

What the Papers Say, Oct. 10, 2013

By [The Moscow Times](#)

October 10, 2013



Kommersant

1. Yelena Chernenko and Svetlana Mentyukova article headlined "Russia being separated with milk curtain" says that the Federal Customs Service will give up strengthened control over Lithuanian imports as of today, but the ban on dairy products imports from Lithuania will be preserved. This may affect Russia-EU relations, particularly the talks on visa-free travel, the article says; pp 1, 7 (830 words).
2. Kirill Melnikov interview with co-owner of the Novatek independent gas manufacturer, Gennady Timchenko, headlined "'We simply trust each other'", speaks about a campaign against the Russian gas giant Gazprom's monopoly on the market and the company's performance in general; pp 1, 13 (2,732 words)
3. Yekaterina Gerashchenko article headlined "Houses of funeral state services" says that the Moscow city authorities plan to build over 35 funeral houses, attracting investors; pp 1, 9

(545 words)

4. Anna Zanina and Anna Pushkarskaya article headlined "Judges decide not to stay" says that at least seven oldest judges at the Supreme Arbitration Court have voluntarily resigned following President Vladimir Putin's initiative to disband the organization; pp 1-2 (958 words).

5. Maxim Ivanov et al. article headlined "Government extends anti-corruption list" says that the government has almost doubled a list of organizations whose leadership will report its incomes and expenditures specifically. Among those are the largest raw materials companies; p 2 (436 words)

6. Ivan Safronov article headlined "Space reform endorsed in Kremlin" says that President Putin has met Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin to discuss pending reforms in the Federal Space Agency (Roskosmos). Putin approved the planned changes; p 2 (415 words).

7. Article by the newspaper's political section headlined "Head of Yaroslavl electoral commission holds out not long" says that the head of the Yaroslavl Region electoral commission, Denis Vasilyev, has been detained on suspicion of fraud; p 2 (474 words).

8. Anton Arsenyev et al. article headlined "Andrei Isayev not late with takeoff" says that United Russia lawmaker Andrei Isayev, the chairman of the State Duma labour and social policy committee, has undertaken responsibility for a drunken brawl initiated by his aide aboard an aircraft flying from St. Petersburg to Moscow and voluntarily resigned from the post of the deputy secretary of the United Russia party's general council; p 4 (681 words).

9. Viktor Khamrayev article headlined "Dmitry Livanov gets yearly mark" says that Education and Science Minister Dmitry Livanov has delivered a report to the State Duma. Nevertheless, the Communist Party and the A Just Russia party still want the minister to resign; p 5 (666 words).

10. Grigory Tumanov article headlined "Investigative Committee secures itself" says that the head of Greenpeace International has asked President Putin to release the detained Greenpeace activists, who tried to board an oil rig in the Pechora Sea. However, it is not ruled out that the environmentalists will be presented with new charges: drugs are said to have been found aboard the environmentalists' ship Arctic Sunrise; p 6 (582 words).

11. Olga Kuznetsova article headlined "Hamed Karzai afraid of being left alone with Taliban" says that Afghanistan is soft-peddling an agreement with the U.S. on the withdrawal of the international coalition forces from Afghanistan and prospects for U.S. military presence in the country after 2014. The article features a Russian expert's comment on the issue; p 7 (495 words).

Nezavisimaya Gazeta

1. Vladimir Mukhin article headlined "Army being deprived of fuel, uniform and mortgage" says that the Russian authorities' ambitious plans to increase the country's defense capability have clashed with the current economic situation. defense spending, built into the federal budget for 2014 to 2016, is sufficient to sustain the army for only eight months in 2014; pp 1-2 (1,214 words).
2. Anastasia Bashkatova article headlined "Status revolution awaits private pension funds" says that according to a bill approved by a governmental commission, new pension funds to be established will have a status of joint-stock companies instead of non-government organizations; p 1-2 (808 words).
3. Alexandra Samarina article headlined "They suggest Russia should change cultural elite" says that well-known film director Nikita Mikhalkov has described ideological revival as a national security issue in Russia. Experts and cultural activists disagreed with this view; p 1, 3 (740 words)
4. Tatyana Ivzhenko article headlined "Black Sea Fleet to answer for Moscow's pressure on Kiev" says that the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry has made a statement on the illegal rearmament of the Russian Black Sea Fleet, stationed in Sevastopol, and called for the observance of Ukrainian laws. The article says this is a hint showing that if Moscow continues exerting economic pressure on Kiev over its plans to integrate with the EU, Ukraine may hit Russia's sore points in the Crimea; p 1, 6 (1,090 words).
5. Yevgenia Novikova article headlined "Iran goes to West with interesting proposals" says that the UK and Iran have restored diplomatic relations, severed in 2011. This comes a week before a meeting of the 5+1 group of international mediators on the Iranian nuclear program ; p 1, 7 (750 words).
6. Alexei Gorbachev article headlined "They want to ban Russian opposition from entering European Parliament" says that a European lawmaker from Lithuania has demanded that certain members of the Russian opposition be banned from entering the European Parliament over criticism at President Putin and the Lithuanian lawmaker himself, who was accused of lobbying Russia's interests; pp 1, 3 (546 words).
7. Gleb Postnov article published in the Carte Blanche regular column headlined "Shariah sector of economy in Tatarstan" says that Tatarstan will become a pilot Russian region where the so-called takaful (life insurance according to the shariah) will be introduced; p 3 (562 words).
8. Ivan Rodin article headlined "Livanov does not give up any of his plans" describes Education and Science Minister Dmitry Livanov's report delivered to the State Duma; p 3 (794 words).

