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| **RUSSIAN MEDIA UPDATES** |

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| **Peskov says Russia has no plans to close "the window to Europe"**02.06.2022 | June 9 is the 350th anniversary of the birth of Peter the Great, and Putin "will not bypass" this anniversary and will take part in thematic events, the press secretary assured. The emperor has "a number of merits," Peskov noted. In response to a journalist's reminder that Peter the Great had opened a "window to Europe" and a question about whether the Russian leadership was now going to close this window, Peskov said: "No one is planning to close anything." [Read more](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=633g68znjp7d36j4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta3td31i651o177nud39tqi4m99819asixqxm1uj67y8trcq9ok5eb631bkbdyfhp9yejupoumq3zcudy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cucmJjLnJ1L3BvbGl0aWNzLzAyLzA2LzIwMjIvNjI5ODg4ODE5YTc5NDc5YzE5YTcxZDUxP2Zyb209ZnJvbV9tYWluXzU~&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=b7f115f20a9deaa45d0e21bcb2d7a135) **Russian industry adapts to new conditions**02.06.2022 |  Russian industrial enterprises proved resilient to the new economic conditions in the Russian Federation and passed the adaptation process, Maxim Reshetnikov, head of the Ministry of Economic Development, told reporters. He explained that this gives industries in which the recession was more significant some time to adapt. The Ministry of Economic Development expects investment in the Russian economy to decline in the near future. At the same time, the minister stressed that the Russian government is making "enough effort" to restart the investment process. [Read more](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=6ginun9795bf5gj4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta3td31i651o177n9g6dbb9t9kjroj7wujadiaiaf7y8trcq9ok5eb631bkbdyfhp9yejupoumq3zcudy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly90YXNzLnJ1L2Vrb25vbWlrYS8xNDgwMjc5OQ~~&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=5d567e1ade3bc3c37b4e458984d7a662) **Roskomnadzor to restrict VPN services**02.06.2022 |  Roskomnadzor has confirmed that work is underway in Russia to block VPN services, including Proton VPN, which help bypass blocking of content recognised as banned in Russia, as part of the "sovereign" runet law.[Read more](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=6pednxk5qchpmrj4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta3td31i651o177n67tj7f5azpt4t7yafwxfqkw9mby8trcq9ok5eb631bkbdyfhp9yejupoumq3zcudy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuaW50ZXJmYXgucnUvcnVzc2lhLzg0NDMyMA~~&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=ec997fa1e5d159f21adbefd61221e24f) **Russia terminates memorandum of understanding on culture, education, and media with the U.S.**02.06.2022 | The Russian government has approved a proposal by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to terminate a memorandum of understanding with the United States on culture, humanities, social sciences, education, and the media. According to the memorandum, Moscow and Washington then agreed to foster mutual cooperation in culture, the humanities and social sciences, education, archives, and the media. They expressed their intention to encourage cultural exchanges to promote a better understanding of each other's culture. [Read more](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=66q65octtp8osoj4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta3td31i651o177nsagkd8c4dwyp1dn4pe6141s9b9sdjjpnqihajkzuspqo4topguodtwa73h1yhtwdy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly90YXNzLnJ1L3BvbGl0aWthLzE0NzcyMTEx&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=c42f9708bb2b07b67bcb4aded2940db1) **Occupancy in Moscow luxury hotels has fallen by half**03.06.2022 | 5-star hotels in Moscow suffered more than other categories of hotels from the economic consequences after the start of the special operation in Ukraine.  Hotels in the luxury segment turned out to be the most vulnerable. Despite the fact that they are focused on domestic demand, a significant share of their revenues came from foreign clients, including various delegations and events. Luxury hotels in St. Petersburg were less affected. The city attracts tourists with its white nights, water walks and so on, but Moscow is not regarded by clients of luxury hotels as a purely tourist destination. [Read more](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=6sykohw14umthqj4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta3td31i651o177nuf799sej6tbeqmwap3weqr3gady8trcq9ok5eb631bkbdyfhp9yejupoumq3zcudy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cudmVkb21vc3RpLnJ1L3JlYWx0eS9hcnRpY2xlcy8yMDIyLzA2LzAzLzkyNDk0NS16YWdydXprYS1seXVrc292aWgtb3RlbGVp&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=6c72565c0a59f8dd8a6394dc13244a21) **Rostec