

What the Papers Say, Jan. 23, 2013

January 22, 2013



Kommersant

1. Maxim Ivanov et al. report headlined "Keep your money in saving affiliate" says that Sberbank (Russian Savings Bank) head German Gref has suggested that Russian officials, who are to be barred from keeping money abroad, should be allowed to have accounts in the foreign affiliates of Russian banks. The scheme will help keep the finances of officials under control and at the same time, it will not violate their rights too much; pp 1, 7 (1,280 words).

2. Anna Pushkarskaya article headlined "Smolnyy treats law on rallies" says the St. Petersburg city authorities have allowed activists to stage a protest against the handover of a public hospital to Supreme Court judges, who are moving to the city from Moscow; pp 1, 3 (709 words).

3. Vladislav Novyy article headlined "Embezzlement hits Rostelecom" says the Audit Chamber has found out that the communications company Rostelecom spent too much budget money on business trips in 2009-10. Particularly large amount of money, R46.3m (over 1.5m dollars), was spent during the Vancouver Olympics; pp 1, 10 (774 words).

4. Denis Skorobogatko et al. report headlined "He should go to Tyva" says that the company of former Tyva senator Sergei Pugachev has been stripped of the license for the Elegest coal deposit. The company controlled by businessman Ruslan Baysarov received the temporary license for the deposit; pp 1, 7 (645 words).

5. Article attributed to the paper's political section headlined "One should not think that our people are stupid" says that today the State Duma will consider a bill to replace direct governor elections by the appointment of regions' heads. Some regions have already come out against the plans; p 2 (867 words).

6. Viktor Khamrayev article headlined "Prime minister and faction leaders speak about spring issues" says Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev has received State Duma members to discuss issues to be raised at the spring session; p 2 (597 words).

7. Yury Barsukov article headlined "Benefits not for company" says the Russian government wants to allow foreign nationals to invest money in the capital of small and medium-sized businesses in Russia; p 2 (436 words).

8. Musa Muradov article headlined "Madomed salam Magomedov goes to Moscow" says that Dagestan head Madomed salam Magomedov has reportedly arrived in Moscow to meet Russian President Vladimir Putin. The possibility of his resignation is to be discussed; p 2 (500 words).

9. Maxim Ivanov et al. report "Schoolchildren to help authorities find banned information" says that the Federation Council is ready to propose to the Education Ministry to create a system to monitor and filter the content of school websites across the country; p 3 (600 words).

10. Alexander Voronov report "Godly case of defamation" says that criminal proceedings under the new article of the Russian Criminal Code (defamation) have been instituted against Mikhail Anshakov, chairman of the Consumer Rights Protection Society; p 4 (500 words).

11. Roman Yanushevsky and Maria Yefimova article headlined "Israel makes right choice" looks at the possible outcome of the Israeli general elections; p 6 (505 words).

12. Article by the French and German foreign ministers headlined "Partnership of Germany and France for the benefit of Europe timely as never before" looks at prospects for the French-German cooperation; p 6 (757 words).

Nezavisimaya Gazeta

1. Sergei Kulikov article headlined "Arkady Dvorkovich's negative scenarios" says Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev is to speak on Russia's economic development at the international Davos Forum today. He will be accompanied by Russia's former Finance Minister Alexei Kudrin. The two politicians may make it up publicly; pp 1, 4 (809 words).

