The Moscow Times
30 YEARS
INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

What the Papers Say, Sept. 12, 2012

By The Moscow Times

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Igor Tabakov

Kommersant

1. Article attributed to the economic section headlined "Gas Improviser" says President Vladimir Putin's decree prohibiting Russian strategic companies and their affiliated companies to abide by the regulations of foreign countries without the relevant approval of the Russian authorities is aimed at helping Gazprom, which is currently under investigation by the European Commission. The decree in fact is unlikely to assist Gazprom, but will create additional problems for other companies, the article says; pp 1 — 2 (1,316 words).

2. Yury Barsukov interview with Federal Antimonopoly Service head Igor Artemyev headlined "Over Half Our Cases Are Against Government Bodies." The senior official speaks on possible fines for oil companies, delay in the implementation of the Euro-2 EU fuel standard and the law on trade; pp 1, 6 (2,272 words).

3. Yegor Popov article headlined "Shipbuilders Prescribed With Shelf and Defense Sector" reviews the state program for the development of shipbuilding drafted by the Industry and Trade Ministry; pp 1, 7 (947 words).

4. Vladislav Novy article headlined "Government Nails Down E-Mail Box" says the Russian Post Office is to develop a state e-mail service that will charge subscribers for setting up and using e-mail accounts. Experts believe the plans are unrealistic, while the authorities plan to use the service for safe delivery of documents; pp 1, 7 (603 words).

5. Taisia Bekbulatova et al. report headlined "Constitutional Court Will Have to Take Part in Gennady Gudkov's Destiny" says A Just Russia and the Communist Party are going to appeal to the Constitutional Court against United Russia's plans to expel Deputy Gennady Gudkov from parliament. Meanwhile, a State Duma commission is to check the alleged business activity of six United Russia deputies; p 2 (570 words).

6. Maxim Ivanov article headlined "State Duma Continues to Ban" says State Duma speaker Sergei Naryshkin has called on his colleagues to pass bills without a "hot temper," while the Duma opposition did not protest against a new bill affecting NGOs; p (635 words).

7. Andrei Kolesnikov article headlined "Para-Ordinary Heroes" reports on the reception for Russian Paralympics athletes in the Kremlin; p 3 (1,352 words).

8. Irina Nagornykh article headlined "Dmitry Medvedev Narrows Down Circle of Contacts With Party" says Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev's meeting with United Russia representatives triggered mixed reaction among experts: some of them think Medvedev is seriously tackling party affairs, while others believe he has distanced himself from the party; p 3 (500 words).

9. Article by billionaire Mikhail Prokhorov headlined "Platform of Secular State" suggests that a special code of relations between the state and the Russian Orthodox Church be adopted; p 5 (1,293 words).

10. Grigory Tumanov and Konstantin Andrianov article headlined "March Starts Moving" says the Moscow mayor's office has approved an opposition rally scheduled for Sept. 15; p 5 (566 words).

11. Natalya Gorodetskaya article headlined "Federation Council Attacks Hackers" says senators propose that a hacking attack on state websites be equated to seizure of power; p 4 (800 words).

Nezavisimaya Gazeta

1. Svetlana Gamova article headlined "Kremlin Shakes Dust Off 'Kozak Plan': Moscow Is Pushing Dniester Region Toward 'Single' Moldova'" comments on Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev's meeting with Moldovan Prime Minister Vlad Filat; the author does not rule out that the so-called Kozak plan, approved in the Kremlin and later, in 2003, rejected by Moldovan authorities, will be resurrected; pp 1, 7 (1,194 words).

2. Alexandra Samarina article headlined "Internet to Be Driven Into Criminal Code Web" says

United Russia plans to draft a bill stripping bloggers of their anonymity; pp 1 — 2 (773 words).

3. Anastasia Bashkatova article headlined "Health Care Having No Prospects" says the underfinanced Russian health care system needs reform to resolve the problem of the lack of personnel; pp 1, 4 (883 words).

4. Darya Tsilyurik article headlined "It Is Suggested That U.S. and Al-Qaida Make Peace With Each Other" comments on Al-Qaida's Al-Zawahiri's peace plan voiced in an interview with CNN; pp 1, 8 (636 words).

