



At the exhibition, during the 7th Belarusian Space Congress

Space centre going into orbit

In early October, the world celebrated the 60th anniversary of the launch of the first artificial Earth satellite. Thousands now orbit, ensuring navigation and communication, ecological monitoring and mapping, as well as serving dozens of other applications. Belarusian satellites are among them, with space technologies driving forward scientific and technological progress.

Time for useful meetings

President of Belarus, Alexander Lukashenko, pays working visit to United Arab Emirates

According to the Press Service of the President of Belarus, during the visit negotiations with UAE leadership are scheduled to discuss the current state of Belarusian-Emirate interaction, progress in implementation of previous agreements and mutually beneficial promising projects. The visit's programme also envisages a range of meetings with representatives of the government and business circles of the country.

In January-August 2017, Belarus' exports to the UAE totalled \$44.8m. In H1 this year, the direct foreign investments exceeded \$11m. "As part of the visit a loan agreement between the Development Bank of the Republic of Belarus (DBRB) and the Khalifa Fund for Enterprise Development (KFED) was signed. In line with the document, the fund will give about \$25m to the bank that will be spent on encouraging private initiatives, innovations, regional projects, and new jobs in the Republic of Belarus," notes the Press Service.

Moreover, because of friendly mutual relations UAE leaders invited Mr. Lukashenko to spend several days in the country as a guest.

Worthy proposal made to European business circles

Belarus resolute in intention to keep economy open and attract foreign investments, notes Prime Minister Andrei Kobyakov at opening of Belarusian-European Investment Forum, *Belarus. Invest in Tomorrow*, in Luxembourg

By Vasily Kharitonov

"We're convinced that the freedom of private enterprises, a low tax burden, budget discipline and macroeconomic discipline are the necessary conditions for long-term growth. These aren't sufficient alone. We'll do more to bolster the competitiveness of the national economy and its appeal for foreign investors," stressed the Prime Minister. He said that the Belarusian Government has a strategy producing results. The structure of exports is transforming in favour of new high-tech products and the Belarusian economy is becoming more innovative, with the IT sector gaining a share in GDP on a par with that of the most developed economies.

The key purpose of the Belarusian-European Investment Forum is to create an effective and result-oriented

multi-level platform for establishing stable interaction between Belarusian credit and finance institutions and Belarusian commercial entities and European partners. It helps promote the Belarusian economy's strongest features (such as IT and logistics) to Western business circles.

"Belarus is distinguished by the ease of doing business. We've vaulted from 115th place in the *Doing Business* list of 180 countries to 37th position. All these years, Belarus has been among the most active reformers. There's no sphere in which we've not progressed. Our strategy is ambitious: to be placed in the top 30 countries with a favourable investment climate," noted Mr. Kobyakov.

"We've excellent infrastructure, and a powerful and reliable energy system. In terms of infrastructure quality, we're 65th out of 155



During the work of the forum

countries, according to World Bank figures."

The PM stressed that Belarus is at the geographical centre of Europe, acting as a gateway to the huge economic union with Kazakhstan, Russia, Armenia and Kyrgyzstan. Moreover, Belarus is growing into the largest logistics hub in Central and Eastern Europe, which is a serious competitive advantage in the global world.

Mr. Kobyakov met the Prime Minister of Luxembourg, Xavier Bettel, discussing a broad range of bilateral co-operation issues, with the aim of advancing relations between Belarus and Luxembourg. Mr. Bettel noted that

diplomatic relations between Belarus and Luxembourg are celebrating their 25th anniversary while the investment forum marks a new stage of collaboration, allowing Belarus to demonstrate its innovations to investors from Luxembourg, inviting them to work in Belarus.

Mr. Kobyakov emphasised that the choice of Luxembourg to host the forum was wise, since it is one of the world's largest financial centres. He lamented that the current level of trade between Belarus and Luxembourg is far from what could be achieved and has invited Mr. Bettel to come to Belarus, heading a delegation of government and

business representatives.

Mr. Bettel noted that the agreement on avoidance of double taxation is almost ready for adoption, being currently studied by the Finance Ministry. He calls the document 'a serious step, enabling investors from Luxembourg to consider paths of entry to Belarus'.

"This should be the first, serious step. We're ready for other agreements and for co-operation across a wide range of issues," underlined Mr. Kobyakov.

The Head of the Belarusian Government visited the European Satellite Association and Cargocentre logistics centre.

