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## CORRIDORS OF POWER

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### Russia creating national cyber security system - Rogozin

MOSCOW. March 10 (Interfax-AVN) - Russia is developing a national cyber security system, Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin said.

"It will employ smart weapons built by use of complex production lines, technological chains, which also belong to the smart hardware category," Rogozin said at a cyber security conference at the Moscow State University on Tuesday.

Western colleagues often define cyber security as means of attack, a weapon rather than a shield, Rogozin said. Russia will respond by developing "its own security and counteraction system," he added.

Rogozin called for cutting the distance between developers and customers. "This is a national security issue, security of information systems," the deputy prime minister said.

He also presented types of main cyber security threats Russia might encounter any moment.

"There can be three types of threats: a [hostile] country or even a coalition of countries stronger [than Russia], an enemy of equal force, and a weaker enemy," Rogozin said.

"A weaker enemy could be not only a state but also a terrorist group which threatens the security of the country," he remarked.

### New monitoring system to ensure spending transparency across entire supply chain - Defense Ministry

MOSCOW. March 10 (Interfax) - The system of inter-agency control over the use of public funds allocated to finance government defense contracts will compel the head contractors to disclose information about all links of the supply chain, and provides a legal framework for the criteria, collection and disclosure of such information, says Tatyana Shevtsov, Russia's Deputy Defense Minister.

"As part of the inter-agency system of control over performance of government defense contracts, conditions will be created for prompt exchange of information relating to performance of government contracts, between the government customer, the contractor, authorized banks and Rosfinmonitoring (Russian Financial Monitoring Service) whose powers will be significantly broadened," Shevtsova told reporters on Monday.

"Part of such information is already being collected by various government agencies. However, today such information is fragmented. Elimination of the restrictions on exchange of information during control over performance of government defense contracts will make it possible to predict the risk of a misuse of public funds and conduct continual monitoring and banking control over the course of performance of the government defense contract," she said.

The main task is "to mark every defense-spending ruble and ensure transparent movement of funds across the entire chain of cooperation," Shevtsova said.

On December 4, 2014, President Vladimir Putin told the Federal Assembly that theft and misuse of public funds should be seen as a direct blow to Russia's national security. The Russian Defense Ministry, in cooperation with Rosfinmonitoring and other concerned government agencies, were tasked to create a system of control over the use of funds allocated for government defense contract financing.

### No spending cuts for state armament program - Defense Ministry

MOSCOW. March 10 (Interfax) - The state armament program (SAP) accounts for over 60% in the Russian Defense Ministry's budget, and its funding is a priority for the army, says Tatyana Shevtsova, Russia's Deputy Defense Minister.

"The share of SAP in the budget structure of the Defense Ministry has been rising every year: from 37% in 2013 to almost 62% by 2015. I will recall that today it is this part of spending which may not be sequestered and is a priority for our modern army," Shevtsova told reporters on Monday.

Going forward, the ratio between spending on maintenance and refitting should be made 30 to 70, she said.

The defense minister has set the goal of full implementation of the state armament program and reaching the 2020 targets for modern weapons and military hardware, the deputy defense minister recalled.

"Today, Russia's defense spending is not just spending to maintain the army and the navy, it is a tool of supporting our national industry, the most highly technological part of it," Shevtsova said.

## Rogozin warns against stealing of public money from Vostochny project

KOROLYOV. March 10 (Interfax) - Russia's Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin has said that he will not tolerate any stealing during construction of the Vostochny spaceport and threatened to "tear the head off" to whoever tries to sabotage the project.

"I will not allow any sabotage, I will just tear their heads off. Whoever tries to steal the public money from the cosmodrome will be locked up. We will build the cosmodrome," he told reporters.

He also said that he is flying to Vostochny this Sunday to inspect progress on the spot.

"If someone thinks they can think up some schemes in order to explain their lagging behind with documents, they will not succeed. Yesterday I spoke to Yury Chaika (Russia's Prosecutor General) on this subject and I am flying out to the cosmodrome together with his first deputy," Rogozin said.

