

## What the Papers Say, Aug. 7, 2013

August 07, 2013



### Kommersant

1. Sergei Sobolev et al. report headlined "Video International shifts to new manager" says Sergei Vasilyev — who has been heading Video International company, Russia's largest seller of TV ads since 2003 — is to resign. His post may be taken by Eduard Raykin, head of the St. Petersburg branch of Channel One; p 1 (779 words).
2. Sergei Goryashko et al. report headlined "Moscow mayoral candidates to be broadcast live" says television debates of Moscow mayoral candidates will be held live, acting Moscow mayor Sergei Sobyenin has not announced his decision yet whether to take part in the debates or not; p 1 (540 words).
3. Yegor Popov and Yelena Kiseleva article headlined "Currency being chosen for shipbuilding" reports on the fight for control over the United Shipbuilding Corporation. As the new president was appointed, several candidates are now competing over the post of chairman of the board of directors; pp 1, 9 (697 words).

4. Dmitry Butrin article headlined "TV sets instead of vehicles" says the decrease in car imports in Russia has been compensated by higher sales of other goods such as home appliances; p 2 (469 words).
5. Alexei Sokovnin article headlined "Mikhail Khodorkovsky and Platon Lebedev win two more months" says the Supreme Court has slightly reduced the sentences to former Yukos owner Mikhail Khodorkovsky and his business partner Platon Lebedev; p 3 (829 words).
6. Sergei Mashkin et al. report headlined "Priest dies at consolation" gives details of the killing of a prominent Orthodox Church priest in Pskov; p 5 (658 words).
7. Pavel Tarasenko and Ivan Safronov article headlined "Sergei Shoigu regulates Italian armored vehicles" reports on the meeting of the Russian and Italian defense and foreign ministers in Italy, where Russia has revised plans for military technical cooperation approved by former Defense Minister Anatoly Serdyukov; p 6 (713 words).
8. Kirill Belyaninov article headlined "Hillary Clinton being crossed out of TV programme" says Republicans prohibit NBC and CNN to broadcast documentaries on former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. They threaten not to allow the television channels to cover the next presidential election campaign if the channels refuse to listen to their demands; p 6 (352 words).

## **Nezavisimaya Gazeta**

1. Darya Garmonenko and Ivan Rodin article headlined "Yukos topic not closed" says the Supreme Court has reduced prison sentences of former oil businessman Mikhail Khodorkovsky and his business partner Platon Lebedev; pp 1, 3 (1,139 words).
2. Tatyana Ivzhenko article headlined "Moscow to push its illegal migrants to Kiev" says that while Moscow is stepping up control over illegal migration, more migrants are expected to come to Ukraine; pp 1, 6 (941 words).
3. Vladimir Mukhin article headlined "Beneficial tariffs for military ships" says the visit of a detachment of the Navy ships to Cuba and talks with the Vietnamese delegation in Moscow show that Russia is going to use military infrastructure left in the countries which used to be the Soviet Union allies; pp 1, 3 (841 words).
4. Igor Naumov article headlined "High-speed internet to come to taiga" says around 22 billion rubles (\$670 million) will be spent on providing remote regions with high-speed

internet, the money is taken from a special tax paid by communications companies for the use of frequencies; pp 1, 4 (774 words).

5. Yury Roks article headlined "Saakashvili suspects clergy of treason" says the Georgian authorities are criticizing the country's patriarch over his remarks about the need to restore relations with Russia; pp 1, 6 (670 words).

6. Vladimir Skosyrev article headlined "Iran to create plutonium bomb" says the West has accused Iran of working on a plutonium bomb, some experts believe the accusations are part of a campaign against new Iranian President Rouhani; pp 1, 7 (638 words).

7. Editorial headlined "Russian communications systems remain vulnerable" says the Armed Forces are using outdated communications systems which are not protected from penetration from abroad; p 2 (484 words).

8. Sergei Kulikov article headlined "Grain import grows faster than export falls" says over the past six months Russia has reduced grain export by six times, at the same time increasing its import over 10 times; p 4 (600 words).

9. Sokhbet Mamedov article headlined "Baku waiting for Putin" says Azerbaijan treats President Vladimir Putin's visit as demonstration of support for President Aliyev seeking re-election. Putin is expected to visit Caspian region countries in August; p 6 (448 words).

10. Yevgenia Novikova article headlined "Rebels execute hostages in Syria" says Syrian rebels have executed 450 hostages in the north-east of the country; p 7 (661 words).