Experts in avant-garde of important dialogue

By Vladimir Khromov

Prospects for developing European integration discussed at international sci-tech conference, Eurasian Economic Union: Experience and Prospects of Regional Integration, held recently in Minsk

Taking part in the event were scholars, researchers, and representatives of state and public organisations of Belarus, Austria, Armenia, Germany, Kazakhstan, and Russia. The Eurasian Economic Union, as a relatively new integration association, is attracting the attention of politicians, experts, and the general public, both from EAEU member states and beyond.

According to observers, the great economic and political potential of the EAEU is an important factor in the transformation of the international system.

Scholars and experts praised the political weight and importance of the EAEU in the post-Soviet space and discussed the legal framework of the operation of the Union. In particular, the Chairman of the Board of the Centre for Foreign Policy and Security Studies, Andrey Rusakovich, stressed the importance of expert assessment of the results of EAEU work and voiced great hopes for member states. He hopes to find further shared interests within the EAEU and within such major international



associations as the European Union, to inspire onward relationships and dialogue.

The Deputy Director of the Berlin Centre for East European Studies, Dmitry Stratievsky, pointed in his report to diverse and contradictory perceptions voiced

by the German media, regarding the EAEU and integration processes, swayed by its political orientation and readership. Positive and sharply negative assessments have been forthcoming on prospects for the integration association and its relations

with the European Union.

Peter Havlik, from the Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies, presented a report on prospects for building EU-EAEU relations, and took note of a number of imbalances impeding interaction. He sees various barriers to co-operation between the two associations. Meanwhile, Eurasian specialists seek solutions, exploring the potential for co-operation, to support the development of both unions.

Alexander Tikhomirov, an Associate Professor of the Department of International Relations, at the Belarusian State University, noted Belarus' participation in integration initiatives, saying that the country is

interested in implementing its own national interests within the framework of the EAEU.

The participants of the conference stressed the importance of expert assessment of EAEU work and emphasised the need to develop dialogue between expert communities, developing mechanisms for interaction between the EAEU and other international associations. Experts and analysts shared their views on the most relevant developments in the Eurasian integration. These issues are arousing serious interest, in Belarus and abroad, from the expert and scientific community. Each offers their own recipe for overcoming problems and developing the Union.

Space centre going into orbit

In early October, the world celebrated the 60th anniversary of the launch of the first artificial Earth satellite. Thousands now orbit, ensuring navigation and communication, ecological monitoring and mapping, as well as serving dozens of other applications. Belarusian satellites are among them, with space technologies driving forward scientific and technological progress. Since Soviet times, various scientific institutes and production structures in Belarus have been working on space projects, and certain congresses meet regularly to discuss related problems and achievements.

By Konstantin Bakun

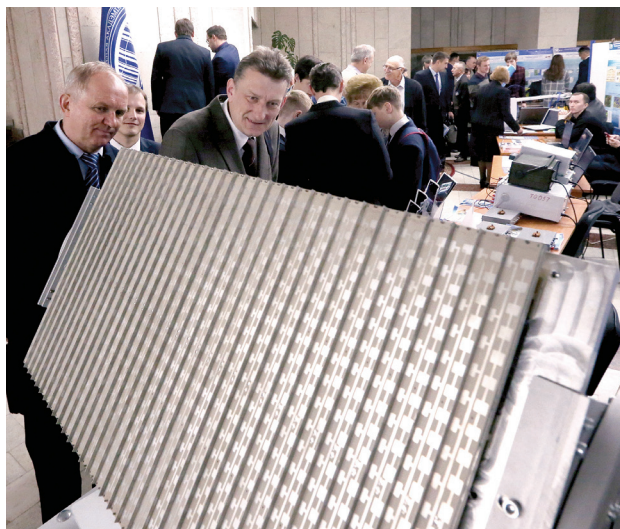
Not long ago, Minsk hosted the 7th Belarusian Space Congress, gathering over 400 scientists from all over the world. For three days, they discussed prospects for space exploration, the development of spacecraft and use of achievements to serve economic interests. During the plenary session, participants

commented that our country occupies a firm position in the space industry. The Belarusian training school aims to render much assistance in coming years.

Academician Piotr Vityaz, the Head of the Office of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus, asserts that our domestic scientists already boast global level achievements. "Scientists and developers need to



Orbital snapshot reveals much to specialists



At the exhibition, during the congress

know what our colleagues are doing. Therefore, any congress is an exchange of information. Belarus is a

space state and, definitely, we aim to realise many practical tasks in the space industry. Of course, much

has already been done but we're facing new challenges, responding to them jointly," he said. Five joint Russian-Belarusian programmes have already been successfully completed, notes the Director of the Department for Strategic Planning and Organisation of Space Activities, at Roskosmos Federal Space Agency, Yuri Makarov. Two more are now being realised: *Monitoring-SG* and *Technology-SG*. "These unite over sixty enterprises in Russia and Belarus, with almost half coming from Belarus. Operating across diverse spheres in the space industry, the

cost of satellite launch has been reduced, applying new technical principles and reducing the weight of spacecraft," he explains.

