

# What the Papers Say, Nov. 1, 2012

By [The Moscow Times](#)

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**Igor Tabakov**

**Kommersant**

1. Sergei Sobolev article headlined "No Violations by Video" says that the Federal Anti-Monopoly Service (FAS) has confirmed that eight TV channels, adverts on which are sold by the advertising sales house Video International, account for over 38 percent of federal TV channels' income in 2010-11. The FAS is not ready to recognize the dominating role of the sales house; pp 1, 13 (691 words).
2. Oleg Rubnikovich article headlined "Defense Minister to Be Summoned Soon" says that Defense Minister Anatoly Serdyukov may be questioned soon as part of a probe into a high-profile case on illegal dealings with military property; pp 1, 4 (1,270 words).
3. Vladimir Dzaguto et al. article headlined "Quarter of Century Without Novatek" says that the state-run holding company Inter RAO, which accounts for 30 percent of gas sales by the independent gas manufacturer Novatek, has decided to replace Novatek with the oil company

Rosneft as its gas supplier; pp 1, 9 (686 words).

4. Anna Balashova article headlined "Tariff Plan 'Single'" says that the State Duma has suggested introducing single tariffs on mobile telephone calls across Russia. Mobile phone operators say that the move will increase the cost of mobile phone telecommunication and will limit competition; pp 1, 9 (550 words).

5. Anna Pushkarskaya article headlined "Dmitry Dedov Sent to Strasbourg Without Return Ticket" says that the Russian judge in the European Court of Human Rights, Anatoly Kovler, will be replaced with Supreme Arbitration Court Judge Dmitry Dedov on Jan. 1; p 2 (683 words).

6. Natalya Gorodetskaya article headlined "Senators Ready to Entrust Their Business Only to State" says that a working group will be established in the Federation Council to draft amendments to the laws regulating the handover of officials' business assets for trust management; p 2 (556 words).

7. Maxim Ivanov article headlined "Instant Elections" says that the term of election campaigns may be reduced to 60 days and that of canvassing campaigns to two weeks. The opposition says that the ruling United Russia party wants to decrease canvassing chances and control elections; p 2 (598 words).

8. Taisia Bekbulatova article headlined "Justice Ministry Explains How to Become Foreign Agent" says that the Justice Ministry has clarified the rules to keep the register of NGOs that function as foreign agents. The Federation Council has approved fines for NGOs that do not want to be included in the register; p 3 (602 words).

9. Vsevolod Inyutin and Maria-Luiza Tirmaste article headlined "Mikhail Prokhorov and Alexei Kudrin Continue Mikhail Khodorkovsky's Business" says that the leader of the Civil Platform party, Mikhail Prokhorov, and the leader of the Civil Initiatives Committee, Alexei Kudrin, have launched a project entitled "School of civil leaders", which is an "apolitical organization" to support civil and social projects. The project is similar to the "School of public politics", which operated in the 2000s under oil tycoon Mikhail Khodorkovsky; p 3 (531 words).

10. Viktor Khamrayev and Taisia Bekbulatova article headlined "Law About Treason Submitted to Kremlin" says that the Federation Council has approved amendments to the Russian Criminal Code toughening punishment for treason and decided to ask the Supreme Court to check them. The human rights council plans to ask President Vladimir Putin to veto the law; p 3 (726 words).

11. Alexei Sokovnin article headlined "Vladimir Kvachkov Fails to Open Trial" says that the trial of the leader of the organization Narodnoye Opolcheniye Minina i Pozharskogo, Vladimir Kvachkov, charged with preparations for a riot, has begun in the Moscow city court behind closed doors; p 4 (520 words).

12. Alexander Zheglov article headlined "Bills Shown to Viktor Baturin" says that the Russian Investigative Committee has completed an investigation of a criminal case against businessman Viktor Baturin charged with fraud; p 4 (552 words).

