

What the Papers Say, Mar. 28, 2013

March 27, 2013



Kommersant

1. Yekaterina Gerashchenko et al. article headlined "Vladimir Putin gathers stadiums" says that the presidential administration has instructed the government to develop a system to assess how effectively state funds were used in the construction of stadiums for the 2018 FIFA World Cup; pp 1, 12 (726 words).
2. Irina Nagornykh article headlined "Dmitriy Medvedev modernizes polemics" says that One Russia party leader Dmitriy Medvedev has launched a Civil University education project by delivering a lecture in which he spoke about governor elections and conflicts between the mass media and politicians; pp 1-2 (847 words).
3. Grigoriy Tumanov et al. article headlined "Russian prosecutors noticed in Germany" says that the German authorities and the EU are displeased with checks on two German funds operating in Russia as part of a large-scale audit of NGOs that started in February. This may have a adverse impact on Russian-German relations; pp 1, 5 (854 words).
4. Anna Balashova et al. article headlined "VTB comes to communications" says that the bank VTB has bought Russia's fourth biggest mobile phone operator by subscriber count, Tele2 Russia; pp 1, 12 (704 words).

5. Maksim Ivanov article headlined "People's Front expects simple formality from Vladimir Putin" says that a two-day conference of the All-Russia People's Front will open today in Rostov-na-Donu. President Vladimir Putin is expected to take part; p 2 (636 words).
6. Anna Pushkarskaya and Viktor Khamrayev article headlined "Administrative justice left without courts" says that Putin has submitted to the State Duma a draft administrative court proceedings code. An expected provision that should have maximized judges' independence from the executive authorities has been dropped; p 2 (742 words).
7. Kirill Belyaninov and Nikolay Sergeyev article headlined "Drug dealer reinstated in rights as Russian" says that the USA has extradited to Russia a St Petersburg resident charged with attempted drug smuggling. The Russian Foreign Ministry earlier accused the US authorities of violating the Russian's rights in the course of his detention; p 4 (660 words).
8. Aleksandr Chernykh article headlined "Academic and ministerial science go their own ways" that prominent Russian academicians Zhores Alferov and Vladimir Fortov have quit the public council at the Education and Science Ministry as a protest against Minister Dmitriy Livanov's policies; p 5 (633 words).
9. Oleg Sapozhkov article headlined "Regional Development Ministry without regional development" says that Deputy Regional Development Minister Yuriy Osintsev has been dismissed from his post; p 6 (559 words).
10. Yuriy Barsukov et al. article headlined "Olympic control for invisible market hand" says that prices for virtually all consumer services will be controlled by the Federal Antimonopoly Agency during the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi; p 6 (783 words).
11. Pavel Tarasenko article headlined "Europe prepares to meet terrorists" says that the UK Home Office has said that hundreds of Muslims with European passports, who are currently fighting in Syria on the side of radical groups, will start to return to the EU soon. British law enforcers warn that they may stage large-scale terrorist attacks; p 7 (548 words).
12. Sergey Strokan article headlined "BRICS countries fix up new documents" says that the fifth summit of the BRICS countries has finished in Durban, South Africa. Despite bold declarations and the signing of a number of documents, the BRICS leaders were unable to make progress towards becoming something more than a dialogue mechanism, the author notes; p 8 (716 words).
13. Maksim Yusin article headlined "UN peacemakers need partner in Mali" quotes UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon as saying that the UN will deploy a peacekeeping mission in Mali only if it is accompanied by a parallel "force" that will fight against Islamist extremists. This force is thought to be French troops; p 8 (368 words).
14. Comment by Moscow Carnegie Centre director Dmitriy Trenin published in the "Price of issue" column comments on the performance of the BRICS group; p 8 (370 words).
15. Kirill Belyaninov article titled "Mark Zuckerberg building political network" says the founder of Facebook is planning to create a structure one of the main goals of which will be to recruit top specialists from around the world to work in America; p 8 (400 words).
16. Olga Mordyushenko article headlined "Gazprom to grow in Bolivia" says that the Russian gas giant Gazprom has obtained permission from the Bolivian authorities to take part in the development of two gas deposits in the country; p 11 (622 words).
17. Mikhail Serov et al. article titled "Russia rejected Cyprus just in time" looks at a possible conflict between Turkey and Cyprus over disputed gas deposits in the region; p 11 (550 words).
18. Vladislav Novyy interview headlined "'If they start to 'take down' a region, a city or the entire country - good bye'" with the head of the Kasperskiy Laboratory, Yevgeniy Kasperskiy, who speaks about cyber threats and other topical issues; p 13 (2,771 words).

Nezavisimaya Gazeta

1. Aleksandra Samarina article headlined "Dmitriy Medvedev's March notions" says that at a meeting with One Russia activists, PM Medvedev essentially reasserted his ambitions for national leadership by providing an alternative, "modernized" definition of Russian conservatism. Such a political stance is said to accord with the views of the majority of Russians, opinion polls show; p 1, 3 (1,051 words).
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Rosneft's acquisition of TNK-BP on the latter's former shareholders; p 7 (300 words).