to produce more than 110 aircraft by 2025**02.06.2022 | The Head of the Rostec State Corporation Sergey Chemezov spoke about the plans to produce more than 110 MC-21, Tu-214 and Il-114 aircraft by 2025 and about 500 aircraft of these types by 2030. He stated that the United Aircraft Corporation is planning to produce 20 Sukhoi Superjet (SSJ) aircraft by 2024. In addition, according to Sergey Chemezov, currently the authorities are also working on finding new mechanisms that will allow airlines to operate foreign-made aircrafts. [Read more](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=6dq6egm1n6mcy6j4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta3td31i651o177n9pzt4kxq8nq5yyk1mduwgehr5xy8trcq9ok5eb631bkbdyfhp9yejupoumq3zcudy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cua29tbWVyc2FudC5ydS9kb2MvNTM4MjEzOA~~&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=d91c71b9d0b3200ec1cefff12207e85b) **Ministry of Construction seeks additional funds for the development of "Smart Cities**03.06.2022 | The Ministry of Construction is working on the possibility of increasing funding for the departmental project "Smart City", a source close to the Ministry told the Vedomosti.  According to his information, the increase is due to the renewal of the Smart City standard in May. According to his assessment, the expansion of the list of mandatory technologies will require an increase in funding by at least 50%.[Read more](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=6e1u91h39894shj4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta3td31i651o177n7eyczkir9dasje9cxeriqgd7d7y8trcq9ok5eb631bkbdyfhp9yejupoumq3zcudy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cudmVkb21vc3RpLnJ1L3RlY2hub2xvZ3kvYXJ0aWNsZXMvMjAyMi8wNi8wMy85MjQ5NDMtbWluc3Ryb2ktZG9wb2xuaXRlbG5pZS1zcmVkc3R2YQ~~&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=ebc6ffa08c966ac126d6483c5ab87c3f) **An equivalent of ECHR to be set in Russia**02.06.2022 | The Russian Bar Association intends to set up a working group to develop a national equivalent of the European Court of Human Rights, association head Sergei Stepashin told Kommersant. According to him, he has secured the approval of the Presidential Administration and the support of the Ministry of Justice, the Investigative Committee, the Prosecutor General's Office, and the Office of the Human Rights Commissioner.[Read more](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=69m9zs83x7xr46j4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta3td31i651o177n4njt3hmp58o9tfmrudkqn4prxmy8trcq9ok5eb631bkbdyfhp9yejupoumq3zcudy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cua29tbWVyc2FudC5ydS9kb2MvNTM4MjQyNA~~&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=9e7c600264fda6796a994765c77b4802) **Head of Russian Academy of Science warned against breaking contacts with scientists from Europe, USA and Japan**01.06.2022| Russia must not break off contacts with scientists from unfriendly countries, President of the Russian Academy of Sciences Alexander Sergeev said at a general meeting of Academy members. "If we take total research costs, then the U.S., Europe and Japan are 64% of the world's spending on R&D. These are unfriendly countries with which we now have a very difficult time cooperating. Friendly countries [account for] only 17% of R&D - we need to understand this. I would like to make a call on behalf of my colleagues: we should not proactively, following the slogans of hotheads, break off relations with our colleagues from unfriendly countries. [Read more](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=6r3moxqhdcdqiwj4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta3td31i651o177n9yabxspnfd6df5jqnqmi7wmuqiy8trcq9ok5eb631bkbdyfhp9yejupoumq3zcudy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cucmJjLnJ1L3BvbGl0aWNzLzAxLzA2LzIwMjIvNjI5NzMxNWQ5YTc5NDcxZTU3MWU5OGI0P3V0bV9zb3VyY2U9dGVsZWdyYW0mdXRtX21lZGl1bT1tZXNzZW5nZXI~&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=4373b5c5f2e7e9e71bcbf527c646af71) **Russian Federal State Statistics Service reports decline in retail trade**01.06.2022 |  Retail trade turnover in the Russian Federation in April decreased by 10% for the first time since the beginning of the year compared to the same period a year earlier and reached about 3.4 trillion rubles. At the same time, the online retail turnover increased by 1.3 times in April.