5. Viktoria Panfilova article headlined "Tashkent Closes Entrance to Germans" says Uzbek authorities have not allowed a group of German environmentalists to enter the country as Tashkent uses child labor during cotton picking; pp 1, 7 (815 words).

6. Mikhail Vyugin article headlined "Yevgeny Roizman Provided With Rivals on Eve of His Birthday" says Sverdlovsk region authorities cannot find celebrities to advertise their fund combating drug addiction set up as a rival to Yevgeny Roizman's organization; pp 1 — 2 (474 words).

7. Alexei Gorbachev article headlined "Group of 'Bolotnaya [Ploshchad]' Risk" comments on the persecution of lawyers, rights activists and journalists assisting the opposition; p 2 (608 words).

8. Olga Shulga article headlined "False Sociologists and Hidden Propaganda Posters" comments on the administrative pressure opposition candidates taking part in regional elections are facing; p 3 (644 words).

9. Sergei Kulikov article headlined "Bulgaria Will Have to Pay for Peaceful Atom" says Russia demands that Bulgarian authorities pay 1 billion euros in compensation for cancelling a project to build an atomic power plant in Bulgaria; p 4 (682 words).

10. Artur Blinov article headlined "Romney Insists: Russia Hampers America" says Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney has once again used anti-Russia rhetoric in a radio interview; p 8 (546 words).

11. Nikolai Surkov article headlined "UN Threatens Assad Opponents With Court Trial" says Cairo is paving the way for a compromise in the Syrian conflict; p 8 (556 words).

Vedomosti

1. Margarita Lyutova et al. report headlined "Decree for Europe" says President Vladimir Putin's decision to protect Gazprom from European justice may do the Russian gas monopoly harm; p 1 (555 words).

2. Yelena Vinogradova article headlined "We Have Outstripped Germany" says Russia has become Europe's largest car market; pp 1, 13 (484 words).

3. Mikhail Overchenko article headlined "From Prison to Millionaires" says former UBS banker Bradley Birkenfeld has been awarded $104 million by U.S. tax authorities for helping them in a major tax evasion case against UBS; p 1 (484 words).

4. Editorial headlined "Rogozin's Orbit" comments on Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin's suggestion that a lunar station be set up. The article notes that the plans are unrealistic for the Russian space sector; pp 1, 6 (527 words).

5. Alexei Nikolsky and Polina Khimiashvili article headlined "To Replace U.S." looks ahead at President Vladimir Putin's visit to Pakistan as Russia seeks to replace the U.S. in the country; p 2 (390 words).

6. Oxana Gavshina article headlined "Rosneft Stands Up for BP" says Rosneft has joined BP's battle with a TNK-BP shareholder. The Russian oil giant disputed a court ruling fining BP 100 billion rubles; p 9 (426 words).

7. Yevgenia Pismennaya article headlined "Figure of Week: 1,800Bln Rubles" reviews the results of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit held on Russky Island and questions further development plans for the Russian Far East; p 6 (370 words).

8. Article by opposition politician Vladimir Milov headlined "Public Politics: Discrimination of Entrepreneurs" slams the State Duma for a ban on business activity for parliamentarians as Russian entrepreneurs are in the most disadvantageous position, according to the author; p 6 (381 words).

9. Another editorial headlined "Local Anesthetic" questions the need for President Vladimir Putin's decree on the evaluation of the effectiveness of officials affecting the business climate in Russia; p 6 (292 words).

10. Chairman of the presidential council for foreign and defense policy Sergei Karaganov article headlined "What Do We Need Weapons for?" says Russia has set a course for strengthening its military might. It seems that the strengthening of the military sector in intended to make up for weaknesses in other areas; p 6.

Izvestia

1. Olga Tropkina article headlined "A Just Russia Left Without Money" says State Duma Deputy Gennady Gudkov's problems are likely to affect the financing of A Just Russia; pp 1, 3 (451 words).

2. Anastasia Kashevarova and Anton Lednev article headlined "Hyde Parks to Become Reservations for Active Ones" outlines Moscow authorities' plan to allocate special places for public discussions in the city; pp 1, 3 (807 words).

3. Dmitry Yevstifeyev article headlined "Tatarstan Muslims Sue President Minnikhanov" says worshipers of a mosque in Kazan have sued Tatarstan President Rustam Minnikhanov over his amendments to the law on religion allowing the republic's authorities to influence the appointment of imams; pp 1, 3 (563 words).