An exhibition was held as part of the forum, featuring Belarusian space-related developments. Among them were facilities for remote Earth sensing systems, presented by the National Academy of Sciences, Peleng JSC and Integral JSC. Interestingly, the recent meeting was a 'rehearsal' for an even more ambitious event: next year, Minsk will host the International Space Congress, attracting cosmonauts from all around the world.

Country's policy based on diverse relations

'Belarus tries to pursue a truly independent policy' notes Foreign Minister Vladimir Makei in an interview with *The Financial Times*

By Alexey Fedosov

"We don't want to depend on anyone, be it Washington, Brussels, or Moscow. We just want to pursue our own independent policy. We'd like to diversify our trade-economic relations and the EU plays a very important role in our plans," notes the Minister.

Speaking about contacts with the EU, Mr. Makei emphasises the need to develop a modern legal framework for co-operation. At present, collaboration between Belarus and the EU is based on the 1989 agreement between the former Soviet Union and European Communities. "We need a concrete



Vladimir Makei

basic agreement between Belarus and the EU," asserts the Foreign Minister of Belarus.

He adds that the expansion of trade-economic co-operation with the EU should help Belarus strengthen its political independence.

As far as dialogue with the EU is concerned, the Minister emphasises that Minsk is ready to discuss 'sensitive' issues with European partners. He points, however, to the importance of a consistent and developmental approach



to change. "You cannot 'go to bed' in the totalitarian Soviet Union and 'wake up' in a totally democratic state. It's impossible," Mr. Makei asserts

In his interview with *The Financial Times*, the Minister also spoke about Belarus' interaction with China, and how this corresponds to the country's goal of diversifying relations with foreign partners. It also strengthens Belarus' political and economic independence. China has never put forward conditions in this liaison.

Mr. Makei stresses that Russia remains Minsk's strategic partner. Speaking about concerns recently voiced about the Belarus-Russia joint military exercise Zapad-2017, the Minister told *The Financial Times* that those concerns were 'artificially created noise'. "We don't pose a threat to our neighbours or to any other country," he added.

Ecuador recognises leading role played by Belarus in international struggle against trafficking in persons

By Vladimir Velikhov

Within the United Nations Organisation, Ecuador recognises and supports Belarus' leading role in the international fight against trafficking in persons. Since July 2008, this has been a cornerstone of Belarus' multilateral external policy. Back then, the resolution put forward by the Belarusian delegation was approved.

"The document has since been developed in co-operation with Ecuador and other friendly nations," underlines the Ambassador

Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ecuador to Belarus, H.E. Mr. Carlos Larrea Davila. "Belarus' international presence has been especially seen within the organisation Group of Friends United Against Human Trafficking, comprising twenty UN member states.

The United Nations confirms the importance of an effective fight against this crime and the protection of victims' human rights. Ecuador took an active part in international seminars held in Minsk, in 2013 and 2015," notes the head of the Ecuadorian diplomatic mission.

Recipe of availability

In autumn when we traditionally see an incidence rate, prices in our pharmacies will be significantly reduced for all necessary drugs, announced Health Minister Valery Malashko. It refers to a network of state pharmacies, as well as those privately owned. Such decision was made at the recent session in the Health Ministry.

By Sergey Muravsky

In particular, RUE Belmedpreparaty jointly with representations of the Astellas Pharma Europe B.V. (Netherlands) were recommended to consider an issue regarding the reduction of selling prices for takrolimus — a vitally important medication for patients who have had transplant surgeries.

“After seven negotiations the supplier announced the reduction of contract prices depending on the dose by 37-55.5 percent. The total sum of reduction amounted to \$1.9m,” notes Lyudmila Reutskaya, the Head of the Department for Pharmaceutical Inspection and Organisation of Drug Provision.

Talks with other pharmaceutical companies were also a success. In particular, representation of OOO Takeda Osteuropa Holding GmbH (Austria) announced about the reduction of contract prices for separate medications to the level seen in Russia. The Belarusian-Dutch JV Farmland Ltd. is ready to drop selling prices for metformin pills while Novartis Pharma Services AG from Switzerland — for everolimus pills.

