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Serbian president invites Putin to attend opening of St. Sava Cathedral in Belgrade



Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic has invited Russian President Vladimir Putin to visit Belgrade to attend an opening ceremony of the St. Sava Cathedral, which is scheduled for the end of 2020.

"I would like to thank the Russian side for their aid in building a magnificent Cathedral of St. Sava. Its central part will be completed soon. We will invest more money [in its construction]. I invited President Putin to visit us [to attend the opening of the church], we think that everything will be finalized by the end of next year," Vucic said at a press conference following the talks with Putin in Sochi on Wednesday.

He expressed gratitude to Putin for "the constant support to Serbia." "I hope that he will visit Serbia next year and unveil with us the St. Sava Cathedral, which is one of the most important Orthodox churches in the world," the Serbian president said.

The construction of the St. Sava Cathedral in Belgrade has begun back at the end of the nineteenth century in the square, where the Ottoman Empire authorities burnt down the relics of St. Sava, the first Serbian archbishop (1175-1236), at the end of the sixteenth century.

— Source: interfax-religion.com