

News From Russia: What You Missed Over the Weekend

July 08, 2019



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African meddling

Two Russians have been [arrested](#) in Libya on accusations of working for a Russian troll farm that sought to influence elections in the country and in other African nations, Bloomberg reported.

One of the men's employers, the Moscow-based Foundation for the Defense of National Values, [said](#) they were carrying out sociological research and not intervening in Libya's electoral process.

Malign influence

Russia has [accused](#) the United States of "vicious anti-Russia propaganda" tactics that harken back to the Cold War after the U.S. State Department's aid agency drafted a framework on "countering malign Kremlin influence."

USAID [said](#) earlier that the framework “responds to authoritarian challenges by increasing the economic and democratic resilience of targeted countries,” including Ukraine and Moldova.

Khachaturyan sisters

Four people staging single pickets in support of and opposition to the teenage sisters [on trial](#) for the murder of their allegedly abusive father have been [detained](#) in Moscow.

Embed:

На Болотной у шемякинской скульптур ной группы "Дети жертвы пороков взрослых" проходят пикеты в защиту сестер Хачатурян
pic.twitter.com/qkJnKKOhoE

— Stanislav Kryuchkov (@ru_photography) [July 6, 2019](#)

Last week, a planned protest in support of the Khachaturyan sisters was [rescheduled](#) to July 27 following threats from patriarchal groups and authorities’ refusal to authorize the rally.

‘Taxi’ tanker

Four people have been killed and 11 injured in a fuel tanker crash and explosion in the Urals region of Sverdlovsk.

A drunk driver, who had allowed seven tourists to ride aboard the tanker, lost control of the vehicle and swerved off the road into a ditch, local authorities [said](#).

Sky-high prices

Certain food item prices have grown by as much as 70 percent (millet and cabbage) in 2018, according to official data.

Fuel prices for natural gas vehicles have grown at the third-fastest pace (30.8 percent), followed by sugar and egg prices, the data [said](#).

World heritage

UNESCO has [added](#) churches in the ancient city of Pskov in northwestern Russia to its list of World Heritage Sites. Inspired by the Byzantine and Novgorod traditions, the buildings from the Pskov School of Architecture date back as far as the 12th century. The school informed Russian architecture over five centuries.

Includes reporting from Reuters.

Original url:

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18-a66310