Previously some domestic manufacturers announced the reduction of selling prices for amoxicil-



Manufacture of medicines at Belmedpreparaty enterprise

Valery Malashko, Health Minister:

Belarusian market of medicines is rather spacious, currently reaching almost \$600m. Our enterprises produce medications worthy \$300m while the rest is spent on imported materials. We have very seriously worked with exporters of medicines; there're around 15 such large players on our market. We have a reduction of purchasing prices from 10 to 60 percent for the major range of items.

lin-FT and lipromak medications. For example, Borisov Plant of Medicines will

reduce the cost for eifullin pills, Academpharm RPUE — for cinarisin-NAN and

Farmtechnology for corvalol-farma.

Moreover, during the re-

cent President's visit to India contracts have been signed for the transfer of medical technologies and the supply of substances for domestic pharmaceutical enterprises. The launch of the Indian producer to our market promises to reduce the price of original medications (currently supplied by European pharmaceutical companies) several folds.



Sun's treasury

By Valentina Kozlovich

Amber to be extracted in the Brest Region

It's believed that the Baltic Sea has amber shores. However, geologists have long spoken about the single Baltic-Dnieper amber-producing province. ‘The stone of the sun’ can also be found in Belarus. At present, Belgepoisk Ltd., established at the Property Management Directorate of the President and operating as a public private partnership, is conducting works on trial extraction of amber in promising sections of the Brest Region. Amber layers in Belarus are located on the border with Ukraine, at a depth of 40m-60m.

However, amber lies much closer to the surface in the Zhabinka District, just 5m deep, in the peatlands. Estimated reserves exceed 350 tonnes. Belgepoisk is now investigating samples at the Gatcha-Osovskoe deposit.

According to investigations, conducted by Professor Maxim Bogdasarov, of Brest State University (named after A. Pushkin) around two decades ago, this amber due to its characteristics can be used for jewellery and the chemical industry. Scientists will soon issue their verdict regarding extraction prospects for the deposit.

Invitation to work which cannot be refused

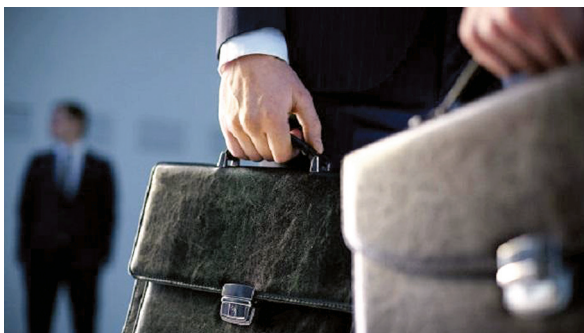
By Yevgeny Kononov

Package of documents aimed at liberalisation of business environment is becoming increasingly relevant

The rules for skilled craftsmen have been simplified and the list of activities allowed without registration as an individual entrepreneur has been expanded. In addition, farmstead owners are now able to provide additional services — i.e. hosting weddings and banquets. Fewer inspections are planned; moreover, they'll focus primarily on prevention. These all promote business initiative, while solving the employment problem and busi-

ness legalisation. The same purpose is pursued by the Presidential Decree ‘On the Development of Trade, Public Catering and Consumer Services’.

It is important to bear in mind the trend of recent years: in rural areas, the number of retail outlets, catering facilities and utility services have been falling. Due to low demand, the existing taxation system and administrative procedures, it's unprofitable for businesses to operate in small towns. The new decree provides unprecedented preference for those



who've decided to open a store, a pavilion, kiosk, a trading place in a market, café, barber's shop, a clothing and shoe repair business and many other public service facilities.

The Head of the Department for the Organisation of Trade and Ser-

vices at the Ministry of Antimonopoly Regulation and Trade — Violetta Brezovskaya — comments on the document, “Those working in rural areas and small towns will be released from real estate tax, land tax and ground rent. Other benefits will include the abolition of VAT payments, reduced rates of income tax for individuals and decreased income tax (these will be set at only 6 percent). The rate of the single tax for individual entrepreneurs will be set at one base value (which is now Br23).”

In addition, business entities

— including individual entrepreneurs — will have the right to buy free and inefficiently used premises without auction, at the market price.

The Co-chairman of the Republican Confederation of Entrepreneurs — Victor Margelov — has no doubts regarding the usefulness of this new decree. “It's great that many people can legitimately and easily start their own businesses in villages and small towns now,” he says. “The main idea was to give citizens an opportunity to work with virtually no tax. This is a direct path to the creation of new jobs in the regions and the provision of self-employment.”



