



Written by [Staff](#) on November 21, 2016

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## Quick Quotes

### Russian Official Expresses Unwillingness to Force Assad Out of Syria

"There are just two options: Assad sitting in Damascus or Nusra sitting in Damascus. Assad must sit in Damascus to ensure a political settlement."

*Serving as the spokesman for Russian President Vladimir Putin, Dmitry Peskov indicated that Russia would prefer Assad to having Nusra, a branch of al-Qaeda, dominating Syria.*

### Philippine President Wants No Ties to United States

"Your honors, in this venue, I announce my separation from the United States ... both in military and economics."

*Speaking at an economic forum in Beijing, China, Rodrigo Duterte also had no intention of impeding China's territorial moves in the South China Sea.*

### European Union Facing Increased Problems

"The E.U. is becoming more and more ungovernable. The stakes internationally are higher and higher, but politics is becoming more and more parochial."

*Not only Brexit, but trade, migration, and the rising strength of right-wing parties in Europe are causing concern, according to Mark Leonard, a director of the European Council on Foreign Relations.*

### Seven Accused of Conspiracy in Oregon Land Dispute Acquitted

"There's a seething anger among those who use the land because of the oppressive management of the land in the West. It's the ranchers, the loggers, the miners, and the Indians. [They all face] tyrannical oppression. The goal [of federal officials] is to manage them out of business and get them off the land."

*Seven defendants, among them brothers Ammon and Ryan Bundy, were recently tried in federal court for conspiracy, and for possessing firearms with the intent to commit crimes, in connection with their occupation of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in Oregon earlier this year. Their acquittal on October 27 shocked prosecutors and others. Joel Hansen, attorney for Cliven Bundy, who was not one of the wildlife occupiers and not a defendant in this case, believes the jury saw through the attempt to classify the occupiers as terrorists and, therefore, refused to convict them.*

### Wall Street Journal Editorial Scorches Hillary Clinton

"To put this another way, Mrs. Clinton believes there is no restriction on abortion she would ever support, and there is no restriction on gun rights she would ever oppose. [Supreme Court rulings in] Carhart, Citizens United and Heller were 5-4 decisions, and Mrs. Clinton wants each of them to be litmus tests for her Supreme Court appointments."

*Under the headline "Hillary's New Constitution," the editorial writer let readers know how the*



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*Democratic Party nominee would gut the First and Second Amendments.*

## **New Jersey Tax on Gasoline Rises by 23 Cents Per Gallon**

"The only thing that enticed me about New Jersey was the gas price. Now I will fill up at home in Pennsylvania."

*As of November 1, New Jersey gas-station prices will jump substantially because of the need for money to repair roads and bridges. Wendy John, who commutes to her New Jersey job from Pennsylvania, no longer sees any reason to fuel her auto out of state.*

## **Supreme Court Nominee Hearings Expected in Lame-duck Session**

"If Hillary Clinton is president-elect, then we should move forward with hearings [after the election]."

*A member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Jeff Flake (R-Ariz.) refused to endorse his party's nominee for president and seems eager to add Merrick Garland, Obama's choice, to the high court.*

— Compiled by John F. McManus



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