

Vedomosti Owner Kudryavtsev Agrees on Sale Deal

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Demyan Kudryavtsev. **Yekaterina Kuzmina / RBC / TASS**

The owners of *Vedomosti*, one of Russia's largest newspapers, have agreed on a deal to sell the business daily, the publication has [confirmed](#).

Demyan Kudryavtsev and his partners Vladimir Voronov and Martin Pompadour will sell 100% of the assets in BNM, their joint-stock company that owns both *Vedomosti* and Russia's Harvard Business Review magazine, Kudryavtsev and Voronov told *Vedomosti*.

Publisher Konstantin Zyatkov and businessman Alexei Golubovich will purchase these assets.

Related article: [The Story of *Vedomosti* — A Russian Newspaper's Struggle for Independence](#)

Kudryavtsev and Voronov didn't disclose the financial details of the purchase to *Vedomosti*.

“We express deep satisfaction with these results and are grateful to the company management and the editorial staff for their brilliant work during these difficult times for the

media industry of technological changes and a market downturn,” Kudryavtsev and Voronov said in a statement.

While the deal must be closed within two months, the transfer of assets could start as early as Wednesday, Kudryavtsev said.

Negotiations for the sale of *Vedomosti* have been ongoing since at least last year, with the *Kommersant* business daily reporting that the newspaper is valued at 15 million euros.

Founded in 1999, *Vedomosti* largely operated independently with backing from foreign media organizations until 2015, when Russia passed a law limiting foreign ownership in media companies to 20%. Kudryavtsev, a former chief executive of *Kommersant* and associate of the late oligarch Boris Berezovsky, bought the newspaper that year.

Zyatkov, publisher of the *Nasha Versiya* newspaper and the former editor-in-chief of the *Argumenty I Fakty* newspaper, once said that *Nasha Versiya* “clearly stands out from many publications” because “all our writers are patriots of Russia.”

Golubovich, the owner of the Arbat Capital investment company, used to work as a manager at the now-defunct Yukos oil company which was owned by exiled oligarch Mikhail Khodorkovsky. He later testified against Khodorkovsky and other Yukos shareholders in their second trial in 2010.

Former *Vedomosti* editor-in-chief Tatiana Lysova has previously [said](#) that the two buyers are “alien to *Vedomosti*’s rules and ideals” and the newspaper’s founders “would never have accepted them as partners in this publication.”

Kudryavtsev is a member of The Moscow Times’ board.

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