13. Dmitry Butrin article headlined "Innovators Brought to New Orbits" looks at the international forum Open Innovations, which opened in Moscow on Oct. 31; p 6 (450 words).
14. Kirill Belyaninov article headlined "America Returns to Election" looks at the aftermath of the hurricane Sandy and says that the presidential election campaign has been resumed in the U.S.A. and the performance of Barack Obama to alleviate consequences of the calamity may play a key role in his victory in the election; p 7 (938 words).
15. Olga Kuznetsova article headlined "Islamists and Kurds Impede Syrian Revolution" says that a three-day conference of the Syrian opposition has come to an end in Istanbul. Experts say the meeting failed to unite revolutionaries; p 7 (468 words).
16. Maria Yefimova article headlined "'Austere Challenge' Brought to Iran" says that the U.S.A. and Israel have begun a three-week military exercise codenamed Austere Challenge. The drill is meant to show Iran the two countries' ability to jointly resist a missile threat; p 7 (407 words).
17. Pavel Tarasenko article headlined "Russia and France Meet 2 by 2" says that the Russian-French Council for Security Cooperation, in which the foreign and defense ministers from the two countries took part, has been held in Paris. Russia and France have practically no disagreements, except the Syrian issue; p 8 (591 words).
18. Sergei Strokan article headlined "Afghanistan Insulted Territorially" says that the U.S.A. has recognized as legal the Afghan-Pakistani border. Kabul regards the move as betrayal; p 8 (686 words).
19. Dmitry Trenin article published in the regular opinion column headlined "Price of Issue" comments on the US policy towards Afghanistan; p 8 (372 words).
20. Maria Yakovleva interview with Mikhail Dmitriyev, the president of the Centre for Strategic Research, headlined "'Even in These Conditions Average Profitability of Non-State Pension Funds Exceeds Inflation,'" who speaks about violations by non-state pension funds and speaks for preservation of the funded component of pensions; p 10 (590 words).

## **Nezavisimaya Gazeta**

1. Ivan Rodin article headlined "Gudkov Sent Away From State Duma in Vain" says that the Communist Party of the Russian Federation is displeased with the slow performance of law enforcement agencies in investigating attacks on Communists and thinks that it is due to their excessive focus on prosecution of the opposition. The Prosecutor General's Office denied the accusations and, in passing, confirmed that it did not have an issue with former State Duma Deputy Gennady Gudkov; pp 1, 3 (549 words).
2. Yury Paniyev article headlined "Washington and Brussels Exert Pressure on Belgrade" says that the heads of the U.S. and EU diplomatic departments, Hillary Clinton and Catherine Ashton, are visiting the Balkan countries to study their prospects for integration with Europe. Serbia is offered to give up control over its enclave in northern Kosovo in exchange for joining the EU; pp 1, 7 (682 words).

3. Vladislav Maltsev article headlined "Russian Orthodox Church Is Tired of Clowns" says that the head of the Russian Orthodox Church, Patriarch Kirill, has called on priests to refrain from shocking behavior. Despite Kirill's numerous statements that believers should not take part in political actions, some Orthodox activists and priests plan to participate in the nationalists' march on Nov. 4; pp 1-2 (719 words).
4. Ivan Rodin and Alexandra Samarina article headlined "Sudden Voting Day" says that the Central Elections Commission is preparing an initiative to reduce the term of canvassing campaigns from one month to two weeks. Experts attribute this to the authorities' intention to push new political players aside from elections and reduce the electorate's activity; pp 1, 3 (821 words).
5. Sokhbet Mamedov article headlined "Caucasus Turn by Minsk" says that a Belarussian delegation has visited Azerbaijan to discuss development of bilateral relations. Experts do not rule out that Minsk wants to get a loan from Baku given the unsuccessful talks with Russia and the IMF; pp 1, 6 (466 words).
6. Igor Naumov article headlined "Dmitry Medvedev Thinks About Pension" says that the Russian ruling tandem has different views of the pension reform, thus causing a split in the government. Experts say that disagreements are on the rise between Vladimir Putin and Dmitry Medvedev, but they have not yet reached a critical level to reshuffle the government; pp 1, 4 (720 words).
7. Editorial headlined "No to Fascists and Libertines of All Kinds!" comments on the head of the Russian community of large and foster families, Tatyana Borovikova's criticism of the appointment of Kirill Serebrennikov director of Moscow's Gogol Theater; p 2 (559 words).
8. Andrei Isayev article headlined "Funded Pension Component Should Become Voluntary" contemplates a draft pension reform in Russia; p 2 (1,140 words).
9. Roza Tsvetkova article headlined "Million for One's Own Arrest" says that a department head of the State Duma administration has been detained on suspicion of fraud; p 3 (860 words).
10. Anastasia Bashkatova article headlined "Overhauling Prescribed for Russian Health Care" looks at a meeting chaired by Putin and dedicated to development of the health-care system in Russia; p 4 (959 words).
11. Sergey Kulikov article headlined "Russian Economy Rolls to Stagnation" says that economists have warned that economic growth in Russia may stop by the end of the year and looks at possible ways out suggested by experts; p 4 (875 words).
12. Yury Simonyan report "Ivanishvili Deals With Legal System" says that the work of courts has been suspended for two weeks in Georgia; p 6 (700 words).
13. Artur Blinov article headlined "Hurricane Sandy Has Political Aspect" says that the hurricane Sandy may affect the results of the Nov. 6 presidential election since voters will assess performance of the nominees during the calamity; p 7 (564 words).
14. Nikolay Surkov article headlined "Warsaw Cannot Finish Case of President's Death" says

