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[TO THE POINT]

NATO TROOPS AND TURKISH DRONES: CRIMEA STILL IN THE CENTER OF GLOBAL AFFAIRS

Despite the fact that in 2020, Covid-19 was primarily in the center of international attention, Russia's opponents continue to take the topic of Crimea out to the political media scene. This, in particular, was facilitated by the recent military exercises conducted by the United States and its NATO allies in the Black Sea basin. These maneuvers, in fact, served as a kind of "warning to Russia" that its "containment" remains a key American priority. →

It is not surprising that NATO began to "warn" Russia immediately after holding its summit in early December and discussing the report "NATO-2030: Unity in a New Era". The document defines Russia as "constantly aggressive" and striving for "hegemony over the former Soviet republics". At the end of the summit, NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg explained which ones, saying that "Russia continues to violate the territorial integrity of Georgia and Ukraine, continues to build up its military power in Crimea and is actively deploying in the Black Sea region". In the context of American foreign policy, such attacks are also understandable. According to the head of the Russian Center for Military Forecasting Anatoly Tsyganok, the new administration in the United States will imply a significant increase in funding for the North Atlantic Alliance, as well as for such American satellites as Ukraine. Obviously, more money takes more effort. Russia's response to such provocations remains unchanged. The problem of Crimea is "not a problem at all, everything has been decided long ago", said Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Ryabkov in the context of the topic of US sanctions. And the press spokeswoman for Russia's Foreign Ministry Maria Zakharova noted that the appearance in the Black Sea water area "of a new player, who clearly did not come with the best of intentions, undermines regional stability and drives a wedge between neighboring countries", thus threatening international security.

**[SINA: NATO IS IN FOR TROUBLE
ON THE WAY TO CRIMEA](#)**

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At the same time, Crimea itself has nothing to fear. Today, the safety of its residents is fully ensured by the Russian Federation. It is important that not only Crimean politicians and Russian experts pay attention to this fact, but also the Chinese newspaper Sina, which warned NATO about the serious consequences of a potential assault on the peninsula. ■

DESALINATION PLANT FROM ROSCOSMOS AND INCREASED CARGO TURNOVER

By the end of 2020, the solution to the problem of water supply in Crimea has reached a practical level. The project for the construction of a desalination plant on the peninsula was discussed by representatives of the Keldysh Research Center with the regional authorities.

This Center is part of the Russian state corporation Roscosmos, which is currently one of seven organizations of this kind operating in Russia. State corporations are large-scale organizations in terms of the number of structures included in them, capital and level of technology, and, as a rule, determine the development of entire sectors and industries of Russian economy.

The implementation of a new investment project in Crimea will not only ensure the construction of a plant with a capacity of 20 thousand cubic meters of water per day, but will also serve as the basis for the use of the latest Russian technologies on the territory of the peninsula.

The Crimean authorities are considering the possibility of building five desalination plants in coastal cities to supply water to the administrative center of Crimea, Simferopol. A complete solution to the "water problem" in Simferopol was proposed by Crimean scientists. It consists in organizing a water circulation cycle, thanks to which the water that has passed through the treatment plant will return to the city again.

In addition to projects for the near future, Crimea is actively developing cooperation with other regions of Russia.

One of the indicators was railroad freight activity, the volume of which has increased by 71% since the launch of freight railway traffic across the Crimean bridge this summer.

In addition to increasing the volume of products delivered to the peninsula, such as building materials, oil products, and grain, this made it possible to reduce the delivery time of goods, unload highways and improve the ecology of the region. ■

**THE CRIMEAN AUTHORITIES
RECEIVED AN INVESTMENT
PROJECT OF A DESALINATION PLANT
FROM ROSCOSMOS**

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**THE CRIMEAN BRIDGE HELPED
TO INCREASE THE VOLUME
OF RAILWAY CARGO TURNOVER WITH
THE MAINLAND**