In 2018-2019 Minsk may acquire sixty more electric buses

New mode of transport is becoming an obvious priority

Minskians are enjoying stylish electric buses, operating quietly across the city, offering a comfortable and pleasant ride, but can these compete with classic trolley buses and buses, since they must rely on charging stations?

By Vladislav Kuletsky

At Transport Week, recently held in Minsk, specialists talked much about the future of public transport, with lively discussion focusing on electric buses. Boasting undeniable advantages, the latest innovation also has clear drawbacks. With enhanced comfort and convenience, for all categories of citizens, including those with disabilities, each can carry 153 pas-

sengers, and can operate at temperatures of -40C to +40C.

Oleg Bytsko, chief designer at Belkommunmash, tells us that the vehicle uses 3.8 percent less energy per kilometre than trolley buses (using the same routes) though is comparable with buses. However, it's definitely more environmentally friendly.

The major problem is that it's very difficult for the new buses to 'catch up' once they begin to run

behind schedule, since they need recharging every 25km (taking 5-6 minutes each time).

Their energy consumption also varies with the weight carried. Mr. Bytsko notes that his company aims to reduce the weight of its electric buses. However, he's aware of the need to keep costs down. "We wouldn't use lighter but more expensive materials, such as glass-reinforced plastic, as customers primarily judge by price."

It is possible to reduce the weight of transport without raising the final price, if the state offers preferences, believes Belkommunmash's chief designer. He mentions that Belarus is keen to promote the use of electric vehicles and create related infrastructure. However, he tells us, "Passenger electric cars are viewed by the state as more of a priority but we need tax privileges for the development of our public transport."

Discussions are ongoing regarding the necessity of a new attitude towards ecologically-friendly urban transport, with economic feasibility to the fore. Is the speed and mobility of diesel and gas buses more important than the environmental friendliness of electric buses, which are dependent on charging stations? According to preliminary forecasts, the launch of a single electric route raises the cost of several bus routes.

Corridor to unite Northern Europe and South-East Asia

By Alexey Fedosov

Belarus, Azerbaijan, Iran and Russia to cooperate in developing a North-South transport corridor, as discussed at 67th session of the Council for Rail Transport of the CIS and Baltic States in Riga, gathering heads of railways of four states

The meeting between the Chairman of Azerbaijan Railways, Javid Gurbanov, the Head of Belarusian Rail-

ways, Vladimir Morozov, the Managing Director of Iran's Railways (IRIR), Saeed Mohammadzadeh, and the President of Russian Railways JSC, Oleg Belozorov, discussed development prospects for the North-South transport corridor and the construction of Rasht-Astara railway section.

It's been agreed to create a working group to develop the North-South corridor, with a corresponding protocol signed. To support growth for this corridor, lo-



gistics companies need to be supported in creating permanent transport services and acceptable tariffs, with cargo customs clearance procedures simplified.

The meeting also noted the importance of creating mutual ties between participants of the logistics chain: railways, ports, carriers and customs services. Faster and cheaper cargo transportation between the countries of Europe, South Asia, the Persian

Gulf, Belarus and Russia rely on direct rail transportation so the missing part of the corridor — the Rasht-Astara section — is vital.

The North-South transport corridor is designed to connect North Europe with South-East Asia, uniting the railways of Azerbaijan, Iran and Russia. During the first stage, five million tonnes of cargo should be carried annually, rising to over ten million tonnes with time.

Machinery is heading for Africa

By Alexander Pimenov

Nigeria keen to purchase cotton harvesters, produced by Gomselmash Holding

Preliminary negotiations on the supply of seven harvesters took place in France during the Belarusian-French-African Business Forum, which was dedicated to the presentation of the Belarusian mechanical engineering industry. Nigeria is a world top ten cotton manufacturer with a promising market.

"We're also interested in other Western African countries' markets, where cotton is grown. For instance, this spring, we sold two cotton harvesters to Cameroon and trialled them. A demonstration seminar took place over

there, attended by specialists from neighbouring countries," notes Yury Rafeyev, Head of Gomselmash's Non-CIS Sales Department. Gomselmash has recently stepped up its operation on the African continent. Contracts have been signed to deliver vehicles for trial to Egypt, Sudan, and Cameroon, and negotiations are being held with representatives of Tanzania and other countries. Gomselmash Holding is one of the largest manufacturers of agricultural machinery and a global leader in harvesters and other complex agricultural machinery. The 'Palesse' brand is used to market grain harvesters and forage harvesters, potato harvesters, mowers, and other agricultural machinery.

