



State Policy Developments

Mr. Vladimir Putin initiates dismissal of several Russian governors

On September 25, 2017, Mr. Vladimir Putin, the Russian President, signed a decree on dismissal of Mr. Nikolay Merkushin, the Governor of the Samara region. Mr. Dmitry Azarov was appointed the Acting Governor of the region, while Mr. Merkushin became the Special Representative of the President on Interactions with the World Forum of Finno-Ugric Nations.

On September 26, 2017, Mr. Valery Shantsev, the Governor of the Nizhny Novgorod region, announced his retirement that was accepted by Mr. Putin. Mr. Gleb Nikitin, the First Deputy Minister of Trade and Industry, was appointed the Acting Governor of the region.

On September 27, 2017, Mr. Viktor Tolokonsky, the Governor of Krasnoyarsky Krai, announced his retirement. His possible successor at this post is Mr. Mikhail Kotyukov, the head of Federal Agency for Scientific Organisations (FANO).

On September 27, 2017, Mr. Ramazan Abdulatipov, the head of Republic of Dagestan, also confirmed his intention to retire.

On September 28, 2017, Mr. Igor Koshin, the Governor of Nenets Autonomous District, was dismissed and replaced with Mr. Alexandr Tsybulsky, the Deputy Minister of Economic Development of Russia.

The experts connect the dismissal of the Governors with upcoming presidential elections to be held in 2018 and overall intention to renew the pool of governors before that.

Presidential decree on dismissal of the Governor of the Samara region at website of the Russian President: [Original \(Rus\)](#) | [Google Translate](#)

Presidential decree on dismissal of the Governor of the Nizhny Novgorod region at website of the Russian President: [Original \(Rus\)](#) | [Google Translate](#)

Dedicated article on retirement of Mr. Viktor Tolokonsky in Kommersant newspaper: [Original \(Rus\)](#) | [Google Translate](#)

Dedicated interview with Mr. Ramazan Abdulatipov at website of Govorit Moskva radio station: [Original \(Rus\)](#) | [Google Translate](#)

Presidential decree on dismissal of the Governor of the Nenets Autonomous District at website of the Russian President: [Original \(Rus\)](#) | [Google Translate](#)

Business Environment

Introduction of cryptocurrencies' regulations in Russia to follow blockchain legalization

On September 26, 2017, Mr. Alexey Moiseev, the Deputy Russian Minister of Finance, commented to the press that the Government decided not [to introduce regulations at the market of cryptocurrencies](#) in the near future. Referring to him, before that the state aims to legalize the blockchain storage scheme so that the stored information is considered legally valid.

The decision was made at the meeting of the Council on Financial Stability led by Mr. Igor Shuvalov, the Russian First Vice Prime Minister. The possible options on blockchain legalization are to be discussed at the next meeting of the Council to be held in 3 months. After that, the issues related to introduction of cryptocurrencies' regulations will be considered.

Dedicated article by 1Prime information agency: [Original \(Rus\)](#) | [Google Translate](#)

Russia took 38th place in Global Competitiveness Index 2017-2018

On September 26, 2017, The World Economic Forum released The Global Competitiveness Report 2017-2018. The Russian Federation improved its position in the report by five places and reached 38th place. The major factor contributing to this is stabilization of macroeconomic conditions.

The Global Competitiveness Index 2017-2018 presents a framework for analysis of global competitiveness and a corresponding set of indicators in three principal categories (sub-indices) and twelve policy domains (pillars) for 137 economies. The presented sub-indices are Basic Requirements (pillars: Institutions, Infrastructure, Macroeconomic Environment, and Health & Primary Education), Efficiency Enhancers (pillars: Higher Education & Training, Goods Market Efficiency, Labor Market Efficiency, Financial Market Development, Technological Readiness, and Market Size) and Innovation and Sophistication Factors (pillars: Business Innovation and Sophistication).

The pillars with the lowest development in Russia are Financial Markets Development (107th place out of 137 economies), Institutions (83rd place) and Goods Market Efficiency (80th place). The better-developed pillars are Market Size (6th place), Higher Education & Training (32nd place) and Infrastructure (35th place).

The report also indicates the most problematic issues for doing business in Russia. From the list of factors, respondents to the World Economic Forum's Executive Opinion Survey were asked to select the five most problematic factors for doing business and to rank them between 1 (most problematic) and 5. In Russia the highest 13.1 score is given to corruption and the tax rates, 10.2 score is for access to financing and 10.1 score is for inflation.

Page on Russia at Global Competitiveness Index website: [Original \(Eng\)](#)