4. Commentary by political scientist Boris Mezhuyev headlined "Create Your Own Partner!" analyses a shift in Russian foreign policy as Moscow seems to have realized that partnership relations could be developed with the U.S.; p 9 (873 words).

5. Pyotr Kozlov and Asya Lavretskaya article headlined "Opposition Activist [Dmitry] Bykov's

Book Gets On to 'Putin's 100 Books' List" says the Ministry of Education is completing its work on a list of 100 books recommended for extra-curriculum reading at schools. The list comes as a surprise to analysts, the authors believe; pp 1,3 (650 words).

Rossiiskaya Gazeta

1. Sergei Ptichkin interview with Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin, who speaks about the Russian space sector and plans for industrial development; pp 1, 6 (600 words).

2. Vladislav Kulikov interview with Maria Sazonova, president of the Federal Notary Chamber, who speaks about regulations for making a will in Russia; pp 1, 4 (2300 words).

3. Marina Gritsyuk and Vladimir Kozlovsky article headlined "Rich One, Poor One" reviews the salaries Russian officials receive in various regions; pp 1, 5 (700 words).

4. Leonid Radzikhovsky article headlined "Rut and Circle" says the infighting opposition has no chance of winning the support of the electorate; p 3 (900 words).

5. Kira Latukhina article headlined "From Stagnation to Friendship" looks at the meeting between Russian and Serbian presidents and their talks on gas projects; p 2 (500 words).

RBC Daily

1. Alexandra Golubeva and Nikolai Mikhalev article headlined "Deputy Does Not Move Outside Moscow Ring Road" says the authorities seem to have given up plans to build a new parliamentary center in Moscow region; p 1 (500 words).

2. Alexander Litoi article headlined "Working March" says the opposition invites public sector workers displeased with their salaries and working conditions to take part in a Sept. 15 rally; p 2 (450 words).

3. Valeria Khamrayeva article headlined "Fashion for Doubles" reviews smear campaigning used against opposition parties and activists taking part in regional elections; p 2 (350 words).

4. Galina Starinskaya and Inga Vorobyeva article headlined "Added to Gazprom" says that President Vladimir Putin signed a decree according to which strategic ventures will have to coordinate their foreign economic activity with the president. This is Putin's answer to an anti-Gazprom investigation launched by the EU, the article says; p 7 (550 words).

Moskovsky Komsomolets

1. Lilia Sharlovskaya article headlined "Sobchak Understands Putin" comments on a recent essay by opposition activist Ksenia Sobchak in which she slams President Vladimir Putin over what is described as his authoritarian style; pp 1 — 2 (588 words).

2. Mikhail Zubov article headlined "We Will Be Deceived in New Way in October" says opposition candidates have a small chance of winning regional elections in October; pp 1 — 2 (761 words).

3. Alexander Nevzorov article headlined "Lessons of Atheism" slams the Russian Orthodox

Church's policy regarding Pussy Riot, relations with the mass media and the latest speech made by Patriarch Kirill, among other things; p 3 (1,179 words).

Noviye Izvestia

1. Yevgenia Zubchenko interview with State Duma Deputy Dmitry Gudkov, who speaks about the opening of the State Duma session as well as about charges some United Russia members are facing over their business activities; p 1 (496 words).

2. Sergei Manukov article headlined "Names of All Victims Remembered" reports on the anniversary of Sept. 11 marked in the U.S.; p 2 (661 words).

3. Andrei Yashlavsky article headlined "Al-Zawahiri Wants to Bring West and Islamists to Peace" says that Al-Qaida leader Ayman al-Zawahiri's initiative to hold peace talks with the U.S. is doomed to failure; p 4 (300 words).

Novaya Gazeta

1. Viktoria Makarenko article headlined "United Russia Flying to Towns" says that United Russia deputies are ousting regional mayors representing the opposition; p 9 (1000 words).

Trud

1. Sergei Bednov article headlined "Simply Porn" says that although the State Duma has passed a bill protecting children from harmful information, NTV television has launched a low-quality reality show called "Call of Faith" in which presenter Pyotr Listerman's role is close to being a pimp; pp 1-2 (800 words).

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