[Read more](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=6njpo49gwpa7wrj4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta31ysi46g7zs3ibbfw88mahz5xq1j1gw13hmeo1ybsdjjpnqihajkzuspqo4topguodtwa73h1yhtwdy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly90YXNzLnJ1L2Vrb25vbWlrYS8xNDc5NTU1NQ~~&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=f6c5f830d973ce992b3d80f97e569b1c) **The Ministry of Energy estimated the prospects of its exports from Russia**02.06.2022 | The Ministry of Energy has worsened the forecast for hydrogen exports from Russia in its draft comprehensive program for the development of hydrogen energy until 2030. After the outbreak of the military operation in Ukraine, Russia was cut off from the world's largest buyers of "blue" and "green" hydrogen, and the market may eventually shrink only to China. Actual exports from Russia may decrease from 2.2 million to 1.4 million tons per year by 2030. [Read more](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=6iehcprw53ixccj4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta31ysi46g7zs3ibn33gwwhs5c66xcthd4muima4apy8trcq9ok5eb631bkbdyfhp9yejupoumq3zcudy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cua29tbWVyc2FudC5ydS9kb2MvNTM4MTgzOD9mcm9tPXRvcF9tYWluXzE~&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=ad1045fc0dff4e1f11f4441c76b915ba) |

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| **REGULATORY UPDATES** |

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| **Residents of "unfriendly" countries will be forbidden to own bookmakers**03.06.2022 | On the background of "increasing sanctions" deputies proposed to prohibit any persons from "unfriendly" countries to be the beneficiaries of the organizers of gambling activities.[Read more](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=6qqr7a5qanh5ahj4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta3td31i651o177nhbpuexua1836dxby9si1rt7an9bwjr3xt9d5gqb3hzybnb6761qec4cr7uauykjpy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cucmJjLnJ1L3RlY2hub2xvZ3lfYW5kX21lZGlhLzAzLzA2LzIwMjIvNjI5OGUxYTI5YTc5NDdjYTU0YzU5OWY2P2Zyb209ZnJvbV9tYWluXzM~&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=26a9870797991c9d0c6eda9c8f8b0970) **0% VAT on export to individuals**02.06.2022 | On 2 June, a draft law establishing 0% VAT rate when Russian organisations or individual entrepreneurs sell goods under the customs export procedure to foreign individuals was submitted to the State Duma.Related document:[https://sozd.duma.gov.ru/bill/135666-8#bh\_note](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=6iio3pugm1q194j4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta3td31i651o177n7egfe3ysn6zgnr91yfmk1nk719n1ai4dsubywyi3hzybnb6761qec4cr7uauykjpy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly9zb3pkLmR1bWEuZ292LnJ1L2JpbGwvMTM1NjY2LTgjYmhfbm90ZQ~~&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=32f073db100699a72f4b0a3654ec55f2) **Individuals may submit to the tax authority information on transfers involving foreign electronic wallets in a taxpayer's personal account**01.06.2022 | Persons who have opened electronic wallets with foreign payment service providers should also provide information if more than RUB 600,000 (or the equivalent in foreign currency) was credited to them in the reporting year.Related document:[https://www.nalog.gov.ru/rn77/news/activities\_fts/12254676/](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=6n4m5bozku6rjhj4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta31ysi46g7zs3ibxtzj43ghbostz3pimy6ibhm7j3zdpzgzasi9uw33hzybnb6761qec4cr7uauykjpy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cubmFsb2cuZ292LnJ1L3JuNzcvbmV3cy9hY3Rpdml0aWVzX2Z0cy8xMjI1NDY3Ni8~&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=43442eafe773fd98b81bf90b5fee0df0) |

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| **BUSINESS UPDATES** |

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| The information below is compiled by mass media and should not be considered as an official statement or professional advice. Please kindly refer to the disclaimer below. **Aeroflot suspended recruitment of new pilots**02.06.2022 | Aeroflot said that in the face of sanctions the company is trying to keep the flight crew as much as possible, but suspended the recruitment of new pilots "until the situation changes and the emergence of a growing need".