

Kyrgyzstan Risks Turning Into Second Afghanistan - Medvedev

By [Global Research](#)

Region: [Asia](#)

Global Research, April 14, 2010

[The Voice of Russia](#) 14 April 2010

The head of Kyrgyzstan's interim government Roza Otunbayeva does not rule out negotiations with the ousted President Kurmanbek Bakiyev. A new vice premier, Azimbek Beknazarov, is heading for the pro-Bakiyev south for talks, she told reporters on Wednesday.

After the opposition stripped Bakiyev of immunity, he said he was ready to quit but demanded safety guarantees for him and his family. Meanwhile, the situation remains tense. An army motorcade is moving towards Jalal-Abad, Interfax reports.

Earlier, Russia's President Dmitry Medvedev, meeting with politicians in the Brookings Institution in Washington, said in the worst-case scenario, Kyrgyzstan risked splitting into North and South. If that happens, extremists might start flowing in, turning the country into a second Afghanistan.

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