The advanced funding of the project can be increased by 30 billion rubles, he told reporters. "It is possible, only one should work harder," he said.

The funding comes in regularly, but there has to be accountability for the work, and at the moment there isn't even a report for construction from 2013, he said.

"I have just phoned to the head of Spetsstroy and demanded exhaustive measures to restore the construction schedule," Rogozin said.

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## AVIATION

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### Moscow puzzled by U.S. remarks on Cam Ranh - Russian Foreign Ministry

MOSCOW. March 13 (Interfax) - The Russian Foreign Ministry has said it is puzzled by Washington's claims that the use of Vietnam's Cam Ranh airport by the Russian Air Force may fuel regional tensions, whereas the United States is stepping up its activity in the region.

"We are perplexed by statements made by U.S. officials who said that the activities of the Russian Air Force, including Russia's use of infrastructure on the Cam Ranh peninsula [in Vietnam] to refuel [its airplanes] could lead to an 'escalation of regional tensions'," the ministry said on its website on Friday.

"It is strange to hear such ideas from representatives of a state whose armed forces are permanently stationed in a number of countries of the Asia-Pacific region and which continues to raise the level of its military activity in the region," it said.

"As for the activities of the Russian Air Force and cooperation between the Russian Federation and its foreign partners, including Vietnam, in defense, they proceed in strict compliance with international requirements and bilateral agreements, are not directed against any country and are not posing any threat to peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region," the Russian ministry said.

U.S. Department of State spokeswoman Jen Psaki told a press briefing on Wednesday that Washington had urged Vietnam to stop letting Russia refuel its military airplanes at the Cam Ranh base because of concerns it could raise tensions in the Asia-Pacific.

For its part, the Daily Mail newspaper reported, citing an unnamed official of the U.S. Department of State, that Washington had asked Vietnam to stop allowing Russia to use this former U.S. base to refuel nuclear-capable bombers.

According to the British newspaper, General Vincent Brooks, commander of the U.S. Army in the Pacific, said that the Russian planes had conducted "provocative" flights, including around the U.S. Pacific Ocean territory of Guam, home to a major American air base. Brooks also said the planes that circled Guam were refueled by Russian tankers flying from the Cam Ranh base.

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## SPACE AND ROCKET BUILDING

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### Soyuz carrying Russian-U.S. crew lands in Kazakhstan - Mission Control

KOROLYOV, Moscow region. March 12 (Interfax-AVN) - The Soyuz TMA-14M capsule carrying Russian cosmonauts Alexander Smokutyayev and Yelena Serova, as well as U.S. astronaut Barry Wilmore has successfully landed on the Kazakh steppe, an Interfax-AVN correspondent has reported from Russia's Mission Control Center outside of Moscow.

Aircraft and ground-based search and rescue teams were monitoring the last few minutes of the spacecraft's descent.

An announcement about the capsule's safe landing was met with applause from Mission Control Center staff.

Upon return from the International Space Station (ISS) to the Earth, the former crew members were examined by doctors and then traveled to Zvyozdny Gorodok.

The Soyuz TMA-14M capsule also delivered the results of scientific experiments conducted in space to the Earth.

Russian crew member Anton Shkaplerov, Italy's Samantha Cristoforetti and NASA's Terry Virts are currently working on board the ISS.

The ISS-bound Soyuz TMA-14M spacecraft, building by the Energia Rocket and Space Corporation, lifted off from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan on September 26, 2014. During their stay aboard the orbiting outpost, the crew handled the docking of several Russian Progress-M re-supply ships and Europe's ATV-5 Georges Lemaitre mission and conducted a series of spacewalks.

### International space flights impossible without Russia - URSC

MOSCOW. March 13 (Interfax-AVN) - Russia has always underscored its role as a reliable partner in cooperation on space research, United Rocket Space Corporation (URSC) board member Igor Burenkov told a press conference on Thursday.

