

What the Papers Say, April 4, 2014

April 04, 2014



Kommersant

1. Dmitry Butrin article headlined "Plan to intercept taxes" says that the Federal Financing Monitoring Service intends to check beneficiaries of companies and take more measures in line with the plan of countering tax evasion; pp 1, 6 (1,119 words).
2. Kirill Melnikov and Yelena Chernenko article headlined "No way for Iranian oil to Russia" says that Russia and Iran have reached progress in the talks on Russian goods supplies in exchange for Iranian oil; pp 1, 12 (667 words).
3. Ilya Barabanov article headlined "'New orders every day'" features a correspondent's report on the situation in Rostov region which has the longest section of the Russian-Ukrainian border and where Russian troops are deployed; pp 1, 3 (1,070 words).
4. Alexandra Mertsalova article headlined "Restaurant-keepers to be kept within pedestrian

areas" says that the Moscow city government plans to reduce taxes for the owners of buildings located along pedestrian areas and central tourist streets; pp 1, 13 (570 words).

5. Viktor Khamrayev article headlined "Crimea joining [Russia] passes patriotic expertise" says that experts of the patriotic Izborsky Club refer to Crimea's merger with Russia as the starting point of a new stage in "the restoration of Russian geopolitical space"; p 2 (573 words).

6. Kirill Antonov article headlined "Kazan does not want to divide" says that Tatarstan opposes the bill on the reform of local governments; p 2 (516 words).

7. Maxim Ivanov article headlined "Anti-terrorism bill to be made anti-Maidan" says that the State Duma security committee has amended the bill on countering terrorism by expanding the term "mass disorders" and introducing new crimes such as enrolling members of terrorist groups and acquisition of knowledge and skills which can be used during mass disorders; p 4 (627 words).

8. Kirill Belyaninov article headlined "Sewn mouth does not prevent extradition" says that the Foreign Ministry has expressed indignation at a hasty extradition of Russian citizen Maxim Chukharev from Costa Rica to the U.S.; p 4 (772 words).

9. Sergei Strokan article headlined "U.S. to elect ambassador in India" says that the growing crisis in U.S.-Indian relations has caused the resignation of the U.S. ambassador to India; p 7 (527 words).

10. Vladimir Solovyev article headlined "EU fulfills Moldovan authorities' promises" says that the European Union has lifted visa requirements for Moldovan citizens and comments on the consequences of the move amid growing skepticism towards integration with Europe; p 7 (532 words).

11. Kirill Belyaninov et al. report headlined "Space apart" says that the U.S. has suspended its participation in the Russian-U.S. presidential commission considered to be the main symbol of "the reset" in the relations between the countries. In addition, NASA has suspended contacts with the Federal Space Agency; p 7 (901 words).

12. Yelena Chernenko article headlined "Differences in line" says that the session of the CSTO foreign ministers council showed that the CSTO is split in its reaction to the Ukrainian crisis and Crimea's admission into Russia; p 7 (562 words).

13. Olga Mordyushenko article headlined "Ukraine shown gas price without fleet" says that

Moscow has increased gas price for Ukraine for the second time this week; p 9 (622 words).

Vedomosti

1. Bela Lyaub and Yekaterina Buravtseva article headlined "Requital for Olympics" says yet another contractor of the Sochi Olympics may face bankruptcy; pp 1, 18 (600 words).
2. Editorial headlined "Kalashnikov ATM" comments on Russia's plans to create a national payment system; pp 1, 6 (400 words).
3. Svetlana Bocharova and Lilia Biryukova article headlined "Adjustment over Ukraine" says the State Duma plans to introduce criminal responsibility for teaching to organize and take part in mass disorders and to toughen punishment for their organization; pp 1-2 (600 words).
4. Maria Zheleznova and Svetlana Bocharova article headlined "Passport for grandchild of White emigrant" says the State Duma has changed requirements allowing people to receive the Russian citizenship in a facilitated way: only Russian-speakers living in Russia or ancestors of those who lived in Russia will be eligible to apply; 2 (250 words).
5. Another editorial headlined "Privileged guest workers" comments on the Russian president's decree giving preferential treatment to Tajik workers and says the decision reflects Russia's controversial migration policy; p 6 (300 words).
6. Yekaterina Shulman article headlined "Law on hermetic sealing" comments on the State Duma plans to amend the legislation on local governments; p 6 (650 words).
7. Alexander Rubtsov article headlined "Suitcase without handle with dynamite" says the implementation of Russian laws in the new constituent part of Russia, Crimea, that is used to Ukraine's political freedom may result in the escalation of an international conflict; p 7 (600 words).

