

Summary

The full version of the UN in Russia bulletin in Russian can be found on the UN Internet portal in Russia www.unrussia.ru (Publications and Documents)

UN Secretary-General: Message on the occasion of World Wildlife Day (3 March 2018)

On the occasion of World Wildlife Day, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres stressed that the humanity should focus on the important role the planet's wild animals and plants play in our cultures and the sustainability of our societies. This year, the spotlight fell on the world's big cats. According to the Secretary-General, we are the cause of their decline, so we can also be their salvation. On World Wildlife Day, Secretary-General urged people around the world to help raise awareness and to take personal action to help ensure the survival of the world's big cats and all its precious and fragile biological diversity.

UNIC / Holocaust Remembrance Day

UNIC Moscow started organizing and participating in events dedicated to the Holocaust Remembrance Day well in advance of 27 January 2018. From September to December 2017, the UNIC held the first round of an international poster competition titled "Keeping The Memory Alive – Our Shared Responsibility." In addition, thanks to assistance provided by UNIC Moscow, several exhibits were unveiled: "Holocaust: Annihilation, Liberation and Rescue" at UN Headquarters in New York, "Shoah-Holocaust. How could a man do this?" at the Victory Museum in Moscow, "Diplomats – the Righteous Among the World" at MGIMO University in Moscow and the awards ceremony of the 17th International Holocaust Remembrance Competition "Memory of Holocaust: Road to Tolerance".

UNIC / 70th Anniversary of UN's work in Russia: How it all began

Given the fact that 2018 marks the 70th anniversary of UN' work in Russia, UNIC Moscow launched the process of exhibiting unique documents and telling stories showcasing the activities of UN agencies in Russia. Since 1948 UNIC Moscow has been involved in carrying out various projects with a view to highlight and promote global UN activities in this country. For this issue, UNIC Moscow together with the Russian State Library have come up with some unique archived materials dating back to the 1940's.

OHCHR / Join the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights campaign

In 2018, the fundamental human rights document, the UDHR, turns 70. With a view to highlighting its important role, the OHCHR has launched a year-long campaign that will culminate in the celebration of the Declaration's 70th anniversary. The #Standup4humanrights campaign is meant to increase the understanding of the UDHR and to engage a broad range of audiences all over the world. The OHCHR has invited everyone to join the campaign and to contribute significantly to the cause of promotion and protection of human rights.

OHCHR / Fight Racism

The global community has observed the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination since the deadly clash between the police and peaceful demonstrators in Sharpeville, South Africa, which occurred on 21 March 1960 and took the lives of 69 protesters against the apartheid regime. In 2018, the Day's theme is devoted to promoting tolerance, inclusion, unity and respect for diversity in the context of combating racial discrimination. To mark the Day, a programme titled "Football without discrimination" was launched in Moscow by the 2018 FIFA World Cup Russia Local Organizing Committee as part of the preparatory work leading up to the Games.

UNAIDS / Hundreds joined a regional UNAIDS campaign #youareNOTalone

Second part of a regional UNAIDS campaign titled #тыНЕодинок (#youareNOTalone, in English) was launched in connection with the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, 1 March. Almost 890,000 people joined an online discussion on the ways of overcoming discrimination with UNAIDS, UNESCO staff members and popular young Russian actors. It was organized on Odnoklassniki, one of the most popular social networks in Eastern Europe and Central Asia. The campaign raised awareness of stigma and discrimination faced by children, adolescents and families affected by HIV in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

ILO / Meeting at the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs

Alexandr Shokhin, President of the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs (RUIE), met with Deborah France Massin, Director of the ILO Bureau for Employers Activities (ACT/ EMP). Among those participating in the meeting were Olga Kulaeva, Director of the ILO Decent Work Technical Support Team and Country Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia, and other ILO and RUIE representatives. The parties focused on the RUIE-ILO cooperation, underlining the importance of joint work.

WHO / Center of Excellence for Europe and the World

The potential for saving lives through prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) is rather high, whereas the impact of noncommunicable diseases on the WHO European Region is extremely deep. The WHO European Regional Office and the Russian Ministry of Health came up with a joint NCD initiative in 2014. More than 230 international and local events were organized in this vein, with one of the most notable achievements of the Office being the adaptation of the Childhood Obesity Supervision Initiative (COSI) for Eastern Europe and Central Asia. The Office is a focal point for a wide range of competencies and knowledge in policy development, as well as in general and more specific health issues.

UNIC / International Women's Day marked by the UN Team in Russia

On 6 March 2018, the International Women's Day was traditionally marked at the UN Office. UNIC Moscow, on behalf of the UN Team, organized a gala evening dedicated to the International Women's Day. Opening the evening, UNIC Director Vladimir Kuznetsov said that gender equality is the basic principle of human rights, and its achievement is of great social and economic importance. Melita Vuinovich, Head of the WHO Representative Office in Russia, Inga Yumasheva, State Duma member, Mikhail Vinogradov, deputy head of the Office of the Ombudsman, also took the floor. Marina Suslova, head of the NGO sector of Moscow City Hall, expressed her gratitude to UNIC Moscow for its annual contribution towards making the IWD yet another human rights day.

Guest of the Issue / Natalia Olofinskaya: "20 years of work with UNDP have formed me as professional and individual"

Natalia Olofinskaya, former Head of UNDP Project Support Office in Russia and Regional Specialist on Adaptation to Climate Change at UNDP Regional Center in Istanbul, told the bulletin that the cooperation agreement between UNDP and the Russian Government was signed in 1993, whereas the UNDP Moscow office was opened in 1997. From the very first years until recently, one of the key areas of UNDP's work in Russia was environmental protection, energy conservation and energy efficiency. According to Natalia Olofinskaya, almost all UNDP projects in Russia were co-financed, to a greater or lesser degree, by the state or partners in the country, which had a positive impact on their cooperation.