

Summary

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UN/ UN Secretary-General's Message on the International Day of Democracy

In his message on the International Democracy Day Ban Ki-moon mentioned events in North Africa and the Middle East. He confirmed that democracy is a universal model yearned for by all peoples and alien to no culture and the United Nations does a lot to strengthen democratic institutions and practices around the world and contribute to creating a strong and active civil society.

UNESCO / UNESCO Director-General and Russian President Discuss Cultural Diversity

On 6-9 September, UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova made an official visit to the Russian Federation. It is her second visit as head of UNESCO. This year Ms Bokova was invited by President Medvedev to take part in the World Political Forum in Yaroslavl where she also held talks with the president.

UNICEF / The City of Chernomorsk: Childhood and Development

On 11-26 August, Smena resort in Anapa hosted an All-Russian session 'Development Territory'. This youth camp participates in one of UNICEF programmes and is organized by the Interregional Youth Organization, the Centre for Socio-Political Initiatives, 'My Native Land'. During two weeks over 200 senior school students from all over Russia studied the theory and practice of self-government.

UNIC / Young People and Veterans Mark the International Day of Peace

On 21 September, a traditional wreath-laying ceremony on the occasion of the International Day of Peace was held on the Poklonnaya Mountain memorial with the support of the UN Information Centre in Moscow. This year it brought together Moscow schoolchildren, UNIC and MFA representatives, as well as veterans of peacekeeping operations in the Middle East.

UNFPA / Youth and Creativity: International Volunteer Forum in the Altai Mountains

On 1-6 August, a Master Forum of Social Volunteering, organized by the Siberian Initiative NGO and supported by Y-PEER and UNFPA, was held in the Altai Mountains. This event brought together young people from Russia and CIS representing NGOs, youth associations and foundations working in the area of youth health, HIV prevention and development of youth potential. The aim of the forum was to give young people an opportunity to share information and knowledge, participate in trainings and discussions.

OHCHR / Human Rights for All at the Moscow Book Fair

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights took part in the 24th Moscow International Book Fair held from 7 to 12 September in Moscow. OHCHR presented its publications and materials of Russian and international human rights organizations on various topics related to human rights.

UNHCR / Education Partnerships: Building a Future for Refugee Children

Most refugee parents consider education a major task irrespective of their future plans. The UNHCR Office in Russia in cooperation with governmental partners and NGOs provides assistance to refugees in this area. This year, seven secondary school graduates, all of Afghan origin, with the help of UNHCR were referred to the Moscow Department of Education for budget-funded schooling in Moscow colleges and were given this unique opportunity.

UNDP / The UN Global Compact in the Russian Federation: Business and Indigenous Peoples

An international conference The UN Global Compact in the Russian Federation: Business and Indigenous Peoples held on 12 September in the Public Chamber of Russia focused on the problems of indigenous peoples in Russia and in particular on their relations with business. The main topic discussed was the long-term cooperation of indigenous peoples with industrial companies and further dissemination of best practices in this area.