"No international flight is possible without Russia's participation," he said.

With regard to the March 27 launch of the International Space Station (ISS) Expedition 43 that will see Russian cosmonaut Mikhail Korniyenko and U.S. astronaut Scott Kelly spend about a year in orbit, Burenkov said that "the upcoming flight is a joint flight of the Russian cosmonaut and the U.S. astronaut, which is very symbolic."

"International space cooperation must continue. One cannot do without Russia here," he said.

Russian and foreign scientists continue working under joint projects, Burenkov said.

"Our partners, both Americans and Europeans, continue to cooperate with us. Just recently parameters have been confirmed for successful passage of the necessary points in preparation of the ExoMars project," he said. This work is not last and will continue, he said.

It was reported earlier that the Soyuz TMA-16M spacecraft with a Russian-U.S. crew including Gennady Padalka, Korniyenko and Kelly, is lifting off from Baikonur on March 27. Korniyenko and Kelly will spend one year on the ISS. It has been a long while since space missions lasted over one year. The last such mission was carried out when Russia was still using the Mir orbital complex, i.e. almost 20 years ago.

### Russian-Ukrainian Dnepr LV to launch South Korean satellite on March 26 - Kosmotrans

MOSCOW. March 13 (Interfax-AVN) - A Russian-Ukrainian Dnepr launch vehicle, a derivative from the RS-20 intercontinental ballistic missile, will put the South Korean KOMPSAT-3A satellite into orbit on March 26, Kosmotrans reports.

"The RS-20 rocket coupled with KOMPSAT-3A will blast off from the Yasny launch site in the Orenburg region at 03:08:46 local time on March 26," says a report posted on the company website.

Originally, the launch was planned for March 12.

Three commercial Dnepr missions were scheduled for 2015.

The previous Dnepr launch was performed in November 2014 to deliver the Japanese ASNARO remote sensing satellite and four mini-satellites to orbit. Joint crews of the Russian Strategic Missile Forces and the Russian-Ukrainian-Kazakh company Kosmotrans carried out the launch. A Dnepr rocket launched 33 satellites of varying purposes on June 19, 2014.

Dnepr missions are accomplished within the program of the liquidation of intercontinental ballistic missiles through the delivery of space payloads.

Kosmotrans transforms RS-20 rockets designed by the Yuzhnoye Design Bureau in Dnipropetrovsk, Ukraine and built by the Yuzhmash plant into Dnepr launch vehicles. The rockets are launched from the Baikonur space center and the Yasny launch site of the Russian Strategic Missile Forces in the Orenburg region. Twenty successful launches of Dnepr rockets have been performed since 1999.

Dnepr is a three-stage liquid-fuel rocket, whose first and second stages are standard stages of the RS-20 ICBM. The Dnepr takeoff mass is 210 tonnes.

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## ORDNANCE

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### Tomsk scientists develop lighter, more flexible solar batteries

TOMSK. March 6 (Interfax) - Scientists from the New Materials Department of Tomsk State University and their colleagues from the Russian Academy of Sciences are working on a new type of flexible solar batteries using Gratzel cells, the Tomsk State University reported on Friday.

The foundation for these batteries are oxide nanomaterials and their compositions.

"Solutions used to obtain oxide compositions can be put on any flexible carrier: thin glass, tissue, and metal and polymer materials. After baking, a composite cover is formed on the surface of the carrier, which is capable of transforming solar light into electrical power," the press release says.

Lyudmila Borilo, the head of the Tomsk State University's laboratory Multi-Role Materials, the new technology can be used in various spheres, including in household activities, in agriculture, and in the defense industry.

"Flexible solar batteries can be rolled and taken on hiking trips, or be used for charging a laptop computer or a cell phone. Another option is to create tissue capable of generating heat from solar light. It's optimal for people who work in the Arctic or in difficult conditions," Borilo said.

Now the next thing to do is to develop a method to reliably fix nano particles to the structure of the material in the process of baking to prevent them from washing out during washing and operation.

