

Expert: Tillerson May Return US-Russian Relations to a Pragmatic Trajectory

14.12.2016 RIA Novosti, Dmitry Zlodorev, Washington DC

(Unofficial Translation)



© RIA Novosti. Vladimir Astapkovich

Washington, 14 December – RIA Novosti, Dmitry Zlodorev. “Nominee for Secretary of State Rex Tillerson may return relations with Russia to a normal and more pragmatic basis” said on Tuesday Derek Norberg, President of the Council for US-Russian Relations and Executive Director of the Russian American Pacific Partnership (RAPP).

Earlier this day, US President Elect Donald Trump announced of his intent to appoint Tillerson to the top diplomatic post of the country.

“Our Council is hopeful that Mr. Tillerson will successfully pass the Senate confirmation process and, as Secretary of State, he can return U.S.-Russian relations to a more rational, pragmatic and diplomatic trajectory”, said Norberg.

In his words, the CEO of ExxonMobil, “Tillerson arguably knows better than any U.S. company Executive the potential of cooperation between the two countries”.

“Despite the current difficulties, there are vital common interests that demand our two nations cooperation. And the US will only benefit with a Secretary of State who can advocate for the long-term US interests globally, acting together with our allies to eliminate common threats”, said Norberg.

The Expert expressed his conviction that “Under Tillerson’s leadership, the State Department will work with all sides to deescalate the conflict in Ukraine”. In his opinion this is “necessary to roll back or lift U.S. sanctions on Russia and normalize relations”.

Original Russia article at: <http://ria.ru/world/20161214/1483544237.html>