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## WHO IS ANDREI BELOUSOV, RUSSIA'S NEW MINISTER OF DEFENCE?

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BBC News (13 May 2024)

Laura Gozzi

For the first time in 12 years, Russia has a new minister of defence.

On 12 May, the Kremlin announced that President Vladimir Putin had nominated economist Andrei Belousov to replace long-serving defence minister Sergei Shoigu.

Although there had long been rumours that a reshuffle was on the cards, few were expecting Mr Putin to pick a civilian with no background in either the military or the security services to replace Mr Shoigu.

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