



State Policy Developments

The Russian Reserve Fund to Merge with the National Wealth Fund

On July 31, 2017, Mr. Vladimir Putin, the Russian President, signed the law on introduction of new fiscal rules starting from 2018 that also envisages merger of the Russian sovereign funds (the Reserve Fund and the National Wealth Fund).

The Reserve Fund is supposed to be fully depleted by the end of 2017, while by February 1, 2018, any inflows to the Reserve Fund shall be transferred to the National Wealth Fund that will be the only sovereign fund afterwards.

The bill "On Amendments to the Budgetary Code of the Russian Federation": Original (Rus) | Google Translate

Business Environment

Innovationsindikator 2017 study ranks Russia 27th by innovative performance and 29th by the level of digitalization

On July 31, 2017, Innovationsindikator 2017 study was released that ranks the selection of 35 economies (primarily the developed countries and BRICS) by innovative performance and the level of digitalization.

Russia took 27th place in the innovative performance ranking with the innovative index indicated at 12 (the first place is held by Switzerland with the index of 75).

In the digitalization ranking Russia was ranked 29 with the digitalization index stated at 18.5 (the first place is held by Finland with the index of 69.5).

Innovationsindikator study is elaborated jointly by a number of German institutions, including:

- Acatech (Deutsche Akademie der Technikwissenschaften, National Academy of Science and Engineering),
- BDI (Bundesverband der Deutschen Industrie e.V., The Voice of German Industry),
- Fraunhofer ISI (Fraunhofer-Institut für System- und Innovationsforschung, the Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and Innovation Research), and
- ZEW (Zentrum für Europäische Wirtschaftsforschung GmbH, Mannheim Centre for European Economic Research).

In 2017, the study covered 35 economies focusing primarily on the developed countries and BRICS. It ranks the economies by the two major indicators:

- Innovationsindikator (Innovations Indicator) is a composite indicator elaborated in order to compare the innovative performance of the assessed economies using 38 weighted individual indicators;

- Digitalisierungsindikator (Digitalization Indicator) is used in order to assess the spread of digitalization in the traced economies and relies upon 6 sub-indicators (research and technology, economy, society, state and infrastructure, Education and business models) and 66 individual indicators.

Innovationsindikator 2017 study: Original (Ger)

Russia prepares to legalization of parallel imports for selected products

On August 2, 2017, Kommersant newspaper reported that the Russian authorities are preparing to the Government's meeting dedicated to approval of legalization of parallel imports in Russia to be held on August 8 and chaired by the First Vice Prime Minister Igor Shuvalov.

The parallel imports are supposed to be allowed for the products that are not available in the domestic market and the products with limited supply and overstated prices. Specifically, automotive components and pharmaceuticals have been mentioned among the permitted articles.

Legalization will require consensus of all member states of Eurasian Economic Union. The Federal Anti-Monopoly Service commented that there are only the technical issues to be agreed upon, while the Ministry of Trade and Industry informed that the final decision has not been done yet.

Dedicated article in Kommersant newspaper: Original (Rus) | Google Translate

Half of the Russian SME entrepreneurs believe that it is impossible to do business in Russia without bribery

On August 3, 2017, NAFI Analytical Center released Business Climate and Competitiveness of the Russian Enterprises report based on the monthly surveys carried out among 500 entrepreneurs throughout Russia in the first half of 2017.

According to the survey's results, 49% of entrepreneurs believe that it is not possible to do business in Russia without bribery. This share differs dramatically in the Russian federal districts. Specifically, it is highest in the North-Caucasian Federal District (79%), Southern Federal District (63%) and Siberian Federal District (53%). The lowest share is in the North-Western Federal District (41%) and Far-Eastern Federal District (40%).

As much as 46% of entrepreneurs believe that the business in Russia is not protected from the criminal. The maximum share is observed in the North-Caucasian Federal District (91%) and Siberian Federal District (51%), while the lowest share is peculiar to the North-Western Federal District (29%).

NAFI also presented assessment of NAFI Business Climate Index (NBCI) made in March 2017. NBCI was indicated at 84.8 pp that is 5.2 pp lower than NBCI assessment made in March 2016 reflecting the growing pessimism of the Russian entrepreneurs.

Business Climate and Competitiveness of the Russian Enterprises report by NAFI Analytical Center (registration required for downloading): Original (Rus).