9. Mikhail Sergeiev article headlined "Russia may recall 1998" says that the U.S. default, if it happens on Oct. 17, will have the severest consequences for Russia, comparable only to those of the 1998 or 2008 economic crises; p 4 (680 words).

10. Yury Roks article headlined "Tbilisi close to boycotting Sochi" says that Georgian activists supporting a boycott of the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi have announced that they are ready to take people to the streets to demand that the government give up a trip to Sochi. The government is expected to discuss the participation of Georgia in the Sochi Olympics in the nearest future; p 6 (800 words).

11. Vladimir Skosyrev article headlined "ASEAN countries count on trade with China" says that the ASEAN summit has opened in Brunei. Economic issues will top the agenda, but disputes between China and ASEAN countries over islands in South China Sea may overshadow the summit. The article features a Russian expert's comment on the issue; p 7 (510 words).

Vedomosti

1. Sergei Titov article headlined "Ownerless Russia" says that owners of almost 40 percent of facilities in Russia are not known and it will be difficult to collect the property tax to be introduced in 2014 to 2018; pp 1, 4 (584 words).

2. Svetlana Bocharova et al. article headlined "Interrupted flight" says that Andrei Isayev, the chairman of the State Duma labour and social policy committee, has voluntarily resigned as a deputy secretary of the United Russia party's general council and suspended membership in the general council's presidium over a scandal initiated by his aide aboard an aircraft flying from St. Petersburg to Moscow; pp 1-2 (672 words).

3. Editorial headlined "Kremlin's starts" says that the increased attention towards the Olympic torches in Russia reflects the attitude to the 2014 Winter Olympics: we want to be proud of our country and win medals, but preparations for the games have been held at our expense and without our participation, and what has been built in Sochi will surely break down ; pp 1, 6 (430 words).

4. Alexei Nikolsky article headlined "Many secrets, little fuel" says that a draft federal budget for 2014 has turned to be more classified than the previous version as regards defense spending. The article features military experts' comments on the issue; p 2 (504 words)

5. Polina Khimshiashvili and Alexei Nikolsky article headlined "Iran ready to open" looks ahead of the meeting of the 5+1 group of international mediators on the Iranian nuclear program, which is to be held in Geneva next week; p 3 (308 words).

6. Maxim Tovkaylo article headlined "Miller and Sechin to reveal incomes" says that Gazprom and Rosneft have been put on a list of organizations whose leadership will report on its incomes and expenditures; p 5 (398 words).

5. Editorial headlined "Crisis of genre" says that the Federal Service for Consumer Rights Protection (Rospotrebnadzor) and the Russian Federal Service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Supervision (Rosselkhoz nadzor) have lost their credibility by frequent bans on imports from different countries, which is regarded as part of trade wars; p 6 (302 words).

6. Ella Paneyakh article headlined "Extra Jus: merger of best by worst" criticizes a bill which envisages the disbanding of the Supreme Arbitration Court; p 6 (685 words).

7. Olga Kuvshinova interview with Mikhail Dmitryev, president of the Centre of Strategic Development, headlined "'It is unambiguous signal to investors: this is confiscation'", who speaks about the Russian government's recent pension initiatives and what impact they may have on the Russian economy; p 8-9 (4,120 words).