2. Andrei Serenko article headlined "Ficus-crisis breaks out in Kalmykia" says the Kalmyk authorities cannot come to agreement where to plant a sacred Buddhist tree to be handed over to Russia; pp 1, 3 (548 words).
3. Ivan Rodin article headlined "One should not be afraid of postman with gun" says the Russian State Courier Service plans to provide post office services to individuals and organizations. The staff of the service eligible to carry guns will be in demand for transporting valuable documents; pp 1, 3 (478 words).
4. Igor Naumov article headlined "Car market: Rapid growth replaced by stabilization" says the Russian car market is unlikely to continue growing in 2013 due to high cost of vehicles in the country; pp 1, 4 (867 words).
5. Tatyana Ivzhenko article headlined "Tymoshenko calls on opposition to unite" says that former Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko's supporters have appealed to PACE asking to stand up for the jailed politician who is facing a new trial; pp 1, 7 (1,044 words).
6. Vladimir Skosyrev article headlined "Chinese officials sell property" says that as the number of corrupt officials exposed by the law-enforcement agencies is growing in China, many officials are selling their property in the country trying to transfer money abroad; pp 1, 8 (522 words).
7. Editorial headlined "With bill in horizontal position" criticizes legislative activities of the State Duma as they hamper development of civil society in the country; p 2 (501 words).
8. Alexei Gorbachev article headlined "Andrey Vorobyev's election start" says acting governor of Moscow Region Andrey Vorobyev has de facto started his election campaign; p 3 (703 words).
9. Yury Roks report "PACE may pass new resolution on August war" says that a new resolution on the 2008 Russian-Georgian war has been offered for discussion to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe; p 7 (650 words).
10. Nikolai Surkov article headlined "Russian citizens leave Syria" says the West expects Bashar al-Asad's regime to be toppled soon as Russia has started evacuating its citizens; p 8 (626 words).
11. Yury Paniyev article headlined "Obama proposed to tackle Asia" says US President Barack Obama, who has just started his new term in office, is facing main challenges from Asia and the Middle East; p 8 (725 words).

Vedomosti

1. Yevgenia Pismennaya et al. report headlined "Davos scenarios bad for Russia" says the Davos International Forum is pessimistic about Russia's economic future. However, Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev is to speak on the country's investment attractiveness at the

forum; pp 1, 5 (753 words).

2. Yulia Grebtsova and Alexandra Kreknina article headlined "Retail chemist" looks at the retail network built by businessman Sergei Galitsky within two years; pp 1, 18 (441 words).

3. Editorial headlined "Eternal armored train" analyses the reasons for anti-American propaganda in Russia and notes that the USA does not bother about the Russian ideology as Moscow is believed to be neither a friend, nor a foe; pp 1, 6 (422 words).

4. Anastasia Kornya report "Prison cells overcrowded again" says that the number of people in prisons in Russia has stopped decreasing and began to rise again; p 2 (800 words).

5. Nikolai Mitrokhin report "Russian Orthodox Church in epoch of absolutism" looks at the structure and canons of the Russian Orthodox Church; p 6 (1,000 words).

6. Gideon Rakhman report "USA's attempt to leave world" looks at Barack Obama's policy; p 7 (900 words).

7. Comment by Andrey Kolesnikov headlined "Political economy: Cancer unit of authorities" slams the authorities' decision to close a cancer hospital in St. Petersburg to open a new medical facility for judges; p 6 (415 words).

8. Another editorial headlined "How to grow in numbers" analyses demographic trends in Russia and calls on the authorities to develop a well-thought-out migration policy; p 6 (309 words).

9. Natalya Kostenko report "New law on Russian Internet" says that the Russian authorities are looking again at drafting a law on regulating the Internet; p 16 (800 words).

10. Yelizaveta Sergina report "Accessible concept" says that the Ministry of Telecommunications and Mass Communications, with the participation of Ernst and Young, is preparing the concept of the new law on communications; p 17 (800 words).

Izvestia

1. Svetlana Povoraznyuk and Pavel Chernyshov article headlined "IOC demands that Russia return winter time" says the International Olympic Committee (IOC) has asked Moscow to return to winter time as it will make it easier for Europeans to watch Sochi Olympics broadcasts; pp 1, 4 (590 words).

2. Yulia Tsoy article headlined "Prosecutors want to carefully study two deputies" says the Prosecutor-General's Office has held an inquiry into the activities of Communist MP Konstantin Shirshov and A Just Russia MP Oleg Mikheyev and come to the conclusion that criminal cases should be opened against them; pp 1-2 (393 words).

3. Yelizaveta Mayetnaya and German Petelin article headlined "Oboronservis money goes to

Cyprian off-shore company" says that public funds stolen from the Defense Ministry via the Oboronservis company were transferred to a Cyprus-based company; pp 1, 5 (817 words).

4. Nadezhda Gladchenko and Vladimir Barinov article headlined "Interior Ministry carries out reorganization of Moscow criminal police" says that a large-scale reshuffle in the Moscow police is expected in the near future; pp 1, 4 (591 words).

5. Yulia Tsoy report "Human rights council suggests that people be jailed for seven years for hooliganism in church" says that the newspaper has obtained a new variant of the bill on protection of religious feelings; p 2 (750 words).