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16. Oleg Salmanov article headlined "Aleksandr Provorotov yields seat" looks at the replacement of Aleksandr Provorotov with Sergey Kalugin as the president of the state-owned communications giant Rostelekom; p 16 (505 words).

Izvestia

1. Viktor Loginov's brief interview with Aleksandr Provorotov, the now former president of the Rostelekom communications company, headlined "I decided that quitting would be better both for me and the company", who comments on his resignation; p 1 (434 words).

2. Dmitriy Yevstifeyev article headlined "New R650m-case found for Yelena Skrynnik" speaks about a possible new case on fraud at the state-owned Rosagroleasing company, which used to be headed up by former Agriculture Minister Yelena Skrynnik; pp 1, 4 (1,001 words).

3. Yuliya Tsoy and Yegor Sozayev-Guryev article titled "President against gays adopting children" says that President Putin has said he opposes the idea of Russian orphans being adopted by foreign same-sex couples; pp 1-2 (400 words).

4. Anastasiya Kashevarova article titled "Kremlin shutting down ineffective funds" says that the Kremlin has decided against the planned launch of two of four research institutions, opting to outsource the analytical work they were supposed to carry out; pp 1, 4 (350 words).

5. Yelena Teslova article headlined "Lev Ponomarev summoned to Moscow prosecutor's office" says that rights veteran Lev Ponomarev have been summoned for questioning in connection with his For Human Rights organization, which is said to continue receiving financing from abroad despite refusing to register as a "foreign agent"; p 2 (332 words).

6. Petr Kozlov and Svetlana Subbotina article headlined "Kostin's fund advises NGOs to look after people" says that a pro-Kremlin think tank has prepared a report on Russian NGOs and proposed reforms for the sector; p 3 (455 words).

7. Konstantin Volkov article headlined "Russia lags behind China in trade with Africa" features pundit comment on economic cooperation between Russia and South Africa; p 7 (576 words).

8. Opinion piece by Maksim Sokolov headlined "Minor official Livanov and academicians" contemplates the conflict between Education and Science Minister Dmitriy Livanov and academicians over his ministry's policies; p 9 (707 words).

Rossiiskaya Gazeta

1. Vladislav Kulikov article headlined "Painful measure" looks at a draft administrative court proceedings code submitted to the State Duma by President Putin; pp 1-2 (905 words).

2. Kira Latukhina article headlined "Five - one" focuses on Putin's meeting with his South African counterpart on the sidelines of the BRICS summit in Durban; p 2 (714 words).

3. Vladimir Kuzmin article titled "Study, party!" reports on PM Medvedev's inaugural lecture as part of the Civil University project designed to provide training for One Russia party members; p 3 (700 words).
4. Vitaliy Petrov article headlined "To the front again" previews the All-Russia People's Front conference opening in Rostov-na-Donu today; p 3 (500 words).
5. Irina Rybnikova interview headlined "Regional Muscovites" with acting Moscow Region governor Andrey Vorobyev, who speaks about his leadership aspirations; p 6 (2,468 words).
6. Maksim Makarychev article headlined "Tail wags dog" gives an account of the Arab League summit in Doha; p 8 (652 words).
7. Igor Dunayevskiy article titled "Obama finds himself a woman" comments on the appointment of Julia Pierson as US Secret Service chief; p 8 (250 words).

Rossiiskaya Gazeta (weekly)

1. Viktor Feshchenko article titled "Suffocated" comments on the results of a postmortem on Boris Berezovskiy by the UK authorities, which found that the exiled tycoon died as a result of a hanging; p 5 (500 words).
2. Mikhail Barshchevskiy interview with State Duma deputy chairwoman Lyudmila Shvetsova, headlined "Learning to live long", who speaks about the social and demographic situation in Russia; p 8 (1,295 words).