8. Ksenia Boletskaya article headlined "President changed for Kommersant" says that Vladimir Zhelonkin has replaced Dmitry Sergeiev as the president of the Kommersant publishing house; p 11 (568 words).

Izvestia

1. Vladimir Zykov article headlined "Hackers organize marriage for Depardieu in Chertanovo" says that Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev has demanded that the procedure of registration at the web-portal of state services, gosuslugi.ru, be facilitated; however, this has already resulted in hackers' pranks and may result in a leak of personal data in future, experts say; pp 1 (577 words).

2. Yelena Teslova article headlined "Some 26,000 people to be released on occasion of 20th birthday of constitution" says that 26, 450 people may be released from jail if the State Duma approves a bill on amnesty, drafted by the president's human rights council, which envisages pardoning disabled people, pregnant women and mothers of minors; pp 1, 3 (469 words).

3. Svetlana Basharova and Andrei Gridasov article headlined "City Duma to consider candidacy for post of regional prosecutor" says that the City Duma will consider today the candidacy of the Prosecutor-General's Office department head Alexei Zakharov for the post of the regional prosecutor. Zakharov is Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu's son-in-law; pp 1, 4 (965 words).

4. Natalya Bashlykova and Dmitry Runkevich article headlined "Seat of State Duma lawmaker Anton Belyakov may be given to Oleg Shein" says that according to Lyudmila Petrova, a candidate to the State Duma from the A Just Russia party in the Vladimir region, a deputy seat of Anton Belyakov, who moved to the Federation Council, may be given to the head of the party branch in the Astrakhan region, Oleg Shein, next week; p 2 (599 words).
5. Natalya Bashlykova article headlined "They suggest that senators should become non-partisan" says that Federation Council senator from Tambov Region, Yevgeny Tarlo, plans to ask the Constitutional Court to establish whether the senators' right to be party members is legal. Senators should present regions, but not political brands, Tarlo thinks; p 2 (594 words).
6. Alena Sivkova article headlined "Rospatriotstsentr to deal with preparing year-round Seliger" says that the Federal Agency for Youth Affairs wants to change the format of the pro-Kremlin youth camp, Seliger, from a traditional summer camp into a youth centre which will operate the whole year round; p 2 (676 words).
7. Petr Kozlov article headlined "Central Electoral Commission hold mass awarding" says that about 300 people will be awarded by the Central Elections Commission for their contribution into the development of the Russian electoral system; p 3 (470 words).
8. Denis Telmanov and Yelena Nikitina article headlined "Defense Ministry sets up holding company of military housing utilities sector" says that a holding company that will service military towns across Russia is due to be established by Dec. 15. It will unite the infamous company Slavyanka, the maintenance and repair department, the sole heat energy supplier of the Defense Ministry, and the company Oboronenergo, the electric energy supplier of the Defense Ministry; p 4 (596 words).
9. Natalya Bashlykova and Sergei Podosenov article headlined "Civil Platform closes from media" says that the Civil Platform party will hold the third party congress behind closed doors on Oct. 21 ; p 4 (707 words).
10. Svetlana Subbotina and Natalya Bashlykova article headlined "'Let my destiny be decided by my colleagues'" says that United Russia's deputy Andrei Isayev's voluntary resignation from the post of deputy secretary of the United Russia party's general council following his involvement in a drunken conflict aboard an aircraft is rather an imitation of a sacrifice as the post is not very significant, and he still keeps his party membership; p 4 (400 words).
11. Yury Matsarsky article headlined "Barack Obama accuses opponents of blackmailing" says that U.S. President Barack Obama has severely criticized the Republicans, having accused them of creating serious economic problems for the U.S.. The article features a Russian expert's comment on the pre-default situation in the country; p 7 (651 words).
12. Maria Gorkovskaya article headlined "Karzai's brother intends to help clan maintain

influence in Afghanistan" says that Afghan President Hamed Karzai's elder brother will run for president during the Apr. 5 2014 election and features a Russian expert's comment on the issue; p 7 (636 words).

13. Political analyst Boris Mezhyuev article headlined "'Under secure canopy of law...'" looks at the pre-default situation in the U.S. and calls on U.S. President Barack Obama to compromise with the Republicans; p 9 (849 words).

Rossiiskaya Gazeta

1. Mikhail Barshchevsky interview with Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, headlined "By what right", speaks about legal problems and application of international laws as regards the situation in Syria; pp 1, 6 (2,930 words).

2. Kira Latukhina article headlined "'One window' to space" gives an account of President Putin's meeting with Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin to discuss a draft space reform; p 2 (729 words).