The press release says that flexible solar batteries created in Tomsk State University are much lighter and cheaper than their silicon 'brothers' and they are capable of generating electrical power even in cloudy weather, for example, in Siberia, where bright sunny days are very rare.

Gratzel cells are a third-generation photoelectric technology. They are made from cheap materials and do not require complex equipment.

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## ARMS TRADE

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### Delivery of 24 Mil Mi-171Sh helicopters to Peru to be completed in 2015 - source

MOSCOW. March 11 (Interfax-AVN) - The delivery of 16 Mil Mi-171Sh helicopters to Peru in 2015 will finalize the fulfillment of a contract for the Peruvian procurement of 24 helicopters of this type, a source in the Russian defense sector told Interfax-AVN on Wednesday.

"Consistent with the contract concluded by Rosoboronexport in December 2013, eight helicopters were supplied in late 2014 and the remaining 16 will be delivered in 2015," he said.

According to unofficial information, the contract cost is \$528 million.

"The construction of a service center, which will give maintenance to Russian-made helicopters, has begun in Peru consistent with the contract's offset program. The service center will open in May 2016," he said.

The service center project will cost \$42 million, the source added.

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Russian Helicopters Holding said earlier that new systems installed in the multirole military transport helicopters Mil Mi-171Sh improved their combat effectiveness. The helicopters also have systems protecting hardware and crew, as well as radio-electronic and avionic devices for flying in any weather and any time of the day.

In all, about 100 Soviet and Russian helicopters have been delivered to Peru since the end of the 1970s. The Peruvian army has been using Russian-made Mil Mi-8/17 and Mil Mi-24/35 helicopters for a long time.

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## FOREIGN MILITARY REVIEW

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### Ukraine's Energoatom to cooperate with Westinghouse in upgrading NPPs

KYIV. March 11 (Interfax) - Ukraine's national nuclear energy-generating company Energoatom plans to cooperate with the transnational company Westinghouse in implementing projects to upgrade Ukrainian nuclear power plant power generating units and in enhancing their safety standards, Energoatom President Yuriy Nedashkovskiy said.

"Westinghouse possesses the so-called post-Fukushima know-how of enhancing nuclear power plant safety standards," he said at a press conference in Kyiv on Tuesday.

Besides that, Westinghouse participates in open tenders for services to improve hydrogen safety and to maintain the leak integrity of nuclear assemblies.

"They have won some of the tenders and continue participating in them. Chances are very good that we will broaden our interaction," Nedashkovskiy said.

"In addition to cooperation under the fuel program we are discussing cooperation projects in nuclear construction, in launching Westinghouse-Energoatom joint production and in the transnational company's cooperation with other Ukrainian companies," he said.

Nedashkovskiy announced that an agreement on broader cooperation between the two companies, signed in December 2014, envisions a step-by-step increase in nuclear fuel supplies to Ukrainian nuclear power plants "to the levels globally qualified as diversification," as well as an increase in supplies in the event of force majeure circumstances.

### Ukraine reforming defense in line with NATO standards - foreign ministry

KYIV. March 13 (Interfax) - Ukraine is working to reform its security and defense sector in line with NATO standards, says Pavlo Klimkin, the country's Foreign Minister.

The Cabinet has approved a one-year cooperation program with NATO, he said during a presentation of a report on the first 100 days of the Ukrainian government in Kyiv on Thursday.

"This is not just 50 pages of text. Each word has a practical dimension and meaning. We will be working to implement each measure," Klimkin said.

Furthermore, NATO has five trust funds for Ukraine "which are doing all they can, from helping our Armed Forces with logistics to helping our wounded heroes," the minister said.

"We have a unique program of mutual compatibility and our goal is very simple: to make sure that the security and defense reform enables this sector to have and meet NATO standards because NATO standards are the standards of the civilized world," the minister said.

The task of the Foreign Ministry is to secure maximum of global support for Ukraine, Klimkin said.

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