[Read more](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=6mhg9epnc6qa1yj4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta3td31i651o177nt4fdmro3rnrk1jw8mghhgu48yjy8trcq9ok5eb631bkbdyfhp9yejupoumq3zcudy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cucmJjLnJ1L2J1c2luZXNzLzAyLzA2LzIwMjIvNjI5OTAzYWE5YTc5NDdkNWJlYThhNWIwP3V0bV9zb3VyY2U9YXBwX2lvc19yZWFkZXImcmJjX3R5cGU9bmV3c0l0ZW0mdXRtX21lZGl1bT1zaGFyZSZ1dG1fY2FtcGFpZ24~&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=7c9e3441317aecbab7c6a96f723a2879) **Hewlett Packard Enterprise announces its final withdrawal from Russia**02.06.2022 | U.S. technology company Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE) is leaving Russian and Belarus markets. In Russia HPE, first of all, supplied data storage systems, in this segment the company was one of the three largest western suppliers both in item and money terms. The company was competed by Dell Technologies and Huawei. The company also supplied specialized software. The company suspended its activity in Russia, including support of already sold solutions, back in March. [Read more](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=6i8t8w59duhtghj4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta3td31i651o177n9u9xa8msq5cstbqymhcxg55btpchdjmf7mth3yp3hzybnb6761qec4cr7uauykjpy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cua29tbWVyc2FudC5ydS9kb2MvNTM4MjQ0Ng~~&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=443ba26cae282940d199999e33f85683) **The names of the dishes at McDonald's in Russia have become known**02.06.2022 | The menu of the Russian chain of fast food restaurants based on the former McDonald's will be replaced by foreign names. Items whose names refer to the name of the American chain will be removed from the menu. For example, instead of Chicken McNuggets, the Russian version will simply be Nuggets. Similarly, the names of the McChicken sauce and the McChicken Premier burger have been changed to just Chicken sauce and Chicken burger. They will also change the names of the big burgers. There will be "grandes" instead of "royals" sandwiches. For example, the Double Royal is now called the Double Grand. [Read more](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=64aiseatqs8ogqj4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta3td31i651o177ni8dhhb3ynz78axs5sjoo87xgpdsrmqz5p5mdoef3hzybnb6761qec4cr7uauykjpy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly9sZW50YS5ydS9uZXdzLzIwMjIvMDYvMDIvbWFjY2NjLw~~&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=4ca3b57618eb08f1011c68ead6ce12e7) **McDonald's has submitted another application for a new brand registration. Now it is "Our Place"**02.06.2022 |  This is the eighth trademark the former McDonald's chain has registered in Russia. On 19 May, the American chain sold all of its restaurants in Russia to entrepreneur Alexander Govor, forbidding him to use McDonald's brand.[Read more](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=6eduzhz1koieznj4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta3td31i651o177n3xqaxay4momipgtgydrjd88btg6o4ug47m7e5s73hzybnb6761qec4cr7uauykjpy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cua29tbWVyc2FudC5ydS9kb2MvNTM4MjAwMw~~&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=744a12bcdab2e829596822c72066a29a) **Free photo bank Pixabay has announced that it is no longer working with Russian users**02.06.2022 |  The decision was taken due to Russia's special military operation in Ukraine.[Read more](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=6nzkzcsdr1u5hkj4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta3td31i651o177nw1faosktqck6zm79er1i13y56fchdjmf7mth3yp3hzybnb6761qec4cr7uauykjpy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly90YXNzLnJ1L29ic2NoZXN0dm8vMTQ3OTk2NTU~&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=99f89011e697b42087ba3c876439f8f2) A list of companies that have announced to either fully or to some extent stop or suspend their operations in Russia is available here:* [https://www.kommersant.ru/doc/5240137](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=66wcc69m1wjhfkj4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta3td31i651o177n79eh9kmq1fdox3rybz7fre3djwwyijcz5h1aapj3hzybnb6761qec4cr7uauykjpy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly91bmkuYWVicnVzLnJ1L3J1L21haWxfbGlua190cmFja2VyP2hhc2g9Nmc0NXd0dThud2FzbW9vazF1eHhxdWVkd3I5YW43b3hhd3g0am9rNmNia2U4dWVoN2I3dXI1aHI4dHo3Ym9ja2ZjN25nZHdhN3hpaHk1YndqcjN4dDlkNWdxbnc5b2NzYmNjdHNza3U2bmR0aHJ0YTc4dzV5JnVybD1hSFIwY0hNNkx5OTFibWt1WVdWaWNuVnpMbkoxTDNKMUwyMWhhV3hmYkdsdWExOTBjbUZqYTJWeVAyaGhjMmc5Tm1FMloySnZOREUwWkc5aGNXOXZhekYxZUhoeGRXVmtkM0k1WVc0M2IzaGhkM2cwYW05ck5URTRObkZ1ZVdSd2FHbDZlblZpZUdkNVozVTVOR2hyZEdSb1ltbGtOWGhoWVc5ck1YbGlZbmRxY2pONGREbGtOV2R4Ym5jNWIyTnpZbU5qZEhOemEzVTJibVIwYUhKMFlUYzRkelY1Sm5WeWJEMWhTRkl3WTBoTk5reDVPVEZpYld0MVdWZFdhV051Vm5wTWJrb3hURE5LTVV3eU1XaGhWM2htWWtkc2RXRXhPVEJqYlVacVlUSldlVkF5YUdoak1tYzVUbTFLYW1KdVVtcGFNM0J4VGxkRk1HSnVSblpoZWtZeFpVaG9lR1JYVm10a00wazFXVmMwTTJJemFHaGtNMmN3WVcwNWNrNUhOVzlpYlVaNlpFaE5NazVIU210aFNFNTBZVzFXTVdWWE1IcGhhbVJ1VGxkek5WcFhVVEZQUjFadlpFZE5NRTFZVG5GT01uQjBXVmRhYUdWSWIzcGFXRUl6WXpOak5XSXlUbnBaYlU1cVpFaE9lbUV6VlRKaWJWSXdZVWhLTUZsVVl6UmtlbFkxU201V2VXSkVNV2hUUmtsM1dUQm9UazVyZURWUFZFNXJUVEpPTVZsVVNUVmtSMHBZVm01c2FrMXJXakZhUlUweFpWZFNWRTlYZEdsTmF6RXlWR3hTU2sxRk1VVlNXSEJQWkRNMUxVcHVWbkJhUkRGT1lXeHJkMVJ1Y0VaT1ZURXpabTQwYldSWFRucFFWR2N4V1ZkSmVFNTZXWGxOVjFGM1RrUnJNVmw2VG1wYVIxRjZUMWRKTkZreVVtMU9WMUY0VDFkWmVTWjFhV1E5VFdwWk1FNTZSVFZOZDM1LUpuVmpjejB4TW1FM056RXdZV1ZsWmpGbU5EZG1ZMlZoWWpFNFpEWm1OelExWlRSa1pnfn4mdWlkPU1qWTBOekU1TXd-fiZ1Y3M9NDkzMTc3NDBhY2VkMzZjNGMzY2ZlNWM2OWNiNDliNTE~&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=a3d2c5687f4f0363a347f58bcb424371)
