

THE CURRENT DIGEST

OF THE RUSSIAN PRESS

VOLUME 67, NO. 50

December 7-13, 2015

IN THIS ISSUE

FEATURED NEWS STORIES

Can Moscow, Ankara Step Back From the Brink?..... 3

THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Politics

Rogov: Trucker Protest Destroying Kremlin Myth of Close Unity Between People, Putin..... 6

Gorbachov: Khodorkovsky's Latest Criticisms of Putin Regime Breaks His Truce With Authorities 6

State and Law

Hobson: Kremlin May Not Be Able to Sweep PGO Scandal Under the Rug This Time..... 7

Prosecutor General Claims US Secret Service Behind Embezzlement Schemes He Is Accused of..... 7

New Law Grants Constitutional Court Power to Decide Whether Russia Must Abide by ECHR Rulings 8

Human Rights

Activist Ildar Dadin Faces Three Years in Prison Under Amended Law on Protest Rallies 8

OTHER POST-SOVIET STATES

Transcaucasus

Simonyan: Russia-Turkey Conflict Puts Transcaucasus Countries in Tight Spot 10

Armenia

Armenians Vote to Transition to Parliamentary Republic 10

Moldova

Chisinau Apprehensive of Ukrainian Troop Buildup Near Transnistria..... 11

Ukraine

Odessa Province Governor Saakashvili Hints at Large-Scale Corruption in Ukrainian Government 12

Fighting Escalates in Donetsk Basin as Talks Seem to Stall..... 13

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Foreign Economic Relations

Katasov: US, China Using Monetary Policies to Boost Their Exports, Positions on Capital Market 14

Iran

Russia Counting on Lucrative Arms Contracts With Iran Following Lifting of Sanctions..... 15

Europe

Ivanov: Russia, West Must Seek Cooperation on Shared Problems, Not Integration Based on Shared Values.... 15