The Moscow Times
30 YEARS
INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

News From Russia: What You Missed Over the Weekend

November 30, 2020



Str / EPA / TASS

'March of neighbors'

Opposition protesters in Belarus took to the streets of the capital Minsk on Sunday in the latest of three months of demonstrations against the re-election of strongman president Alexander Lukashenko.

Embed:

> Protestors in #Minsk have adopted a different protesting technique and instead of one large gathering they are now grouping in local boroughs. This way there is not enough riot police to go around all boroughs. #Belarus pic.twitter.com/9WB8udqXn6
>
> — Belarus Free Theatre (@BFreeTheatre) November 29, 2020

Minsk police said on Sunday that around 250 people were taken into custody. Riot police were deployed in large numbers, with the reported use of stun grenades and tear gas.

Back from hiatus

Nord Stream 2 will resume construction in early December one year after work came to a halt under U.S. pressure, the company behind the German-Russian natural gas pipeline announced.

U.S. lawmakers are meanwhile racing, with reported help from Ukrainian lobbyists, to enact sanctions by the end of the year that would target pipe-laying vessels and other businesses that would insure, test, inspect and certify the pipeline.

Hunting accidents

At least two Russian officials have been accidentally shot and killed on hunting trips over the weekend.

A republic of Bashkortostan senior emergency situations official was fatally wounded in the shoulder while the deputy mayor of Novouralsk in the Sverdlovsk region died after being wounded in the leg.

Fatal re-enactment

An armored personnel carrier ran over and killed the 38-year-old stepson of construction mogul Arkady Skorov at a military re-enactment celebrating his stepbrother's birthday in St. Petersburg.

Authorities launched a criminal investigation into safety standards violations against the head of a patriotic organization who was said to have been behind the wheel.

Crowded house

Authorities announced a probe into popular rapper Basta's two-night concert at the Ice Palace arena in St. Petersburg after footage on social media showed fans not adhering to social distancing rules.

Embed:

> СМИ обратили внимание на концерте Басты в Петербурге и отметили, что зрители не соблюдали дистанцию и не носили маски, а в партере не было стульев.
>
> Организаторы и власти заявили, что мероприятие прошло без нарушений, а «видео нечётко всё отображает»https://t.co/sTrX6bvn6H pic.twitter.com/H4neuZxI9B
>
> — TJ (@tjournal) November 28, 2020

An initial probe did not uncover violations while organizers said the footage, which showed fans holding up lighters and singing along, was "too blurry," local media reported.

AFP contributed reporting to this article.

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