

## **The Daily Vertical: Pay-To-Play Diplomacy** **Opinion**

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**The sanctions that Russia suffered after its illegal occupation and annexation of Crimea continue to be if not crippling at least a major inconvenience for the Kremlin's empire-builders. As Brian Whitmore points out in today's Daily Vertical, Vladimir Putin thinks he has found in Berlin the lever he needs to escape the sanctions he so richly deserved.**

Access today's podcast at the link below: <https://www.rferl.org/a/daily-vertical-...y-diplomacy/28817153.html>