26, 1993.

We share the grief felt by all the Russian citizens. Be so kind, dear Mr. President, and convey our words of sympathy and support also to the relatives and friends of the late Boris Yelcin.

Boris Yelcin will live on in our memories as a great politician of the 20th century.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'M. Topolánek'.