Moskovskiy Komsomolets

1. Tatyana Zamakhina article headlined "Pavel Gusev unanimously elected chairman of Moscow Union of Journalists" reports on the 7th conference of the Moscow Union of Journalists, at which Moskovskiy Komsomolets editor in chief Pavel Gusev was re-elected chairman; pp 1-2 (595 words).
2. Irina Finyakina article headlined "What killed Maksim Kuzmin?" criticizes the adoptive mother of Russian boy Maksim Kuzmin who died in the USA for not taking proper care of the child; p 1 (577 words).
3. Yekaterina Sveshnikova and Irina Bobrova article headlined "The number 68 conceals secret of Berezovskiy's death" suggests that exiled Russian oligarch Boris Berezovskiy did not want to live longer than several of his family members, who died at the age of 68; pp 1, 5 (750 words).
4. Mikhail Zubov article headlined "Vitaliy Malkin and Boris Shpigel stop being senators" says that four senators - Vitaliy Malkin, Boris Shpigel, Svetlana Zhurova and Svetlana Orlova - have officially left the Federation Council; p 2 (657 words).
5. Viktoriya Prikhodko article headlined "Putin's security service scuffles with South Africans" comments on the BRICS summit in Durban, South Africa and criticizes shortcomings in the summit organization; p 2 (717 words).
6. Natalya Rozhkova article headlined "Medvedev asks One Russia not to be rude to media" zooms in on Medvedev's meeting with One Russia activists at a launch of a party education project; p 2 (520 words).
7. Irina Kuksenkova article headlined "Russia plans to return ambassador to Qatar" says that Russia is ready to appoint a new ambassador to Qatar despite the fact that official Doha has not apologized for an attack on the previous ambassador at a local airport; p 3 (436 words).
8. Renat Abdullin and Dina Karpitskaya interview with Natalya Vishnevskaya, the head doctor at the children's home from which Maksim Kuzmin was adopted by his US family, titled "'Maksim was not even hyperactive'", in which she questions the findings of a US autopsy on

the boy; p 3 (731 words).

9. Matvey Ganapolskiy commentary headlined "Spy persecution mania" mulls possible questions that could be asked during President Putin's annual phone-in planned for April and contemplates his most likely answers; p 3 (1,120 words).

10. Natalya Rozhkova article headlined "Everything for the front: All-Russia People's Front" recalls the history of the All-Russia People's Front and looks at the prospects for its further development; p 4 (1,289 words).

RBK Daily

1. Anastasiya Fomicheva and Nadezhda Ageyeva article headlined "Kostin called Sweden" says that Russian VTB bank has acquired 100 per cent of shares of Tele2 Russia mobile operator from the Swedish shareholder; pp 1, 7 (400 words).

2. Aleksandr Litoy article headlined "Wikipedia of corruption" says that the opposition is to create a website similar to Wikipedia, listing all the latest fraud scandals in Russia. The People's Alliance movement that is launching the project also aims to gain the status of a party from the Justice Ministry; p 2 (400 words).

3. Yuliya Yakovleva article headlined "Orientation change" says that according to the study conducted by the Foundation for the Development of Civil Society, Russian NGOs should get state support and switch from monitoring to social help; p 2 (450 words).

4. Ivan Petrov article headlined "Protection from officials" says that President Putin has initiated the creation of administrative courts that will prosecute officials for violating the rights of citizens and corporate bodies. Experts welcome the move, although doubt its efficiency; p 2 (550 words).

5. Inga Vorobyeva article headlined "Break the bank" features a report from the fifth summit of the BRICS in Durban; p 3 (600 words).

6. Anastasiya Fomicheva article headlined "Rostelekom president leaves" comments on the reshuffle in the Rostelekom company as its board of directors has approved the company head Aleksandr Provotorov's early termination of power; p 8 (900 words).

Novyye Izvestia

1. Sergey Putilov article headlined "Pension police" says that the Russian Pension Fund wants to take control of businessmen's bank accounts to supervise insurance payments; pp 1, 3 (621 words).

2. Nadezhda Bulanova article headlined "To do without in God's way" says that the Russian Orthodox Church has put forward an initiative to introduce a new subject at schools called "Meaning of life"; pp 1, 5 (429 words).

3. Vera Moslakova article headlined "By most honest calculations" says that only 10 per cent of electoral commissions in Russia have been manned with civil activists; p 2 (689 words).

4. Anastasiya Dolgova article headlined "American parents gave not enough pills to Maksim Kuzmin" comments on the results of autopsy on Maksim Kuzmin, a Russian kid adopted by American parents who died in January 2013; p 5 (250 words).

Komsomolskaya Pravda

1. Tatyana Reut article headlined "Americans put blame on Maksim Kuzmin for his own

death" comments on the results of autopsy on Maksim Kuzmin; p 6 (300 words).

2. Oleg Potapov interview with Andrey Bocharov, a member of the All-Russian People's Front, on the upcoming conference in Rostov-on-Don devoted to Vladimir Putin's pre-election promises; p 12 (1,500 words).

Komsomolskaya Pravda (weekly)

1. Anna Veligzhanina article headlined "Berezovskiy's look-a-like died instead of him?" says there are too many questions surrounding the death of Russian tycoon Boris Berezovskiy and features comments of those who knew Berezovskiy personally; pp 4-5 (1,600 words).

Krasnaya Zvezda

1. Viktor Ruchkin article headlined "'Balance' of LAS" analyses the resolution adopted by the League of Arab States that allows its member states to support Syrian opposition; pp 1, 3 (550 words).

Trud

1. Yevgeniy Akatov article headlined "What is gone together with Berezovskiy" features pundits' comments on the role of exiled tycoon in Russian history; p 3 (500 words).

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