3. Article by professor from the Higher School of Economics, Oleg Matveychev, headlined "Exceptional U.S." says that the U.S. is losing hegemony in the world and no longer acts as a global spiritual leader; p 3 (399 words).

4. Valery Vyzhutovich interview with Alexei Venediktov, editor in chief of the Ekho Moskvyy radio station, headlined "Long Ekho", who speaks about the radio station and its editorial policy; p 7 (1,413 words).

Moskovsky Komsomolets

1. Mikhail Zubov article headlined "Let's hang out in Piter style!" ridicules Andrei Isayev, the chairman of the State Duma labour and social policy committee, for a scandal aboard an aircraft flying from St. Petersburg to Moscow and recalls his previous notable pranks; pp 1-2 (379 words).

2. Konstantin Smirnov article headlined "Ghost of food cards" comments on the Agriculture Ministry's initiative to introduce food cards in a number of Russian regions as a pilot project as from 2015; pp 1-2 (1,062 words).

3. Marina Ozerova article headlined "Party said 'don't'" says that according to the leader of the United Russia group in the State Duma Vladimir Vasilyev, the incident aboard an aircraft involving United Russia lawmaker Andrei Isayev and his aide will "be closely studied and examined"; p 2 (473 words)
4. Natalya Chernykh article headlined "Disrespect of high-ranking scoundrel" looks at comments posted by eyewitnesses of the scandal aboard an aircraft involving United Russia lawmaker Andrei Isayev and his aide in the social network VKontakte. According to them, it is Isayev, but not his aide, who initiated the scandal; p 2 (725 words).
5. Igor Subotin article headlined "Why did a Russian diplomat suffer in The Hague?" tries to find out reasons behind the beating of the Russian diplomat Dmitry Borodin in the Netherlands; p 3 (464 words).
6. Mikhail Zubov interview with legendary Russian diplomat Boris Pastukhov, headlined "'Afghanistan will go to Taliban in any case'", who speaks about Russia's policy in Central Asia, the situation in Afghanistan in particular; p 6 (722 words).

RBK Daily

1. Alina Yevstigneyeva article headlined "One hundred eighteen angry businessmen" says big Russian business is disappointed with the country's WTO membership; p 3 (400 words).

Noviye Izvestia

1. Gennady Savchenko article headlined "For one beaten person" says that the Netherlands has apologized for its law-enforcers violating the Vienna Convention but not for the beating of Russian diplomat Dmitry Borodin in the Hague; pp 1-2 (499 words)
2. Yekaterina Dyatlovskaya article headlined "Dangerous passenger" details a scandal aboard a Russian aircraft involving United Russia lawmaker Andrei Isayev and his aide; pp 1-2 (788 words).
3. Elya Grigoryeva article headlined "Bankruptcy of 'electronic government'" says that the project of the government e-services has virtually failed in Russia; pp 1, 3 (667 words).
4. Arina Raksina article headlined "Without particular consequences" says that Russian experts are sure that there will be no default in the U.S., so the Russian economy will not

suffer; p 3 (763 words).

Komsomolskaya Pravda

1. Alexander Grishin article headlined "Writer and historian Nikola Starikov: 'U.S. will never leave Russia at calm'" is an interview with the author of the book "Geopolitics. How it is done" who says there will be a long-lasting rivalry between the U.S. and Russia; pp 1, 10 (1,500 words).
2. Alexander Igorev article headlined "Drugs found on Greenpeace ship" says Russian investigators have found drugs on Greenpeace's Arctic Sunrise ship; p 3 (200 words).
3. Yelena Chinkova article headlined "Russia waiting for Dutch apology, Zhirinovsky close to knocking out embassy windows" features a pundit comment on a row between Russian diplomat Dmitry Borodin and the Dutch police; p 4 (300 words).
4. Sergei Markov article headlined "Election in Azerbaijan: Quiet triumph and thin balance" comments on the presidential election in Azerbaijan; p 4 (300 words).

Komsomolskaya Pravda (weekly)

1. Yelena Arakelyan article headlined "U.S. waits for default" features expert comments on expected consequences of a possible U.S. default for Russia; p 4 (300 words).

Tvoy Den

1. Sergei Zhukov article headlined "Food for thought" claims that Tvoy Den correspondent spotted former US CIA contractor Edward Snowden in Moscow and managed to take a photo of him on his way out of the supermarket; p 2 (250 words).

Original url: <https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2013/10/10/what-the-papers-say-oct-10-2013-a28472>