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| **INTERNATIONAL MEDIA UPDATES** |

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| **U.S. targets yachts, cellist linked to Putin over Russia's [special military operation] in Ukraine**02.06.2022 | The Biden administration on Thursday issued a raft of new sanctions aimed at punishing Russia for its military operation in Ukraine, with targets including several yachts linked to Russian President Vladimir Putin, an oligarch who heads a major steel producer, and a cellist it says acts as a middleman for the Russian leader.[Read more](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=6ima6x69qf8nknj4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta3td31i651o177na9749pufozb41xtya398qwht9e6o4ug47m7e5s73hzybnb6761qec4cr7uauykjpy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cucmV1dGVycy5jb20vd29ybGQvZXVyb3BlL3VzLXRhcmdldHMtcnVzc2lhbi15YWNodHMtY2VsbGlzdC1saW5rZWQtcHV0aW4tb3Zlci11a3JhaW5lLXdhci0yMDIyLTA2LTAyLw~~&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=e8254c09d002075690ace6959d1470b4) **Teetering on default, Russia misses $1.9 mln payment, committee determines**02.06.2022 | Russia's failure to pay $1.9 million in accrued interest on a dollar bond will trigger payouts potentially worth billions of dollars, a panel of investors determined on Wednesday, as the country teeters on its first major external debt default in over a century. Sanctions imposed by western countries and their allies since February 24, as well as counter measures by Moscow, have all but excluded the country from the global financial system. The lapse last month of a key U.S. license allowing Russia to make payments put the prospect of the country defaulting back into focus. [Read more](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=659yqbcuere6fhj4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta3td31i651o177nswscmn4zkdxtxbhjan9o43uypsqpgr94e5qtsnp3hzybnb6761qec4cr7uauykjpy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cucmV1dGVycy5jb20vbWFya2V0cy9ldXJvcGUvcnVzc2lhLWZhaWx1cmUtcGF5LWNyZWRpdC1ldmVudC1pbnZlc3Rvci1jb21taXR0ZWUtZmluZHMtMjAyMi0wNi0wMS8~&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=b8faf099f090d9fe7776106bdee760e0) **African Union leader Macky Sall to meet Putin on Friday to ‘free cereal stocks’**02.06.2022 | The chair of the African Union, Senegal's President Macky Sall, will meet Russian leader Vladimir Putin on Friday as the [special military operation] in Ukraine exacerbates food insecurity on the continent, a spokesperson for the AU confirmed to POLITICO. Sall and Moussa Faki Mahamat, the African Union Commission chairperson, will arrive in Russia Thursday and will meet Putin on Friday. The visit has been planned "amid efforts from the presidency to contribute to deescalation amid the conflict in Ukraine, and to free stocks of cereals and fertilizers, the blockade of which particularly impacts African countries," according to a statement to the Senegalese press agency. [Read more](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=6kqhn8qfmkmmacj4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta3td31i651o177n9gaqgyzw688z6gubcncg7of7djy8trcq9ok5eb631bkbdyfhp9yejupoumq3zcudy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cucG9saXRpY28uZXUvYXJ0aWNsZS9hZnJpY2FuLXVuaW9uLWxlYWRlci1tYWNreS1zYWxsLW1lZXQtcHV0aW4tZnJpZGF5LWZyZWUtY2VyZWFsLXN0b2Nrcy8~&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=f63e54c7a129fda96433d67c5c700242) **Zelenskyy: Ukraine grain blockade will spark famine, migration**02.06.2022 | Russia's maritime blockade of Ukraine is causing a "catastrophic" rise in the price of food and basic goods, which will lead to protests, famine and migration around the world, Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Thursday. "The world is now teetering on the cusp of a food security crisis," Zelenskyy told an audience via video link at the start of the Globsec conference in Bratislava. "There is a ... catastrophic rise in prices of basic products in various countries." Since February 24, access to Ukraine's maritime ports have been closed off, which makes it impossible to shift grain and other food products out onto the global market by sea. That means millions of tons of wheat and grain remain locked inside Ukraine, putting pressure on import-dependent states in North Africa and the Middle East that are usually reliant on the Ukrainian harvest. [Read