Building the nation and world together



Sanaka Samarasinha,
UN Resident Co-ordinator
in Belarus

Belarus has always been a leading proponent of the UN ever since it helped form the world body as one of its 51 founding members. While continuing to lead global efforts on important issues such as disaster response, the fight against human trafficking and a vocal advocate of middle-income countries within the UN, it is rightly becoming known as a regional champion of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Together we have focused on a whole range of issues for 25 years in Belarus: from addressing environmental challenges and the fall-out from Chernobyl to fighting HIV and TB; from dealing with migration and refugees to combating human trafficking and domestic violence; from supporting economic growth and working with entrepreneurs to empowering marginalised groups such as women, children, and the elderly. This partnership for development has yielded significant results. Belarus has practically achieved almost all the Millennium Development Goals, especially reducing poverty from almost 42 percent in 2000 to 5.7 percent by 2016. Belarus is currently ranked 52nd out of 186 countries by UNDP's Human Development Index.

But our work is not complete. As in other middle-income countries around the world, Belarus too faces challenges in ensuring that the most vulnerable have access to services and opportunities just as much as everyone else. We have to do more to ensure the rights

Twenty-five years ago, Belarus became the first post-Soviet state to establish UN Representation on its territory



Mr. Sanaka Samarasinha about the environmental and tourist potential of Belarus

of the 561,961 people living with disabilities in the country are protected, respected and fulfilled. We can do more to prevent suicides especially among children. We can do more to prevent new cases of HIV infection among teens, which has increased in the past year. We can do more to reduce the number of death causes by non-communicable diseases such as cancer and cardio-vascular diseases, which currently account for 89 percent of all deaths in the country. We can do more to increase the life expectancy of men — currently 66.5 (11.5 years less than women). We can do more to ensure protection of the thousands of refugees, asylum seek-

ers and displaced persons who have fled conflict from Ukraine, Syria, Afghanistan and elsewhere. We can do more to support the 21 districts in Belarus that are still considered the worst-affected by the Chernobyl disaster. We can do more to support small businesses. We can do more to protect bio-diversity, promote responsible consumption and waste management. We can do more to ensure energy efficient housing and transport and switch to clean energy.

The Belarus National SDG Council is now leading an initiative to align the SDGs and national priorities and strategies. As we support these efforts, we need to seize the op-

portunities that new technologies offer and innovate development solutions that anticipate future scenarios. We need to think more creatively about how to promote meaningful public-private partnerships that increase financing for development impact, boost the economy, improve infrastructure and enhance essential services; we need to deal with the risks and exploit the opportunities of disappearing borders and demographical changes due to migration and ageing; we need to ensure young people's education match the emerging job market here and elsewhere; we need to make sure health and other social services are getting to everyone in need effectively and efficiently;

we need to do even more to protect bio-diversity, mitigate the impact of climate change, reduce the risks of disaster, improve energy efficiency and create a green economy so that future generations may have what we have enjoyed.

To do all this effectively it means understanding that different people require different development solutions. Treating people the same way through our assistance when they are unequally positioned inherently reinforces inequality. We need to make more effort to collect and analyse disaggregated data so that we understand these differences. This is what the world meant when we committed together to “leave no

one behind” in achieving the 17 SDGs.

Moreover, instead of limiting ourselves to fulfilling human need we must look at realising human potential. This means spending more effort to understand what capacities different people have and what capacities we can help them to build. We need to understand where they can get to someday, no matter who or where they might be right now.

Looking to the future, the importance of our global work through the UN is more important and more urgent than ever. As conflicts, terrorism, nuclear weapons, inequality, natural disasters and climate change threaten our very existence. As we ramp up our efforts around the world, let us also recommit to continue our collective work making a tangible difference in Belarus.

Let us redouble our efforts through the UN to use international and national expertise and the convening and facilitating role of the organisation to ensure that nobody is really left behind and that everyone not only participates in achieving the SDGs, but also that these goals are achieved for everyone — especially the most vulnerable.

Everyone's voice is important. Everyone's dream must be celebrated. Everyone's fears must be addressed. Everyone's vulnerability must be recognised. Everyone's potential contribution must be accounted.

Through a mutually respectful dialogue that seeks to understand each other we will no doubt create a better world for our children than we found ourselves. The world we want through the United Nations we have.

Getting out of jail with diploma

For the first time in the country a convict was given a higher education diploma while serving sentence

By Olga Valchenko

Kristina Smychkova got into Gomel's correctional facility #4 before finishing her studies in the institute and was pleased to use an opportunity to become a participant of the mini-project on distance and module education. It's aimed to

help convicts receive profession and, accordingly, a chance for employment and to rebuild their life. Before this moment, only basic, secondary and professional-technical education could be received in correctional facilities.

