

# News



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- *Wednesday saw the Russian lower house – the State Duma of the fifth convocation - hold its last plenary session before the December 4 parliamentary elections.*
- Following constitutional amendments the 450 deputies will in future be elected for terms of five years.

*Among other important events was the abolition of daylight saving time, the launch of the ambitious Skolkovo project (known as Russia's Silicon Valley), military reform, the signing and further ratification of the new START treaty, and the introduction of a sheaf of anti-corruption measures.*

- As part of major reforms of the police, the fifth Duma approved a new law “On Police” .
- Four parties are represented in the current Duma: the Communists, the Liberal-Democrats, Fair Russia and the ruling United Russia party.