

# License Offered to Zarubezhneft

By [The Moscow Times](#)

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State-run Zarubezhneft may receive the right to operate on Russia's continental shelf on the same terms as private companies, said Deputy Prime Minister Arkady Dvorkovich, who oversees the country's energy industry, Interfax reported.

Zarubezhneft "is a qualified company that can operate on the shelf," Dvorkovich said at a briefing during the World Economic Forum in Davos. "It's possible that the rules will be like those for private companies."

The government is considering the possibility of giving private Russian companies access to the shelf sections that Gazprom and Rosneft have either rejected or not sought to obtain. But state companies might acquire stakes in such sections.

*(MT)*

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