## **Izvestia**

1. Yelizaveta Mayetnaya and Dmitry Yevstifeyev article headlined "Defense Ministry demands half billion from Chkalov Avia" says the court is expected to look into dubious agreements concluded by ex-Defense Minister Anatoly Serdyukov; pp 1, 4 (800 words).

2. Alexander Yunashev article headlined "Government does not fulfill four presidential instructions" says officials have failed to fulfill several instructions of the president on management of land resources; pp 1-2 (350 words).

3. Svetlana Subbotina and Sergei Zvezda article headlined "United Russia senator opens account for Snowden" says lawmaker Ruslan Gattarov wants to open a bank account to allow anyone to transfer money to support U.S. whistle-blower Edward Snowden; pp 1-2 (614

words).

4. Article by political scientist Andranik Migranyan headlined "Jupiter, you are angry, it means you are wrong" tries to play down the possibility of U.S. President Barack Obama's decision not to visit the G20 summit in St. Petersburg after Russia granted asylum to Snowden; pp 1-2 (1,135 words).

5. Yelena Teslova article headlined "Former convicts to be barred from holding public posts" says previous convictions may prevent Russians from becoming officials and public sector workers in accordance with the new bill being drafted by One Russia; p 1 (534 words).

6. Petr Kozlov and Mikhail Rubin article headlined "Only 20 parties decide to take active part in elections" says that over half of the newly registered political parties in Russia decided not to take part in the September regional elections; p 2 (697 words).

7. Anton Mardasov article headlined "Defense Ministry to raise servicemen's immunity" says the Defense Ministry plans to spend over 200 million rubles to purchase medicines for the army; p 3 (400 words).

8. Pundit Kirill Benediktov article headlined "Law of sledge hammer" looks at results of investigation into the latest Proton-M rocket crash; p 5 (650 words).

## **Vedomosti**

1. Vitaly Petlevoy article headlined "To close, reduce and sell" says the end of a raw-materials boom makes metallurgical and mining companies reduce their costs by laying off personnel, selling assets and even closing plants; pp 1, 13 (571 words).

2. Maria Zheleznova and Svetlana Bocharova article headlined "Navalny's 35 friends" says a group of 35 internet businessmen have openly supported opposition candidate at the Moscow mayoral election Alexei Navalny; pp 1, 3 (511 words).

3. Editorial headlined "Choice of profession" reviews the results of the university entrance campaign and notes that economic and managerial majors remain most popular among Russian school leavers; pp 1, 6 (403 words).

4. Anastasia Kornya article headlined "Dose of humanity: 60 days" says the Supreme Court has reduced a prison sentence of former oil tycoon Mikhail Khodorkovsky; quotes an expert as saying that when it comes to liberalization, courts do not demonstrate generosity; p 2 (450

words).

5. Lilia Biryukova article "Senator from Sterkh" says the head of the Sterkh (White Crane) foundation, Alexander Yermakov, may become a senator instead of banker Dmitry Ananyev; p 2 (300 words)

6. Alexei Nikolsky article headlined "Air Force to do without modernization" looks at the Defense Ministry's new purchase policy for the Air Force; p 3 (350 words).

7. Another editorial headlined "They retire from scene" comments on the ownership change of Boston Globe and The Washington Post; p 6 (339 words).

8. Maxim Glikin article headlined "Figure of week: two months" comments on the Supreme Court decision to reduce the prison sentence to former oil tycoon Mikhail Khodorkovsky and his business partner Platon Lebedev by two months; p 6 (453 words).

9. Tatyana Lysova et al. interview with acting Moscow Mayor Sergei Sobyanin taking part in the mayoral election campaign. Sobyanin speaks on ongoing police raids on Moscow markets and migration policy, the election campaign and the opposition candidates; pp 8–9 (5,057 words).

## **Rossiiskaya Gazeta**

1. Tatyana Zyкова interview with Vladimir Denisov, head of the Moscow Region bureau of technical inventory, speaking on housing taxes in Russia and ways of evading them used by some people; pp 1, 10 (1,792 words).

2. Sergei Belov article headlined "'Everything was done right'" looks at the interview Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev gave on Georgian television on Aug. 6; p 2 (900 words).

3. Pundit Nikolai Zlobin article headlined "How to distribute injustice" comments on the Russian judicial system in view of recent court rulings; p 3 (600 words).

4. Maxim Makarychev article headlined "Pestered by losses" comments on the change of management at The Washington Post; p 5 (250 words).