6. Igor Agapov article headlined "Public TV may go on air" says the Ministry of Telecommunications and Mass Communications has said that all technical tasks for Public TV broadcasting have already been resolved. The TV channel is to start broadcasting in May; p 5 (662 words).

7. Igor Yavlyansky report "CIA to use UAVs more" says that the new head of the CIA has obtained prolongation of the use of UAVs; p 7 (900 words).

8. Kirill Benediktov report "Hackers against red tape" looks at hackers' attacks on state organizations worldwide; p 10 (1,000 words).

Rossiiskaya Gazeta

1. Tatyana Zykova interview with Industry and Trade Minister Denis Manturov speaking on prospects for industrial growth in Russia; pp 1, 6 (2,513 words).

2. Article by political scientist Leonid Radzikhovsky headlined "Normal country" compares Russia with European countries and comes to the conclusion that Russia is a "normal country" giving a lot of economic opportunities to its citizens; pp 1, 3 (997 words).

3. Olga Dmitriyeva article headlined "We do not care: It is no longer UK" reports on Muslim patrols in the eastern parts of London aiming to maintain public order there; pp 1, 8 (865 words).

4. Unattributed interview headlined "What they spent money on" with Audit Chamber head Sergei Stepashin who speaks about the work of the chamber; p 2 (1,000 words).

5. Fedor Lukyanov report "Hard parting with colonialism" looks at the situation in North Africa; p 3 (800 words).

6. Maxim Grigoryev report "Capitol Hill: One marches, others make war" looks at the West's policy towards the Middle East and North Africa; p 9 (1,100 words).

Moskovsky Komsomolets

1. Pavel Chuvilyayev et al. report "Davos 2013: Fat cats decide to lose weight" says that Putin has decided not to go to Davos to avoid answering uneasy questions about the ban on U.S. adoptions and the trial of Pussy Riot punk group; pp 1, 4 (1,900 words).
2. Marina Ozerova article headlined "Ways to avoid problems for governors" reviews the bill aiming to replace direct governor elections by the appointment of regional heads to be considered by the State Duma; pp 1-2 (650 words).
3. Igor Karmazin article headlined "Labor minister neither this way nor the other" says that Putin's favorite, the former worker who expressed support to him amid anti-Putin protests, Igor Kholmanskikh, may be appointed new labor minister; p 2 (500 words).

RBK Daily

1. Ivan Petrov article headlined "Police farewell" says that from now on the foreigners whose stay in Russia is undesirable will be told so and asked to leave the country before a court passes a corresponding ruling. Interior Minister Vladimir Kolokoltsev's order No 1024 comes into effect as from 29 January; pp 1-2 (600 words)
2. Anna Reznikova and Inga Vorobyeva article entitled " Little chance of reform" says that the report that Russian Prime Minister and head of the Russian delegation at the World Economic Forum in Davos Dmitry Medvedev will make today envisages three ways of Russia's development until 2030 and all of them are negative. The fate of the country will depend on three things: energy prices, development of institutions and extent of cohesion in society; p 3 (600 words).

Novaya Gazeta

1. Observer and member of the Public Chamber Yelena Masyuk interview headlined "Detention cell for two: correction zone for Pussy Riot" with Pussy Riot female rock band singers Nadezhda Tolokonnikova who is serving her sentence in a prison in the Republic of Mordovia and Mariya Alekhina that is serving her sentence in Perm Territory. They look back at their performances, speak about their everyday life in prison as well as changes in people's consciousness caused by imprisonment; pp 3-5 (7,600 words).

Trud

1. Alexander Protsenko article headlined "I am going back to my homeland..." in which the author is trying to answer the question why the idea of re-settlement for compatriots is stalled. He thanks French actor Gerard Depardieu for bringing the attention of the authorities

and society to the problem; pp 1-2 (1,500 words)

Novyye Izvestia

1. Yevgeniy Zubchenko article headlined "Not all of the means are good" says the Audit Chamber has found mass violations in the work of the Russian Pension Fund; p 1 (728 words).
2. Valentin Boynik article headlined "'Russians' do not go left" tries to predict the outcome of the general election in Israel; p 2 (436 words).

Jan. 23, 2013/BBC Monitoring/©BBC

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