that Polish specialists need six months to clarify whether the 2010 air crash, which claimed the lives of the Polish delegation including the president, was a terrorist attack; p 7 (494 words).

## **Vedomosti**

1. Yekaterina Sobol article headlined "Assemble Canadian Things" says that the Canadian company Bombardier may begin to assemble its aircraft at the Samara-based aircraft building plant Aviakor, owned by businessman Oleg Deripaska; p 1 (577 words).

2. Ksenia Boletskaya article headlined "Back to Cinema" says that the owner of the cinema network Kinostar de Lux and the funds Baring Vostok and UFG Asset Management may buy a controlling stake in Russia's second largest cinema network Karo film; p 1 (381 words).

3. Polina Khimshiashvili et al. article headlined "Why Does Putin Not Fly?" says that Putin's foreign visits in October and November have been rescheduled for December. The Kremlin denies that Putin's health problems are the reason, but cannot name a single reason for cancelling the visits; pp 1-2 (814 words).

4. Editorial headlined "Oil as Rubbish" says that Russia is far from using rubbish recycling and other renewable energy sources, whereas, for example, Sweden plans to import rubbish from neighboring Norway since its rubbish recycling plants are underloaded; pp 1, 4 (556 words).

5. Alexandra Terentyeva article headlined "Step to Truce" says that the shareholders of the Norilsk Nickel mining and metals company, UC Rusal and Interros, are debating a new shareholders' agreement; p 8 (480 words).

6. Olga Kuvshinova article headlined "F Mark to Economy" says that according to experts from the Higher School of Economics, the growth of the Russian economy will slow down in 2013 due to a lack of investment; p 3 (555 words).

7. Oleg Salmonov and Anastasia Golitsyna article headlined "Electronic Curtain" says that a registry of websites harmful for children will begin to operate as from today; p 11 (495 words).

8. Margarita Lyutova article headlined "Business Without Secrets" says that Russia will have to compel foreign companies to reveal their beneficiaries as one of the conditions to join the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development; p 3 (385 words).

9. Mikhail Pozdnyakov article headlined "Extra Jus: To Separate Judges From Management" says that the overwhelming majority of Russians still do not trust the judicial branch of power and comments on a judicial reform being implemented in Russia; p 4 (646 words).

10. Maria Eysmont report "People's Coordination" looks at the election of the opposition Coordination Council and says that the election to the people's council in Zhukovsky, Moscow Region, may be held in the spring of 2013; p 4 (600 words).

11. Irina Kezik article headlined "Oil Truce" says that the oil trader Gunvor has won a tender on fuel oil export supplies held by the oil company Rosneft; p 7 (479 words).

12. Alexei Nikolsky report "Doubling Mistral" says that expenses for two Mistral-type helicopter carriers have been included in the 2013 budget; p 2 (450 words).

