

Summary

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

UN / Message of UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on the occasion of the International Day against Nuclear Tests

On 29 August the world, for the fifth time, observed the International Day against Nuclear Tests. In his message on this occasion, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon stressed that, in his present capacity as head of the World Organization, he had many opportunities to meet courageous people, survivors of the use of nuclear weapons in Hiroshima and Nagasaki and nuclear tests. «Their commitment and dedication should serve as an example in our struggle for the creation of a world without nuclear weapons,» says UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in his message on the occasion of the International Day against Nuclear Tests.

ILO / Russia ratifies the ILO's Convention on Labour Relations in the Public Service

On July 1, Russian President Vladimir Putin signed a law to ratify the Labour Relations (Public Service) Convention, 1978 (No. 151). The law had been adopted by the State Duma, the lower house of Russia's Parliament, on June 18 and by the Federation Council, the upper house, on June 25. The Convention provides for the protection of the right to organize and for procedures for the determination of conditions of employment in the public service. The Convention will enter into force in the Russian Federation one year after the instrument of ratification is deposited with the Director-General of the International Labour Office.

UNAIDS / Famous singer Vera Brezhneva supported the Global Zero Discrimination Campaign

The campaign to support the people affected by the AIDS epidemic brought together large numbers of people around the world, including Nobel Prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi, singer Annie Lennox, famous football players, actors, activists, and ordinary people who care. Renowned Russian singer Vera Brezhneva firmly believes that people should work together to change the situation. «We need to make sure that fear is gone, and that love, understanding and support are always there,» she said.

UNHCR / Problems of education for refugee children in Russia

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Russia deals with the cases of several thousand refugees from around the world. Most of these refugees consider it crucial for them to get education, and UNHCR Office in Russia works with its local partners to provide them with advisory support, recommendations and presents their issues to Russian education authorities. However, of late UNHCR has been concerned about the declining opportunities for refugee children to receive education in Russia.

OHCHR / Results of the Second Summer School on Human Rights

The 2nd Summer School on Human Rights in Moscow was attended by 77 students representing over 20 Russian universities; there were 37 lecturers, including 8 from foreign universities. For the first time in Russia the pro-

gramme of the Summer School included a competition «Model European Court on Human Rights.» The participants also visited the Sakharov Center, where they took part in a roundtable discussion on human rights in Russia in the context of the current stage of the state development, moderated by the director of the Center Sergei Lukashevsky.

UNESCO / School health on the agenda of the Fourth Congress on School and University Medicine

Some 400 specialists in the field of school medicine and educators from nine European and Central Asian countries took part in the 4th Congress on School and University Medicine in St. — Petersburg. The participants discussed current medical and institutional issues in the field of school medicine, the quality of medical care provided to school pupils and university students and healthy lifestyles. They got acquainted with UNESCO's approach to comprehensive educational programs based on life skills and covering the issues of sexual and reproductive health. The Congress adopted the declaration on «Hygienic Safety for Children and Adolescents in the Digital Environment.»

UNIC / First Nelson Mandela International Day without Nelson Mandela

On this day all over the world, UN staff devoted 67 minutes of their time to public works: they planted trees, rebuilt homes, renovated premises, and helped orphanages. In order to celebrate the Nelson Mandela International Day in Moscow, the staff of UN agencies in Russia attended volunteer Friday clean-up day. In parallel, an effort was organized to raise funds for the non-profit organization «Perspektiva», which works for the protection of rights of people with disabilities in Russia.

WHO /Luigi Migliorini: «The strategy of cooperation between Russia and the WHO has been signed»

Since 2007, Dr. Luigi Migliorini has been working as Special Representative of the World Health Organization (WHO) in Russia. On the eve of one of WHO's most important international days, the World Hepatitis Day, Dr. Migliorini gave an extensive interview to the newspaper Argumenty i Fauty — Zdorovie. In it, he dwells on the history and the issues of WHO — Russia cooperation and the public health challenges this country is facing, with special emphasis on hepatitis and non-infectious diseases.

UNDP / Natural recovery of the marmot population

In July and August 2014, as part of the joint project «Improving the Coverage and Management of Specially Protected Natural Reserves in the Steppe Biome of Russia» implemented jointly by UNDP, GEF and Russian Ministry of Natural Resources in Kursk region, a second phase was completed in the program aimed at restoring the population of steppe marmot (bobac). Biologist Oleg Brandler offers an eyewitness' account of how the first groups of marmots, brought to the territory once densely populated by their species but then deserted, reacted to the relocation.