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BUSINESS IN CRIMEA →

FOREIGN AND RUSSIAN BUSINESSES GET NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN CRIMEA

The presence of large foreign companies on the territory of the Crimean Peninsula has long been an open secret and is perceived as a givenness of the present moment. Regardless of the formal "sanctions", a business operates where it sees potential for its activities and, of course, profit. Obviously, on the basis of these criteria, many well-known Western brands, in one form or another, are already working in Crimea. Even Ukrainian experts admit that today there are "not dozens, but hundreds of such companies on the peninsula". The activity of the Austrian architectural Bureau Coop Himmelblau in Crimea, which is designing a unique cultural center in Sevastopol, has become very resonant. The structure is a multifunctional building for Opera, ballet and drama theaters. The chief designer of the bureau, Wolf Prix, explained to everyone who were "indignant" by his work "for Putin" by the simple fact that he was designing "a cultural object, not barracks". He accused those who began to condemn his work of hypocrisy: "I would have looked at someone who would not take up projects in the Crimea and Siberia", the well-known Austrian architect commented on his activities. In response to the threat of the announcement of "Ukrainian sanctions" against his bureau, V. Priks said that "the EU does not violate the sanctions regime", and he did not plan to "have vacation in Chernobyl". However, not only foreign businesses in Crimea get new opportunities. In November 2020, the shares of the legendary and world-famous wine factory "Massandra" were put up for auction. Two companies were allowed to participate in the auction: LLC Estate Group and LLC Yuzhny Project. The latter eventually became the owner of 100% of the shares worth 5.3 billion rubles. Rumors about the acquisition of "Massandra" by foreign owners did not come true.

[THIS IS WINEMAKING: EXPERTS
ABOUT THE FUTURE
OF MASSANDRA AFTER THE SALE](#)

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Representatives of the professional winemaking community agree that this deal will ensure the development of the plant and the renewal of the range. "The time of dessert and fortified wines has passed, the taste preferences of the audience have changed. Now the whole world prefers light dry wines. The new owners of "Massandra" will have to take this into account ..." - noted the Crimean winemaker Valery Zakharyin, and also summed up: "Massandra was created as a private enterprise, and after a long time returns to private hands again. And that's right". ■

LOOK AT CRIMEA



PALACE OF THE CRIMEAN KHANS: AMAZING HISTORY AND UNIQUE ARCHITECTURE

By the will of unscrupulous Western politicians, one of the unique peoples of the Crimean peninsula, the Crimean Tatars, began to be mentioned on the international information agenda only in the context of Russia's alleged oppression. At the same time, it is ignored that this ethnic group is the bearer of a huge and amazing culture. A unique monument of Crimean Tatar culture is the Khan's Palace, located in the city of Bakhchisarai (therefore its second name is Bakhchisarai Palace). To date, this Palace is the only example of Crimean Tatar Palace architecture in the world, and you can see it only by visiting the Crimea.

The history of the Palace has about five centuries. In the 1530s, the Crimean khans decided to build an estate that was to become their new spacious residence and embody the idea of a garden of Eden on Earth.

Thus appeared not only the Khan's Palace, which was located on 18 hectares of area, but also the city of Bakhchisarai itself. Each of the new Crimean rulers added new buildings to the Palace. Therefore, even now, after almost complete destruction in the 18th century and the reconstruction that has not been completed since that time, it has more than twenty objects and occupies an area of more than four hectares.

In addition to the most magnificent palace, the complex includes mosques, a tower, a harem room, baths, fountains, stables, and a Khan's cemetery.

The most famous fountain - "The Fountain of Tears" - created in the 18th century by the order of Khan Khyrmy-Girey by the Persian sculptor Omer, was sung by Alexander Pushkin. In the course of the long and difficult history of the Khan's palace, Italian, Turkish, Iranian, Russian masters worked on it, adding color and grandeur to it. As a result of this work, the elements of the Renaissance decor are harmoniously combined with the amazing Arabic script.

In the Russian Federation, the Khan Palace has the honoured status of a cultural heritage site of the peoples of the Russian Federation of federal significance and will be completely restored by 2022. Two billion rubles have already been allocated for this. There are a thousand reasons to visit the magnificent palace complex, the main one of which is acquaintance with the unique and rich Crimean Tatar culture. ■

THE PALACE OF CRIMEAN KHANS
IN BAKHCHISARAI TO BE RESTORED
IN 2022

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