## **Izvestia**

1. Regina Komarova et al. article headlined "Interior Ministry Officials and Leadership to Be Tested for Alcohol" says that the Moscow Main Interior Directorate plans to check its personnel for the use of alcohol before, during and after work. Experts do not trust the effectiveness of the measure and say that only ordinary policemen will be subjected to it; pp 1, 4 (692 words).
2. Ivan Cheberko article headlined "Glonass Offered to Be Given New Status" says that the government has instructed the Russian media regulator Roskomnadzor to draft proposals to set up an interdepartmental organization to be in charge of developing the Glonass navigation system. In future, the organization may become a new federal agency; pp 1, 4 (554 words).
3. Mikhail Rubin article headlined "United Russia Members to Be Taught Counter-Propaganda and Debates" says that the United Russia party will open a party school after Dec. 15, which will focus on political education of the party staff; pp 1, 3 (414 words).
4. Vladimir Gusev report "Russians Face Etiquette Test When Receiving Foreign Travel Passports" says that a new procedure of issuing foreign travel passports may be introduced in Russia; p 1 (550 words).
5. Olga Zhermeleva article headlined "Council to Develop Interethnic Agreement" says that the presidential council for ethnic relations will prepare a social agreement to be concluded by all nationalities living in Russia, which envisages basic principles of co-existence of various nations in Russia; p 2 (502 words).
6. Vladimir Dergachev article headlined "Rodina Officially Dissociates Itself From Russian March" says that the Rodina (Motherland) party has officially refused to participate in the nationalists' march on Nov. 4 and called on nationalists to take part in its own rallies on that day; p 3 (579 words).
7. Maria Kunle article headlined "Russian Grain to Go to China for First Time in 15 Years" says that Russia may start exporting grain to China in 2013; p 3 (658 words).
8. Svetlana Subbotina article headlined "United Russia Switches on Legislative Filter" says that at its first meeting, the United Russia expert council, set up to "filter" unpromising and populist initiatives, has rejected 20 bills drafted by both regional and federal deputies; p 4 (462 words).
9. Konstantin Volkov article headlined "Terror More Effective Than War" says that a high-ranking Air Force officer has been killed in Damascus; p 5 (470 words).
10. Yury Matsarsky article headlined "Atlantic City Fears Looters and Waits for Obama" looks at the state of affairs in Atlantic City, New Jersey, seriously hit by the hurricane Sandy; p 5 (775 words).

11. Ivan Afanasyev article headlined "Democrats Get Support From Heaven" says that the hurricane Sandy is playing into U.S. President Barack Obama's hands as regards the forthcoming presidential election on Nov. 6; p 5 (900 words).

11. Maria Kiseleva interview with the director of the UK-based EasyJet air carrier, headlined "EasyJet Looks for 2nd Route to Russia," who speaks about the air carrier's flights to Russia; p 8 (1,034 words).

13. Kirill Benediktov article headlined "Scapegoat" comments on political statements made by Rusnano corporation head Anatoly Chubais in an interview with the magazine Itogi; p 9 (824 words).

## **Rossiiskaya Gazeta**

1. Georgy Panin and Tatyana Shadrina interview with Transportation Minister Maxim Sokolov, headlined "Shall We Go?" who speaks about the setting-up of low-cost air carriers in Russia; pp 1, 3 (638 words).

2. Natalya Kozlova article headlined "They Hold Dead Man to Ransom" says that three Moscow policemen have been charged with killing a man and extorting money from his relatives; pp 1, 7 (522 words).

3. Tatyana Zykova report "RU: No and Yes" says that the zapret-info.gov.ru website is launched on Nov. 1 containing a list of the websites that violate Russian laws; pp 1, 5 (800 words).

4. Ivan Yegorov article headlined "Fight Between Clans" says that Russian Security Council secretary Nikolai Patrushev has chaired a meeting in Pyatigorsk, Stavropol region, to discuss the situation in the North Caucasus; p 2 (403 words).

5. Alexei Chesnakov article headlined "Defence vs. Creation" contemplates Russians' attitude to the state holiday on Nov. 4, National Unity Day; p 3 (497 words).

6. Yulia Krivoshapko article headlined "One's Own Man Among Strangers" says that the Economic Development Ministry has criticized the performance of the Russian trade offices abroad and plans to reorganize them; p 5 (392 words).

7. Viktor Feshchenko article headlined "Sheikh May Sleep More Soundly" says that the authorities of Bahrain have banned any rallies until security and stability is established in the country; p 8 (564 words).

8. Olga Dmitriyeva article headlined "Who Wants Scotland Yard, Cheaply" says that some property of the London police will be sold; p 8 (464 words).

## **Moskovsky Komsomolets**

1. Mikhail Zubov article headlined "Russians to Be Helped to Treason" says that human rights activists are opposing a draft bill on state treason, approved by the parliament, and interviews Lyudmila Alexeyeva, the head of the Moscow Helsinki Group, on the issue; pp 1-2 (411 words).

