



Association  
of European  
Businesses

## Press-release

17.03.2014

### **Joint statement by the Delegation of the European Union to the Russian Federation and the Association of European Businesses**

The EU Delegation and the AEB are surprised to see today's article on the front page of The Moscow Times referring to a meeting between EU officials and European businesses.

Firstly, the article is factually wrong and misrepresents the discussion. Secondly, The Moscow Times did not try to verify or obtain comments from the Head of the EU Delegation and/or the AEB. Apparently the article is based on a few so-called anonymous sources. This is below the standards we expect from a good and respected newspaper like the Moscow Times.

The meeting discussed EU/Russia relations and trade in the light of the recent European Council Conclusions regarding Ukraine. Both the EU Delegation and the AEB want to see a de-escalation of the tensions in and around Ukraine and to have relations between EU and Russia develop and prosper. The EU is by far Russia's largest trading partner and its main investor and crucial for Russia's modernisation.

*For more information, please contact AEB Communications Manager/Press Secretary Natalia Zaboltnina at [Natalia.Zaboltnina@aebrus.ru](mailto:Natalia.Zaboltnina@aebrus.ru)*

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