more](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=6owjqag9gdenr6j4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta3td31i651o177nwwqq8rqut79hhzu5tmianamjeowyijcz5h1aapj3hzybnb6761qec4cr7uauykjpy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cucG9saXRpY28uZXUvYXJ0aWNsZS96ZWxlbnNreXktdWtyYWluZS1ncmFpbi1ydXNzaWEtYmxvY2thZGUtc3BhcmstZmFtaW5lLW1pZ3JhdGlvbi8~&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=34610c70e38fe25ccb396c504b3ef002) **Rosneft appoints Mandarin speaker to lead company's global trading**02.06.2022 | Rosneft appointed a Mandarin-speaker to head global trading operations, six sources told Reuters on Thursday as Russia's top oil producer seeks to deepen ties with Asia after Western sanctions forced it to pivot away from Europe. Andrey Bogatenkov takes over as vice president for commerce and logistics from Uzbekistan-born Otabek Karimov, who left Rosneft along with other foreign executives in the wake of the sanctions imposed after Russia sent troops into Ukraine in what it called a "special operation". [Read more](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=6pdaxhchzsk7tcj4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta3td31i651o177nzcw6sdiimzrrenhgek9z1tm6fubwjr3xt9d5gqb3hzybnb6761qec4cr7uauykjpy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cucmV1dGVycy5jb20vYnVzaW5lc3MvZW5lcmd5L2V4Y2x1c2l2ZS1yb3NuZWZ0LWFwcG9pbnRzLW1hbmRhcmluLXNwZWFrZXItbGVhZC1jb21wYW55cy1nbG9iYWwtdHJhZGluZy1zb3VyY2VzLTIwMjItMDYtMDIv&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=a7b81b3ca8477eef4ae1e63206c6b111) **Russia Economy Lurched Into Contraction In April Amid Sanctions**01.06.2022 | The damage inflicted on Russia by sanctions was on full display in April as the economy swung into a contraction, with industrial production dropping and retail sales suffering their worst crash since the coronavirus pandemic. Gross domestic product contracted 3% in April from a year earlier, according to an estimate by the Economy Ministry, after recording growth of 1.3% in March. The Ministry blamed the swing on “the unprecedented sanctions pressure,” which hit transport links and consumer demand. Retail sales fell in April for the first time in a year, sliding an annual 9.7%, according to a separate release from the Federal Statistics Service.  [Read more](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=6fckusg1bqxtwyj4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta31ysi46g7zs3ibfnjhfn9ssukmeqny7tbe9iy9bpy8trcq9ok5eb631bkbdyfhp9yejupoumq3zcudy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuYmxvb21iZXJnLmNvbS9uZXdzL2FydGljbGVzLzIwMjItMDYtMDEvc2FuY3Rpb25zLWRlYWwtcnVzc2lhbi1jb25zdW1lci1lY29ub215LXdvcnN0LWhpdC1zaW5jZS1wYW5kZW1pYz9zcm5kPXByZW1pdW0~&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=82997090d9e0918ca54c46e160da9de9) |

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| **EU UPDATES** |

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| **EU envoys approve Russian oil ban but drop church patriarch from sanctions list**02.06.2022 | EU ambassadors finally approved the bloc's sixth round of sanctions against Russia Thursday, multiple EU diplomats said, paving the way for the ban on oil shipments to become law. Leaders agreed on a package of sanctions on Monday night after weeks of haggling over a planned oil embargo. To get landlocked Hungary on board, they decided to restrict the ban to Russian oil that arrives on tankers, temporarily exempting fuel flowing into the EU via pipelines. In an apparently new concession to Hungary, the head of the Russian Orthodox Church, Patriarch Kirill, was struck out of the list of sanctioned individuals. Hungary had called for the Patriarch to be taken off the list, holding up a deal on Wednesday. [Read more](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=66dma49d8fc4fej4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta3td31i651o177nhp5k6q64wtb5gqx46xhw87wz1awyijcz5h1aapj3hzybnb6761qec4cr7uauykjpy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cucG9saXRpY28uZXUvYXJ0aWNsZS9ldS1lbnZveXMtYXBwcm92ZS1ydXNzaWEtc2FuY3Rpb25zLXdpdGgtb2lsLWJhbi1zZXQtdG8tYmVjb21lLWxhdy8~&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=25453baf2aa16b1928c2247d89155a77) **The Netherlands, Germany announce joint North Sea drilling operation**02.06.2022 | The Netherlands and Germany will drill for gas in the North Sea together, with production expected to start in 2024, the Dutch government has announced. According to the Dutch government’s website, production will take place in the North Sea, about 19 kilometres north of Schiermonnikoog and Borkum. A pipeline is being constructed to get the gas onto the shore. To satisfy the concerns raised by environmentalists, the platform will be moved away from a local oyster project, and water released during production will be