## Reports and Forecasts on Russia Traced by Factosphere

Date	Publisher	Document name	URL
31.07.2017	<a href="#">FocusEconomics</a>	Russia: Sanctions threaten to put a lid on growth	<a href="#">Original</a> (Eng)
31.07.2017	<a href="#">Innovationsindikator</a>	Innovationsindikator 2017 study	<a href="#">Original</a> (Ger)
01.08.2017	<a href="#">Institute of the National Economy Forecasting of the Russian Academy of Sciences</a>	Structural and investment policy aimed at securing economic growth in Russia. Monograph.	<a href="#">Original</a> (Rus)
01.08.2017	<a href="#">The Analytical Centre for the Government of the Russian Federation</a>	Dynamics of industrial production: regional differences	<a href="#">Original</a> (Rus)  <a href="#">Google Translate</a>
01.08.2017	<a href="#">PwC</a>	Environmental regulations navigator #4	<a href="#">Original</a> (Rus)
01.08.2017	<a href="#">ROMIR</a>	Multipolar economy. Survey on the choice of the partner country in the world (Gallup International).	<a href="#">Original</a> (Rus)   <a href="#">Google Translate</a>
01.08.2017	<a href="#">The Russian Central Bank</a>	Exchange rate and competitiveness of the economy. Analytical note (May 2017)	<a href="#">Original</a> (Eng)
02.08.2017	<a href="#">The Russian Central Bank</a>	Inflation expectations and consumer behaviour. July 2017.	<a href="#">Original</a> (Rus)
02.08.2017	<a href="#">The Russian Central Bank</a>	Comments on current economic situation. July 2017	<a href="#">Original</a> (Rus)
02.08.2017	<a href="#">PwC</a>	How to identify intentional tax underpayment: guidelines from the Russian Federal Tax Service and the Investigative Committee	<a href="#">Original</a> (Eng)
03.08.2017	<a href="#">The Russian Ministry of Economic Development</a>	Development trends in the sectors of the Russian economy	<a href="#">Original</a> (Rus)
03.08.2017	<a href="#">NAFI Analytical Center</a>	Business climate and competitiveness of the Russian enterprises	<a href="#">Original</a> (Rus, registration required)
03.08.2017	<a href="#">The Russian Ministry of Economic Development</a>	Report on the course of implementation and the effectiveness of the state programmes in 2016	<a href="#">Original</a> (Rus)
03.08.2017	<a href="#">VTB</a>	Weekly Custody newsletter #29 / 2017	<a href="#">Original</a> (Eng)
03.08.2017	<a href="#">The Center for Macroeconomic Analysis and Short-Term Forecasting</a>	Monitoring and analysis of technological development of Russia and the world. Q2 2017.	<a href="#">Original</a> (Rus)
04.08.2017	<a href="#">Commerzbank</a>	Week in Focus (forecast)	<a href="#">Original</a> (Eng)
04.08.2017	<a href="#">BOFIT</a>	BOFIT Weekly	<a href="#">Original</a> (Eng)
04.08.2017	<a href="#">The Analytical Centre for the Government of the Russian Federation</a>	Strengthening sanctions on Russia and the global fuel and energy sector. Bulletin,	<a href="#">Original</a> (Rus)  <a href="#">Google Translate</a>
04.08.2017	<a href="#">PwC</a>	IoT in Russia. Study.	<a href="#">Original</a> (Rus)

## Statistical Publications Traced by Factosphere

Date	Publisher	Document name	URL
01.08.2017	<a href="#">The Russian State Statistics Service</a>	Social and economic situation in Russia in January-June 2017 (bulletin).	<a href="#">Original</a> (Rus)
01.08.2017	<a href="#">The Russian State Statistics Service</a>	Short-term economic indicators of the Russian Federation in June 2017	<a href="#">Original</a> (Rus / Eng)
01.08.2017	<a href="#">The Russian State Statistics Service</a>	Information for monitoring of social and economic developments of subjects of the Federation in June 2017	<a href="#">Original</a> (Rus, rar)
02.08.2017	<a href="#">The Russian Ministry of Finance</a>	On results of placement of assets of the Reserve Fund and the National Wealth Fund	<a href="#">Original</a> (Rus)  <a href="#">Google Translate</a>
02.08.2017	<a href="#">The Russian Ministry of Finance</a>	Weekly data on budget funds in deposits, public budget loans and REPO	<a href="#">Original</a> (Eng)
02.08.2017	<a href="#">The Russian Ministry of Finance</a>	Volume of the Reserve Fund	<a href="#">Original</a> (Eng)
02.08.2017	<a href="#">The Russian Ministry of Finance</a>	Volume of the National Wealth Fund	<a href="#">Original</a> (Eng)
02.08.2017	<a href="#">The Russian Ministry of Finance</a>	Allocation of National Wealth Fund's assets to preferred equities of Russian banks as of 1 August 2017	<a href="#">Original</a> (Eng)
02.08.2017	<a href="#">The Russian Ministry of Finance</a>	Allocation of National Wealth Fund's assets to deposits in Vnesheconombank as of 1 August 2017	<a href="#">Original</a> (Eng)



<b>Date</b>	<b>Publisher</b>	<b>Document name</b>	<b>URL</b>
02.08.2017	<a href="#">The Russian State Statistics Service</a>	On CPI estimate for July 25-31, 2017	<a href="#">Original</a> (Rus)  <a href="#">Google Translate</a>
03.08.2017	<a href="#">The Russian State Statistics Service</a>	On production volumes of oil products and dynamics of their retail prices for July 24-30, 2017	<a href="#">Original</a> (Rus)  <a href="#">Google Translate</a>
03.08.2017	<a href="#">The Russian Ministry of Finance</a>	On the revenues from the oil and gas sector and operations on sale and purchase of foreign currency in the local market	<a href="#">Original</a> (Rus)  <a href="#">Google Translate</a>
03.08.2017	<a href="#">The Russian Central Bank</a>	International Reserves of the Russian Federation (Weekly values as of the end of accounting date)	<a href="#">Original</a> (Eng)
04.08.2017	<a href="#">The Russian State Statistics Service</a>	Current statistical survey magazine (#1, 2017)	<a href="#">Original</a> (Eng)
04.08.2017	<a href="#">The Russian Customs Service</a>	Exports and imports of key commodities for January-June 2017	<a href="#">Original</a> (Rus)
04.08.2017	<a href="#">The Russian State Statistics Service</a>	On CPI in July 2017	<a href="#">Original</a> (Rus)  <a href="#">Google Translate</a>



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