



01 September 2006

The G8 presidency
c/o
Vladimir Putin
President of Russia
4 Staraya Square
Moscow 103132

Dear Mr Putin,

The editors of openDemocracy are delighted to inform you that the Group of Eight, of which you are currently president, has been named Bad Democrat of the Month for August 2006.

The Bad Democracy Award is made monthly to the man, woman or institution that has made the most damaging contribution to democracy that month.

Visitors to openDemocracy's [website](#) are invited to cast their votes for one of six candidates. You emerged victorious from a shortlist that also included Presidents Joseph Kabila of the Democratic Republic of Congo, Lansana Conté of Guinea and Bashar al-Assad of Syria, president elect Felipe Calderon of Mexico and Pope Benedict XVI.

Your name will now go forward to the shortlist for the grand prize of Bad Democrat of the Year, to be decided three months hence.

Congratulations once more.

Yours,

Tom Burgis

Moderator, Bad Democracy Awards

2nd Floor, 23-25 Great Sutton Street, London EC1V 0DN
T – +44 (0) 20 7608 2000 F – +44 (0) 20 7608 2666