They were taking a state exam in the presence of the commission

inside the correctional facility. The diploma in 'Accounting, Auditing and Analysis' speciality to the first graduate of the project, Kristina Smychkova, was awarded in a solemn ceremony.

Twenty-three students are receiving higher education remotely in Gomel's correctional facility

#4. According to co-ordinator of the *Education Opens Doors* project, Marina Malinina, such practice got widespread use, “The Department for the Execution of Punishment has decided to create such centres of distance education in eight more correctional facilities of the country.”



Kristina is Belarus' first convict to have receive higher education in prison

Flipping through history album

State Museum of Military History in Minsk presents *The Firing Range*, by Vladimir Lihodedov, Vladimir Peftiev and Gordey Shcheglov. Featuring old postcards and photographs, it explores the life of Skobelevsky military camp — a unique army facility of the late 19th-early 20th century, located between Baranovichi and Slonim, near Lesnaya station of the Moscow-Brest Railway.



Vladimir Lihodedov presents his *Firing Range* book to Deputy Defence Minister Sergey Potapenko



Skobelevsky Camp. Artillery targets. Early 20th century

Evident criteria of choice

By Olga Korneeva

Foreign tourists attracted to Belarus by its nature, culture and beautiful cities, notes the founder of the Club of Hoteliers and Restaurant Keepers of Belarus, Margarita Denisova

According to Ms. Denisova, the latest data has revealed three priorities in visiting Belarus: nature, culture and beautiful cities. “This is true of all the regions of our country, and this attracts not only Russians, but also other travelers,” she comments.

According to the ranking, published by the British *Times* newspaper, Minsk is ranked among the top 30 great bargain city breaks, placing the country fifth. “Foreigners traditionally appreciate cleanliness, safety, and relatively low prices in choosing Belarus to spend their holidays,” explains Ms. Denisova.

Cycling routes to pass through historical places

By Olga Korneeva

Cycling routes created in Novogrudok District include sites relating to King Mindaugas and Adam Mickiewicz

One of the routes, around 2km long, is to be called ‘King Mindaugas’ while another of the same length is to be known as ‘The Heart of Gražyna’, leading tourists to locations connected with Adam Mickiewicz. Both start in Novogrudok, from the tourist-information centre.

The ‘Chronicle Lithuania’ route is around 30km long, featuring such pearls as Lyubcha Castle and Lavrishevo Monastery. It also takes in old partisan areas, featuring a camp, museum and video screenings.

Cycle routes are being created as part of the local initiative *Developing Tourism in the Novogrudok District Together!* The project is a joint effort with the UNDP, under its *Supporting Local Development in the Republic of Belarus* project, financed by the European Union. The initiative is being realised by the Novogrudok charity foundation *We and Our City!*

Photographic contests and art competitions for children are being organised, with the best works published as postcards and calendars. Information stands are being installed, alongside small models, to encourage visitors to learn more, and the Novogrudok District’s tourist website is soon to launch, while advertising booklets are to be released in several languages.



Skobelevsky Camp. Equine patrol. Early 20th century



One of the book’s authors, Gordey Shcheglov (centre)

By Vladimir Matyushkin and Galina Ulitenok

Strictly speaking, it’s still situated there, though named Obuz-Lesnovsky. It will soon celebrate its 25th jubilee as a site of the modern Armed Forces of Belarus. The Deputy Minister for Defence, Sergey Potapenko, noted during the presentation ceremony, “Staff will be pleased to learn that a remarkable historical book has been released to mark the upcoming date. The camp still trains military troops, who exercise there. Soldiers and commanders come to improve their combat skills, ensuring the security of our state. With this in mind, we express our gratitude to the authors of the book, which is probably the first such comprehensive, vivid and fascinating study of the history of this unique military facility.” The history of Skobelevsky camp is a living history of the development of military affairs and, specifically, of Minsk garrison. Organised back in the late 19th century, the camp never closed.

Museum Director Sergey Azaronok praises the album’s ‘rich, unique material’. “Judging by photos featuring training and material bases, we can say unequivocally that much



Skobelevsky Camp. Preparation for shooting. Early 20th century



Skobelevsky Camp. Awards presentation. Early 20th century

attention was paid to combat training by the Russian Imperial Army, in which many of our compatriots served. The book perfectly describes the officers’ mess and barracks for officers and soldiers. Our museum long ago joined the project run by historian and collector Vladimir Lihodedov and *SB. Belarus Segodnya* newspaper. We’ve prepared many

wonderful educational exhibitions devoted to diverse landmark events and personalities in the history of our country. *The Firing Range* will not be left without attention.”