5. Pundit Fedor Lukyanov article headlined "Five days and five years" comments on the fifth anniversary of the 2008 Russian–Georgian war; p 5 (600 words).

## **Moskovsky Komsomolets**

1. Tatyana Zamakhina article headlined "Medvedev's energy ration to be enough only for light bulbs and TV" says the new energy consumption standards developed by the government in fact mask an increase in energy tariffs; pp 1, 5 (2,196 words).
2. Mikhail Rostovsky article headlined "Khodorkovsky yesterday, Navalny tomorrow?" comments on the Supreme Court ruling which reduced the prison sentence for former oil tycoon Mikhail Khodorkovsky and his business partner Platon Lebedev by two months; pp 1-2 (891 words).
3. Marina Ozerova article headlined "Patriots' money" looks at schemes used by officials to conceal their foreign assets; pp 1, 3 (684 words).
4. Mikhail Zubov interview with pundits Gleb Pavlovskiy, Igor Bunin, Oleg Kudinov, Mikhail Tulskey speaking about protest sentiments, ongoing election campaign, prospects for government reshuffle; p 4 (1,000 words).
5. Renat Abdullin interview with pundit Gumer Isayev commenting on the situation in Egypt; p 4 (500 words).

## **Novaya Gazeta**

1. Yelena Masyuk interview with the opposition Left Front coordinator Sergei Udaltsov, who is being kept under house arrest in Moscow. The activist speaks about the charges against him and the investigation of his case; pp 12-13 (2,887 words).
2. Vera Chelishcheva article headlined "Another year, if no surprises" reports on the Supreme Court decision to reduce the jail sentence of former oil tycoon Mikhail Khodorkovsky by two months; p 7 (500 words).
3. Semen Novoprudsky article headlined "Party of smuggling" comments on the crisis in the ruling United Russian party; p 10 (500 words).

## **RBC Daily**

1. Yevgeny Krasnikov article headlined "Nostalgia on-line" says a well-known producer and founder of several paid television channels, Vladimir Ananich, has decided to set up

a broadband internet provider; pp 1, 6 (700 words).

2. Alexander Litoy article headlined "Smaller coverage" says Moscow Region gubernatorial candidates will be allowed to publish their ads for free only in the regional press. Opposition candidates complain about how their work is being covered and about the campaign of the acting governor, Andrei Vorobyov; p 2 (400 words).

## **Komsomolskaya Pravda**

1. Sergei Titov article headlined "Khodorkovsky term reduced by two months" reports on the Supreme Court decision to reduce the jail sentence of former Yukos head Mikhail Khodorkovsky by two months. The article features a comment by political scientist Sergei Markov calling the decision a "compromise"; p 3 (300 words).

2. Andrei Dementyev article headlined "Political reform in action" comments on the upcoming Sept. 8 regional elections in Russia. The author says this year's election campaign is a new stage in Russia's political development as it shows more competition; p 4 (900 words).

3. Yelena Krivyakina article headlined "Senators find work for former spy Edward Snowden" says lawmaker Ruslan Gattarov has suggested that U.S. intelligence leaker Edward Snowden could become the Russian Federation Council's expert on internet privacy issues; p 7 (400 words).

## **Noviye Izvestia**

1. Vera Moslakova article headlined "Freedom getting closer" reports on the Supreme Court ruling to reduce the jail sentence of former oil tycoon Mikhail Khodorkovsky by two months. The article quotes analyst Dmitry Abzalov, who links the court's decision to the recent ruling of the European Court of Human Rights on the Khodorkovsky case; pp 1-2 (400 words).

2. Yulia Savina article headlined "Exam" says the Federation Council would like to use U.S. intelligence leaker Edward Snowden as an expert on internet privacy issues; p 2 (300 words).

## **Trud**

1. Oleg Yuryev article headlined "Kadyrov's cutlets" says Chechen leader Ramzan Kadyrov has helped some of his citizens with money in an effort to boost his PR; p 1 (400 words).

## **Argumenty i Fakty**

1. Vladimir Kozhemyakin and Maria Pozdnyakova article headlined "08.08.08. 5 years after war" reports on the situation in the disputed Russian-Georgian region of South Ossetia; pp 46-47 (1,500 words).

## **Krasnaya Zvezda**

1. Unattributed article headlined "'With Russia's support, we will build prosperous state'" is an interview with South Ossetian leader Leonid Tibilov; p 2 (900 words).

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