Nezavisimaya Gazeta

1. Alina Terekhova article headlined "Gazprom prepares new prices for Naftohaz" says that Gazprom head Alexei Miller has announced a new increased gas price for Ukraine which will reach 485 dollars per 1,000 cubic meter.. In response, Kiev demanded that Russia should remit the \$2 billion loan it promised to former President Viktor Yanukovich and vowed to use the money to settle its debt for the Russian gas; pp 1, 4 (710 words).

2. Vladimir Mukhin article headlined "Crimea may get nuclear status" says that the republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol were included in the Southern Military District. Meanwhile, NATO has increased its military presence in Europe and Ukraine has relocated significant forces closer to its border with Russia, which increases the threat of a military conflict; p 1 (771 words).
3. Alexei Gorbachev article headlined "You've voted and now go to teach and treat" says that a bill regulating the work of deputies who have important jobs and cannot attend all sessions will be tabled to the Moscow City Duma. The initiative will make it possible for heads of hospitals, headmasters and the like to show up at the sessions only for voting; pp 1,3 (807 words).
4. Alexandra Samarina article headlined "Old-timer governors asked to leave" says that since January 2012 heads of 33 regions have been replaced and speculates over what governors may resign in the near future; pp 1, 3 (887 words).
5. Svetlana Fedorova article headlined "Ukrainian law-enforcers pick up Russian trail" quotes Ukraine's Interior Minister Arsen Avakov who said that an official inquiry had shown that the now disbanded Berkut riot police killed dozens of protesters in Kiev in February; pp 1, 7 (614 words).
6. Daria Tsiryulik article headlined "IMF head happy about outflow of capital from Russia" quotes IMF head Christine Lagarde who announced that the sanctions imposed against Russia had proved efficient as they increased the outflow of capital from Russia due to growing tensions and military rhetoric; pp 1,8 (747 words).
7. Oleg Vladykin article headlined "NATO defines anti-Russian front" says that NATO has actually admitted that it does not have any efficient measures to influence Russia's policy regarding Ukraine; p 2 (553 words).
8. Editorial headlined "State supervision bodies fail to cope with their functions" says that the state's inability to ensure efficient control over production, transport, construction, etc. is a direct threat to people's health; p 2 (465 words).
9. Yekaterina Trifonova article headlined "To court with imposed defense lawyer" says that the Federation Council senators have tabled a bill obliging judges to appoint state defense lawyers for all suspects, including those willing to hire a private defense lawyer; p 2 (472 words).
10. Vladimir Gundarev article headlined "Carte blanche. NASA tries too hard to protect Ukraine" says that the Russian Space Agency has ignored NASA's warning that it suspended

some kinds of activities with representatives of the Russian government; p 3 (595 words).

11. Ivan Rodin article headlined "All Ukrainians may become 'Russian-language speakers'" says that today the State Duma is to pass amendments setting up a simplified procedure for getting the Russian citizenship by Russian-language speakers; p 3 (530 words).

12. Igor Naumov article headlined "Coal industry to be warmed up with ruble" says that the government plans huge investments in the development of coal industry and instructs coal companies to win new markets in the Asia-Pacific region; p 4 (800 words).

13. Political pundit Alexei Malashenko article headlined "About Russia's foreign-policy charm" comments on Crimea joining Russia and says that Russia may have to pay a high price for the move; p 5 (1,440 words).