Reports and Forecasts on Russia Traced by Factosphere

Date	Publisher	Document name	URL
25.09.2017	Gaidar Institute in cooperation with Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration	Monitoring of Economic Situation in Russia. September 2017, #16(54)	Original (Rus, pdf)
25.09.2017	The Russian Ministry of Finance	Press release on completion of exchange of the Russian sovereign bonds.	Original (Rus) Google Translate
25.09.2017	Euler Hermes	The global economy: let's grow.	Original (Eng)
26.09.2017	The Analytical Centre for the Government of the Russian Federation	Economic links and development of Eurasian Economic Union. Report.	Original (Rus, pdf)
26.09.2017	World Economic Forum	Global Competitiveness Report 2017-2018.	Original (Eng)
26.09.2017	The Russian Ministry of Economic Development	Picture of the economy. August 2017.	Original (Rus)
27.09.2017	The Russian Central Bank	Comments on the current situation in the economy. September 2017.	Original (Rus, pdf)
27.09.2017	Levada Center	Survey on transport and transport problems in Russia.	Original (Rus) Google Translate
27.09.2017	PwC	Court upholds decision of tax authorities to exclude paid interest from expenses	Original (Eng)
28.09.2017	CESifo Group Munich in cooperation with DIW Berlin , ifW Kiel , IWH Halle , and RWI Essen	Joint Economic Forecast Autumn 2017. Upturn Remains Robust – Amid Mounting Tensions.	Original (Ger, pdf)
28.09.2017	Levada Center	Protest potential in Russia.	Original (Rus) Google Translate
28.09.2017	Institute of the Statistical Studies and Economics of Knowledge of Higher School of Economics	IT sector in Russia.	Original (Rus) Google Translate
28.09.2017	ROMIR	Economy on medicines continues. Survey on the Russian consumer expenditures.	Original (Rus) Google Translate
28.09.2017	VTB	Weekly Custody newsletter #37 / 2017	Original (Eng, pdf)
29.09.2017	The World Bank	Global Economic Developments. September 2017.	Original (Eng, pdf)
29.09.2017	Minchenko Consulting	Politbureau 2.0 and the governors. Survey on sustainability of the Russian governors.	Original (Rus, pdf)
29.09.2017	Institute of the Statistical Studies and Economics of Knowledge of Higher School of Economics	Business climate in the Russian sector of services in 3Q 2017.	Original (Rus) Google Translate
29.09.2017	Berenberg	Makroausblick September 2017	Original (Ger, pdf)
29.09.2017	Commerzbank	Week in Focus (forecast)	Original (Eng, pdf)
29.09.2017	BOFIT	BOFIT Weekly	Original (Eng, pdf)

Statistical Publications Traced by Factosphere

Date	Publisher	Document name	URL
25.09.2017	The Russian State Statistics Service	On relation between the personal income, living wage and the number of low-income people in 2Q 2017	Original (Rus) Google Translate
25.09.2017	The Russian State Statistics Service	On dynamics of prices for gasoline and oil products' resources in August 2017	Original (Rus) Google Translate
25.09.2017	The Russian State Statistics Service	On financial results of activities of organisations in January-July 2017	Original (Rus) Google Translate
25.09.2017	The Russian State Statistics Service	Employment and unemployment in Russia in August 2017	Original (Rus) Google Translate
25.09.2017	The Russian Central Bank	Turnover structure of Foreign Exchange and Derivatives Market in August 2017	Original (Eng, zip)
25.09.2017	The Russian Central Bank	Portfolio Investment Assets of the Russian Federation, Stocks Broken Down by Instrument and Country	Original (Eng, xls)
25.09.2017	The Russian Central Bank	Portfolio Investment Assets of the Russian Federation, Stocks Broken Down by Instrument and Country (SDDS Plus format)	Original (Eng, xls)
25.09.2017	The Russian Central Bank	Russian Federation: Energy Exports	Original (Eng)
26.09.2017	The Russian State Statistics Service	Information on CPIs in Russia and selected foreign countries in August 2017	Original (Rus) Google Translate



Date	Publisher	Document name	URL
26.09.2017	The Russian State Statistics Service	Business activities of organisations in Russia in September 2017	Original (Rus) Google Translate
26.09.2017	The Russian Ministry of Finance	Weekly data on budget funds in deposits, public budget loans and REPO	Original (Eng)
27.09.2017	The Russian State Statistics Service	Up-to-date information on natural movement of population in January-August 2017	Original (Rus) Google Translate
27.09.2017	The Russian State Statistics Service	On CPI estimate for September 19-25, 2017	Original (Rus) Google Translate
28.09.2017	The Russian State Statistics Service	On production volumes of oil products and dynamics of their retail prices for September 18-24, 2017	Original (Rus) Google Translate
28.09.2017	The Russian Central Bank	International Reserves of the Russian Federation (Weekly values as of the end of accounting date)	Original (Eng)
29.09.2017	The Russian State Statistics Service	Current Statistical Survey #2, 2017	Original (Eng, rar)
29.09.2017	The Russian Central Bank	Financial sector survey	Original (Eng)
29.09.2017	The Russian Central Bank	Central Bank survey	Original (Eng)
29.09.2017	The Russian Central Bank	Credit institutions survey	Original (Eng)
29.09.2017	The Russian Central Bank	Banking system survey	Original (Eng)
29.09.2017	The Russian Central Bank	Other financial institutions survey	Original (Eng)
29.09.2017	The Russian Central Bank	The yearbook "External Trade in Services of the Russian Federation 2016"	Original (Eng, pdf)
29.09.2017	The Russian Central Bank	Balance of Payments of the Russian Federation (Neutral Presentation, Main Components)	Original (Eng)
29.09.2017	The Russian Central Bank	Comments: Main Indicators of External Sector Statistics for the 1st Half of 2017	Original (Eng)
29.09.2017	The Russian Central Bank	External Debt of the Russian Federation	Original (Eng)
29.09.2017	The Russian Central Bank	Merchandise Trade of the Russian Federation	Original (Eng)
29.09.2017	The Russian Central Bank	International Investment Position of the Russian Federation (Standard Components) (BPM6)	Original (Eng)
29.09.2017	The Russian Central Bank	Balance of Payments of the Russian Federation (Standard Components)	Original (Eng)
29.09.2017	The Russian Central Bank	Monetary Policy Report September 2017	Original (Eng, pdf)
29.09.2017	The Russian Central Bank	Monetary Policy Guidelines 2018-2020, draft (introduction, part 1, forecast tables)	Original (Eng, pdf)



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