filtered. On the Dutch side, permits to start drilling were issued by State Secretary Johannes Alexander Vijlbrief on Wednesday (1 June). Since Gazprom announced it would stop supplying gas to the Netherlands on Tuesday (31 May) after Dutch wholesaler GasTerra refused to bow to the Kremlin’s demand to pay in rubles for fear of breaching EU sanctions, the Dutch want the process to speed up. [Read more](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=6zgmdfngtooskaj4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta3td31i651o177ns63r4h3y66ze1qdftnyuka459pbwjr3xt9d5gqb3hzybnb6761qec4cr7uauykjpy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly9hcGktZXNwLnBpYW5vLmlvLy1jLzQ4MC8yMTYwMy8zMjQ4OTUvMTEwNTUxMTEvMzk3MjMxLzQ4YTJmODk4NjE0NDgxM2JhOTQ5OTA0NjA2NTU3ZWFlLy0xLy0xP2F0dHJzPTAmb3JkZXI9Mg~~&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=1051b7b9123ee8ecaa653f6a7252336b) **Belgium ‘fully prepared’ for Russian gas cut, government says**02.06.2022 | The Belgian government drew attention to measures already in place to reduce gas consumption as more EU states were being cut off from Russian supplies earlier this week. Gazprom’s decision to stop supplying Dutch utility GasTerra and Danish utility Ørsted has triggered concerns in other EU countries. But neighbouring Belgium appears calm for now. “There are currently no elements to announce the first ‘Early Warning’ phase of the national Emergency Plan for Natural Gas in Belgium,” said a statement from the cabinet of Energy Minister Tinne Van der Straeten, published on Tuesday (31 May). While early warning mechanisms have long been in place in Germany, Italy and other EU countries, Russian imports represent only 6% of gas consumption in Belgium, the government said. [Read more](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=6fwbnbyrjmqdzcj4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta3td31i651o177n3n5pimngihw8o13u9zppddh76j6aj7cehz61cit3hzybnb6761qec4cr7uauykjpy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuZXVyYWN0aXYuY29tL3NlY3Rpb24vZW5lcmd5LWVudmlyb25tZW50L25ld3MvYmVsZ2l1bS1mdWxseS1wcmVwYXJlZC1mb3ItcnVzc2lhbi1nYXMtY3V0LWdvdmVybm1lbnQtc2F5cy8~&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=6222bec01fe63cecf38180168b13229b) **European Parliament bars Russia-backed lobbyists**02.06.2022 | The European Parliament is banning entry to lobbyists representing Russian interests as Moscow's military operatiom in Ukraine drags on. Russian company representatives may not enter Parliament buildings “effective immediately,” President Roberta Metsola tweeted Thursday.  Metsola announced the move at a meeting of the Conference of Presidents on Thursday morning, according to her spokesman, Jüri Laas. It comes as diplomats debate including a ban on providing consulting and accounting services to Russia in the EU's sixth package of sanctions. The ban “applies to all entities that are established in the Russian Federation and that are listed in the EU transparency register,” Laas said in an e-mail, as well as entities subject to EU sanctions. Metsola also “instructed Parliament's services to look into other Russian companies whose representatives might spread false information about the [special military operation] in Ukraine or try to circumvent the sanctions imposed at European level,” he added. [Read more](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=6op9unope96qcej4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta3td31i651o177nt8bpq38zazpo786wqpxjsqiqxfy8trcq9ok5eb631bkbdyfhp9yejupoumq3zcudy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cucG9saXRpY28uZXUvYXJ0aWNsZS9ldXJvcGVhbi1wYXJsaWFtZW50LWJhcnMtcnVzc2lhLWJhY2tlZC1sb2JieWlzdHMv&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=e855fb2357c691cca33f2624467e0ac4) **Greek former PM ‘not sure’ the US wants to end Ukraine conflict**02.06.2022 | Washington plays a decisive role in addressing the crisis in Ukraine, but its motivation to end the conflict are not clear, conservative former Prime Minister Kostas Karamanlis has said. His statement comes amid a fierce clash in Greek politics over the ruling New Democracy party’s (EPP) decision to send more weapons to Ukraine without informing the parliament. The Greeks learnt the news from German Chancellor Olaf Scholz after he announced an arms swap deal with Athens. Meanwhile, Berlin admitted that the deal was made between the two men on the sidelines of the EU summit.  [Read more](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=63nz56fwxhyugwj4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta3td31i651o177n5b474wkmet8oq66xse6ntee5357jmafaxz3epwi3hzybnb6761qec4cr7uauykjpy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly9hcGktZXNwLnBpYW5vLmlvLy1jLzQ4MC8yMTYwMy8zMjQ4OTcvMTEwNTUxMTEvMzk3MjMxL2IxYjZhOWYxNDg3ZTExNjkwMTIyOWI0YWU3MDg2NTgwLy0xLy0xP2F0dHJzPTAmb3JkZXI9MQ~~&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=4737d9ee0ee24c4873cbccb8dd23a5d9) **US envoy calls for Serbia to impose sanctions on Russia**02.06.2022 |Serbia was urged to join in the EU’s sanctions against Russia by US Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Balkans Gabriel Escobar via a video speech during the Southeastern Europe Democracy Summit in Montenegro. The Assistant Secretary is the latest in a long line of diplomats urging Serbia to condemn Russia’s special military operation in Ukraine through sanctions. “Almost every country in the Western Balkans has agreed that Russia will pay a price for this through sanctions, supporting Ukraine and its people. I hope that Serbia will join this group and harmonise sanctions when the government is formed,” Escobar said. [Read more](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=61o6t5o75z1k3cj4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta3td31i651o177nhq8saubjs7iutgfmeqk5xbjfppn1ai4dsubywyi3hzybnb6761qec4cr7uauykjpy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly9hcGktZXNwLnBpYW5vLmlvLy1jLzQ4MC8yMTYwMy8zMjQ5MTUvMTEwNTUxMTEvMzk3MjMxL2UxOWI2ZDAzMGU5ZTJjZTYzM2ZkYmNjZTgxM2I0ZDZhLy0xLy0xP2F0dHJzPTAmb3JkZXI9NQ~~&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=8abfa781e25056a8b649c63a7622cf7f) **Italian government mulls new excise tax cut as fuel prices soar.**02.06.2022 |The government is considering expanding the excise tax reduction, which will expire on 8 July, Economy Under-Secretary Maria Cecilia Guerra told broadcaster *Rainews 24* on Wednesday. To counter rising energy costs, which started before February 24, the government has allocated a total of €30 billion. But despite cutting excise tax by 30.5 cents, retail diesel and gasoline prices have continued to climb, reaching peaks higher than those recorded during the first week of the conflict in Ukraine in the past two weeks. The average price for self-service gasoline in Italy is €1.914 per litre and €1.831 per litre of diesel, the latest report from the economic development ministry’s price observatory found. [Read more](https://uni.aebrus.ru/ru/mail_link_tracker?hash=6xjuadsauoaw3nj4kaqq63zkqj7yrd9kfqchta3td31i651o177n3ni9zkmsee96puoxy39hhghtmichdjmf7mth3yp3hzybnb6761qec4cr7uauykjpy&url=aHR0cHM6Ly9hcGktZXNwLnBpYW5vLmlvLy1jLzQ4MC8yMTYwMy8zMjQ4OTcvMTEwNTUxMTEvMzk3MjMxLzU5NWNhZDM2M2UwYTQyYTI4ODE3OGM2MTYzNGE3MGQ1Ly0xLy0xP2F0dHJzPTAmb3JkZXI9Mg~~&uid=MjY0NzE5Mw~~&ucs=90a9e607bece74f9414602783347eec7) |

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| **SANCTIONS UPDATES** |

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| **US**02.06.2022 | The Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) updated its Specially Designated Nationals (SDN) list and Sectoral Sanctions Identifications (SSI) list. More particularly, the U.S. Treasury Department on Thursday identified two vessels, the Russian-flagged **Graceful** and the Cayman islands-flagged **Olympia** as property in which Putin has an interest. It also identified two other yachts, **Shellest** and **Nega**, it said were used by Putin and owned by a sanctioned Russian company. The Treasury also targeted **Imperial Yachts**, a brokerage based in Monaco that allows superyacht owners, including Russian oligarchs, to charter their boats when they are not using them, as well as an aviation company it said was involved in a scheme to transfer aircraft to an offshore company to avoid sanctions. It also targeted two companies owned by Alexey Mordashov: **Severstal** and gold miner **Nord Gold**. Targeted individuals comprise:* **Sergei Roldugin**, a cellist and conductor to Vladimir Putin
* **Vitaly Savelyev**, Minister of Transport of the Russian Federation
* **Maxim Reshetnikov**, Minister of Economic Development of the Russian Federation
* **Irek Envarovich Faizullin**, Minister of Construction, Housing and Utilities of Russia
* **Dmitriy Yuryevich Grigorenko**, Deputy Prime Minister and Chief of the Government Staff of Russia.
* **Alexey Mordashov**, owner of Severstal and Nord Gold
* **Yury Slyusar,** President of United Aircraft Corporation (UAC)
* **Maria Zakharova**, Spokesperson for the Russian Ministry Foreign Affairs

 In addition OFAC has issued the following **Russia-related General Licenses**:* General License 25B replacing General License 24A and which authorizes transactions related to telecommunications and certain internet-based communications,
* General License 36 authorizing the wind down of transactions involving public joint stock company Severstal by August 31, 2022,
* General License 37 authorizing the wind down of transactions involving public joint stock company Nord Gold PLC by July 1, 2022, and
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