14. Anton Khodasevich article headlined "Belarus preparing for military machinery production" says that Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko has announced plans to set up facilities for aircraft, helicopter and armored vehicles production. Minsk hopes to get as much profit from the Russian-Ukrainian conflict as possible, experts say; p 7 (616 words).

15. Tatyana Ivzhenko article headlined "Kiev making election bets" says that the Ukrainian central electoral commission will finish today the registration of presidential candidates and looks at the variety of candidates; p 7 (1,225 words).

16. Yevgenia Novikova article headlined "Only healthy person to become Egypt's president" says that Islamists have conducted a series of terrorist attacks ahead of the presidential election in Egypt; p 8 (692 words).

17. Vladimir Skosyrev article headlined "Afghan people electing leader from among ex-ministers" looks at the situation in Afghanistan ahead of the presidential election set for April 5 and says that the Taliban has failed to disrupt the election; p 8 (620 words).

Rossiiskaya Gazeta

1. Natalya Kozlova article headlined "They came not as guests" says that Russian special services have detained activists of the Ukrainian Right Sector on suspicion of plotting subversive actions in Russia; pp 1, 4 (700 words).

2. Ilya Sobolev article headlined "FIFA to you" says that the FIFA has rejected U.S. senators'

proposal to kick Russia out of the 2014 World Cup in Brazil; p 3 (300 words).

3. Mikhail Falaleyev article headlined "Called to patrol" says Russian citizens have been given the legal right to patrol streets together with police to ensure public order; p 5 (500 words).

4. Article by political analyst and vice president of the Russian Foreign Policy Association Karen Brutents headlined "That is what NATO was created for" comments on the reasons behind the confrontation between Russia and NATO and says that the Ukrainian crisis is a geopolitical duel in which the U.S. wants to reaffirm its superiority; p 6 ().

5. Yekaterina Zabrodina article headlined "'Iraqi syndrome' activates in U.S." says that the Pentagon has attributed the shooting spree in a U.S. military base in Texas to post-traumatic syndrome after service in Iraq; p 7 (1,400 words).

6. Anna Fedyakina and Yevgeny Shestakov article headlined "They make scapegoat out of Berkut" says that the Kiev authorities have accused the former riot police Berkut of killing protesters in February clashes and looks at discrepancies in the accusations; p 8 (700 words).

Izvestia

1. Yegor Sozayev-Guryev et al report headlined "Audit Chamber finds 722 billion rubles worth of violations" looks at the Audit Chamber report for 2013 to be presented to the State Duma today; pp 1, 3 (600 words).

2. Anastasia Kashevarova interview with director general of the state news agency Russia Today Dmitry Kiselev headlined "'West's behaviour borders on schizophrenia'", where he comments, among other things, on sanctions against Russia and himself; pp 1, 4 (2,000 words).

3. Yelena Teslova article headlined "They try to ban law-enforcers from becoming rights activists" says members of the human rights group Gulagu.net have asked the Russian ombudsman to limit law-enforcers' participation in public supervisory commissions; pp 1-2 (500 words).

4. Ruben Garsya article headlined "ONF creates rating of absurd state purchase contracts" says the pro-Kremlin movement All-Russia People's Front has made a list of absurd state purchase contracts as part of its campaign "For honest purchase contracts"; pp 1-2 (400 words).

5. Alexei Krivoruchek article headlined "General to be made to report their expenses" says the Defense Ministry may oblige high-ranking generals to report the acquisition of expensive housing, cars and securities; p 2 (450 words).

Moskovsky Komsomolets

1. Marina Perevozkina article headlined "Ghost of 'black squadron' haunting Kiev" says that Ukrainian law-enforcers have announced the detention of 12 soldiers of the now disbanded Berkut riot police on suspicion of killing Euro-Maidan activists; pp 1-2 (450 words).

2. Article headlined "Prosecutor's office closes Nazi books auction" says that law-enforcers have shut down an auction where Nazi books and accessories were to be sold; p 1 (100 words).

