**Tragedy in the U.S.**

The latest rise in CPI was 1.6 percent in December, the Consumer Prices Index (CPI) hit 1.8 percent by the end of the year. Inflation in Britain remains in line with expectations, according to the Office for National Statistics.

**Landsouls steps down.** Landsouls announced that he intends to resign as President of the European Parliament on April 1, 2017 after his predecessor Hervé Frenck, who's also a member of the Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament, was elected to another term.

**Warsaw: Poland's Prime Minister Donald Tusk helped present the new government.**

**Rouhani also visited Iran.** Rouhani also said there had been a 100 percent improvement in Iran's economy.

**Saudi Arabia and Turkey: Riyadh**

The Saudi Arabian government and the Turkish government have agreed to work together on a number of economic and political issues. The agreement is seen as a significant step towards the normalization of relations between the two countries.

**Russia News**

**Russia Deploys New Cruise Missiles in Violation of Treaty, U.S. Paper Claims**


According to a statement from the U.S. House of Representatives, the deployment of cruise missiles in violation of the INF Treaty is a serious violation of international law and undermines global security.

**Russia**

Russia has secretly deployed a new type of cruise missile in violation of an arms control treaty with the U.S. The New York Times reported on Wednesday that Russia has been working on a major new missile system, which is capable of carrying nuclear warheads.

The U.S. government has said that the new missile system is a violation of the INF Treaty, which was signed in 1987 and entered into force in 1988.

**UN Chief Names French Diplomat as New Peacekeeping Head**

United Nations - Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations Jean-Philippe Lacroix has been named as the new head of the United Nations Peacekeeping Operations. Lacroix has been serving as the deputy chief of mission of the UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali.

**European Parliament Approves EU-Canada Trade Agreement**

Strasbourg - The European Parliament, meeting in its plenary session, has voted in favor of the EU-Canada Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) which aims to create a free trade area with India and to improve relations between the two countries.

**President Trump Signs Bill to Repeal Transparency Law for Energy Companies**

Washington, D.C. - President Donald Trump on Tuesday signed a bill to repeal a requirement on energy companies to disclose payments to the U.S. or foreign governments for commercial development.

This is a big victory for energy companies, who have long fought against the law, the Trump administration said.

President Trump, at the signing ceremony, declared: “It’s an honor to be able to sign this bill today. These are all good bills, but this is the most important one.”

**China Moves to Boost Foreign Investment in Manufacturing**

Beijing - China’s top economic planner said Wednesday that it will take measures to attract more foreign investment in the country’s manufacturing sector.

China will specify policies that will grant foreign investors “a fair treatment with domestic enterprises,” said the head of the National Development and Reform Commission.

**Putin, Byrduvchukaim Reaffirm their Intent on Strengthening Cooperation**

Makhachkala - The presidents of the Russian Republic of Dagestan and the Chechen Republic of Grozny, Ramzan Kadyrov and Grozny Mayor Magomed Ramzanov, met on Tuesday to discuss issues of mutual interest.

The two presidents reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening mutual ties and cooperation between the two republics, the Chechen presidential administration said.

**EU-Canada Trade Agreement**

The EU-Canada Trade Agreement (CETA) was approved by the European Parliament on Wednesday for its final reading. The agreement will enter into force after ratification by all member states.

**Saudi King and Turkey President Discuss Regional Issues**

Beirut/Rome - The main Syrian opposition body, the Syrian National Coalition, welcomed “the heavy price paid by the Syrian people” would have been wasted if he had not come to power.

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