2. Unattributed article headlined "Bandits Pass Police Appraisals" details a scandal involving three Moscow policemen, charged with killing a man and extorting money from his relatives; pp 1, 3 (1,096 words).
3. Alexander Melman article headlined "Enlightened Together" ironically comments on the dismissal of Lyudmila Narusova from the Federation Council and her increased activity as an opposition activist and on Gleb Pavlovsky, who once was Putin's supporter and has recently re-qualified into an opposition activist; pp 1-2 (800 words).
4. Viktoria Prihodko article headlined "Medvedev's 'Asian Rush'" looks ahead at Medvedev's visits to Vietnam and Laos; p 2 (428 words).
5. Mikhail Zubov interview with A Just Russia lawmaker Oleg Mikheyev, headlined "A Just Russia Deputy Mikheyev Being Bumped Off Following Gudkov," who speaks about his persecution; p 2 (474 words).
6. Konstantin Smirnov article headlined "Last Heritage From Soviet Union" contemplates whether Russia needs trade offices abroad; p 2 (400 words).
7. Yevgeny Ponosenkov article headlined "Holiday of Times of Trouble" comments on National Unity Day to be marked in Russia on Nov. 4; p 3 (1,203 words).
8. Ilya Baranikas article headlined "2nd Wave of Crisis Comes From Ocean" looks at the aftermath of the storm Sandy in the U.S.A.; p 3 (784 words).

### **Rossiiskaya Gazeta weekly**

1. Leonid Radzhikhovskiy opinion piece headlined "Pessimism and Optimism" wonders if there an alternative to Putin's policy for Russia's further development; p 6 (900 words).
2. Interview with Agriculture Minister Nikolai Fedorov headlined "Food Is Served" on what conditions need to be created to ensure Russia's food security; p 6 (900 words).
3. Igor Yelkov article headlined "Sky, MiGs, Cucumbers" reports from a "secret" aircraft manufacturing plant in the Moscow region town of Lukhovitsy; p 10 (900 words).

### **Noviye Izvestia**

1. Yulia Savina article headlined "United Russia Members Want to Sack Pozner From Channel One" says that United Russia deputy Ilya Kostunov has asked the management of state-controlled Channel One to dismiss journalist Vladimir Pozner over his critical remarks on opposition activist Leonid Razvozhayev's case and the Pussy Riot trial; p 2 (304 words).
2. Yevgenia Zubchenko piece headlined "People Do Not Believe Authors of 'Anatomy of Protest 2'" says that a public opinion poll conducted by the Levada Center has shown that a mere 3 percent of Russians watched the anti-opposition film "Anatomy of Protest 2" on NTV and most of them are not convinced that the opposition were plotting a coup; p 2 (273 words).
3. Nadezhda Krasilova article headlined "Kremlin Gives Up 'Direct Line' in Order Not to Freeze



People" says that Putin will not hold his live phone-in with the nation this year due to cold weather; p 2 (242 words).

4. Anastasia Maltseva and Diana Yevdokimova article headlined "In a Net of Bans" details amendments to the law protecting children from harmful information on the Internet, which comes into effect today; p 4 (1,207 words).

### **RBK Daily**

1. Yulia Sinyayeva article headlined "Image Is Nothing" says that Russia has been ranked 22nd among 50 countries in the Nation Brands Index; p 3 (450 words).

2. Alexander Litoi article headlined "Opposition Goes to People" says that the opposition Coordination Council has begun establishing its branches in Russian regions; p 3 (400 words).

3. Anna Reznikova article headlined "2 Again" quotes experts as saying that the macroeconomic forecast that the federal budget for the next three years is based on is unrealistic; pp 1, 3 (600 words).

### **Trud**

1. Sergei Frolov piece headlined "Minister Takes a Hit" speculates on why the media were allowed to report that Defense Minister Anatoly Serdyukov was found at six in the morning in the flat of his former colleague Yevgenia Vasiliyeva, when investigators arrived there to search the flat as part of a fraud investigation; p 2 (550 words).

### **Komsomolskaya Pravda**

1. Yelena Chinkova article "Patriarch Kirill: 'Scandalous Behavior Is Not Our Mission. We Are Not Clowns!'" reports from the fifth international festival of Russian Orthodox Church media (the full version of the article is published on the paper's website); p 3 (250 words).

2. Kirill Shlykov article headlined "Suspicious Tenants Covered Their Windows With Blankets" interviews eyewitnesses and participants in a special police operation conducted in Kazan on Oct. 24 to detain suspected extremists; p 12 (1,200 words).

### **Tvoi Den**

1. Anton Stepanov piece headlined "Hold-Up Opposition" claims that 15 years ago opposition activist Leonid Razvozhayev, who is currently being investigated for plotting mass unrest, was briefly arrested on suspicion of mugging; p 2 (300 words).

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