3. Mikhail Zubov article headlined "Medvedev to be jailed for three years?" says that the A Just Russia faction has tabled a bill to impose criminal punishment or a fine of 200,000 rubles (\$5600) for failing to fulfill president's decrees; p 1 (350 words).

4. Unattributed article headlined "'Tymoshenko overestimates her strength" features experts' comments on former Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko's chances in the presidential election; p 2 (250 words).

5. Alexander Dobrovolsky interview with deputy head of the CIS Countries Institute Igor Shishkin headlined "Those loving hatred" where he speaks about the phenomenon of Stepan Bandera in the Ukrainian politics; p 4 (1,200 words).

6. Nikolai Vardul article headlined "Hit with ruble" looks at the sanctions against Russia imposed by the West and retaliatory measures Russian officials propose; p 5 (400 words).

7. Melor Sturua article headlined "Ivan begins massacre in Fort Hood" comments on a shooting spree in a U.S. military base in Texas; p 16 (250 words).

Novaya Gazeta

1. Boris Vishnevsky report "Printer turns into spanner" says that a few people in Russia doubted that after the Sochi Olympics and the Ukrainian crisis lawmakers would step up repression in the country; pp 4-5 (800 words).

2. Pavel Felgengauer report "Protection of European dream" looks at NATO's reaction to Russia's actions in Crimea and says that the fact that Crimea has become part of Russia, caused a shock with the European political elite; p 5 (1,200 words).
3. Andrei Lipsky report "Profession of brainwashing" says that the "remains of Russian professional journalist community" are indignant that socio-political television journalism in the country has turned into television propaganda; p 6 (1,400 words).
4. Vera Chelishcheva report "Going around in circles" says that according to the defense in the trial of the newspaper's slain journalist Anna Politkovskaya, the murderers of the journalist should be looked for among police and the Federal Security Service; p 10 (1,400 words).

RBK Daily

1. Ivan Petrov et al. report "Fifteen years in prison for disturbances" says that the State Duma has approved amendments to the Criminal Code toughening responsibility for terrorism and crimes against state security; pp 1-2 (700 words).
2. Stepan Opalev report "Party without authorized representative" says that opposition leader and anti-corruption activist Aleksey Navalny has said that his Progress Party may be banned; p 2 (550 words).
3. Brief unattributed report says that Russia has recalled its main military representative at NATO, Colonel General Valery Yevnevich, to Moscow for consultations; p 2 (150 words).
4. Yelena Malysheva report "Unbearable difficulty of existence" says that according to the Federation Council, amendments to the Tax Code that increase taxes on small business, have been approved in violation of the law; p 4 (1,100 words).

Noviye Izvestia

1. Yana Stadilnaya report "Viktor Yanukovych accused of mass murder" looks at the first findings of the probe into shootings in Kiev's Maidan; p 2 (450 words).

Komsomolskaya Pravda

1. Yelena Krivyakina report "Ukraine to pay for gas twice as much" says that Russia intends to exact budget revenues that have not been received due to a gas discount for Ukraine. As from April, Ukraine will have to pay some \$200 per 1,000 cubic meters more than in January; p 2 (150 words).
2. Alexander Milkus report "Will NASA conquer space without us?" says that having made a decision not to cooperate with the Russian Federal Space Agency, Americans trapped themselves; p 3 (650 words).
3. Sergei Polosatov report "Twenty-five Ukrainian saboteurs detained in Russia" says that the Russian special services have detained 25 Ukrainian citizens on suspicion of preparing sabotage attacks in the country's territory; p 4 (200 words).
4. Yelena Krivyakina interview headlined "West began to deal with Ukraine as far back as the Bush administration" with political analyst Fedor Lukyanov who looks at the crisis in Ukraine and Russia's stance on it; p 7 (1,200 words).
5. Alexei Pankin report "NATO: Burial service was read for it, but it is still alive" looks at NATO and its position on Ukraine; p 7 (500 words).

Trud

1. Vitaly Golovachev report "Mission control centre in Korolev and Mission control centre in Houston are in permanent contact..." comments on the decision of American politicians to stop space cooperation with Russia; p 2 (750 words).

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