The Director of the Presidential Library, Sergey Kvachan, has a special approach, saying, “It’s justly said that books live only when read. I was delighted to hold this one in

my hands, having visited the site of the training ground, where my father served as an officer. Maybe that’s why I especially appreciate the photos of military families.”

Vladimir Lihodedov represented the team of authors at the ceremony, joining others in appreciating the results of their great accomplishment. “*The Firing Range* was released by Zvyazda Publishing House, becoming the twentieth volume in the *In Search of Lost Values* series — launched 13 years ago, thanks to *SB* newspaper,” he explains. “Little was known of Skobelevsky camp, with few people involved in the study of its history. However, we’ve succeed in collecting information and publishing this book. Church History Professor Gordey Shcheglov, of the Minsk Theological Academy, and collector Vladimir Peftiev helped me greatly in co-authoring the album. We hope to enthuse others to join the *In Search of Lost Values* project, to develop it further, and we’re extremely grateful to the Information Ministry for its help and support.”

All books published as part of the *In Search of Lost Values* series are presented in the format of an old photo album.

Several die as strong winds batter Europe

At least five people died and several were injured last Sunday as high winds knocked down trees, left homes without electricity and caused widespread travel chaos across much of Central Europe

Two people died in Poland as a result of the strong winds, including a man who drove his car into a tree that had been knocked down by the storm, Fire Department Spokesman Pawel Fraczak said. The second man was killed when a tree fell on his car in south-western Poland, while his passenger was hospitalised.

Two people were killed in the Czech Republic when they were hit by falling trees, local television reported.

A 63-year-old camper drowned in the Jadebusen River in Lower Saxony in Germany, when he was swept away in a flash flood. In Berlin, one man was severely injured by roof tiles falling from a building, another one was injured when hit by scaffolding torn off a home, and four more were injured in storm-related incidents across the country.

Storm Herwart, whose wind gusts reached 180kph, caused blackouts in hundreds of thousands of homes in the Czech Republic, Austria and other countries.

Train connections in



An empty car in Berlin was crushed after the storm felled this tree

several northern German states were shut down, including links to and from Berlin, because of the danger from branches on the tracks. German rail company Deutsche Bahn opened stationary trains

to travellers left stranded by cancellations.

A Lufthansa flight from Houston to Frankfurt made an emergency landing in the southwestern German city of Stuttgart early Sunday

because of strong winds.

In the northern city of Hamburg, the Elbe River flooded a parking garage, the city's famous fish market and several streets. Firefighters had to rescue seven

cows from the Elbe in the Neugamme neighbourhood of Hamburg.

Zoos in Prague, Berlin and in the eastern German city of Rostock remained closed because of the danger of falling trees.

EU to beef up border security

EU is to implement fingerprint checks on non-EU visitors

Lawmakers in the European Union Parliament have voted in favour of establishing a database of fingerprints and other biometric data for visitors from outside the bloc.

The information will be taken at EU border control points and the aim is to improve security but some critics see it as an attack on human rights. It is expected that the new Entry-Exit system (EES) will be up and running by 2020.

"Its overall objectives are to improve the management of external borders, to prevent irregular migration and to facilitate the management of migration flows," notes Dimitris Avramopoulos, EU Migration Commissioner.

The biometric data along with personal information on travel documents will be stored for up to four years and be accessible to law enforcement, border control and visa authorities.

The system is supposed to help prevent and detect terrorist offenses and other serious crime as the information will be available to EUROPOL.

'Smart' cars are vulnerable to hackers

Lead designer at Mercedes Gordon Wagener talks of the 'insane opportunities' for his profession in the cars of the future, but will all the new technology be a thieves' bonanza?

Mercedes-Benz showed off the Vision Maybach 6 luxury concept car in the Budapest Museum of Applied Arts as part of its Design Day event.

The electric car represents the future of luxury, speeds to 100 km/h in 4 seconds. With a new generation battery, it can travel 500 kilometres with one loading, and loads 100 kilometres worth of energy in 5 minutes.

Mercedes lead designer, Gordon Wagener said, "Of course, once a car drives autonomously the meaning of the car even changes, it becomes a third place, it is not at home it is not at work, it is your rolling apartment in the street. You can spend time wisely on the streets with friends or digitally connected, so there's insane opportunities there for us designers," he said.

Materials prepared with aid of information agencies

Public invited to show off the power of their minds

An experiment in Lausanne, Switzerland, is inviting the public to hook themselves up to a brain interface and try and move machinery with the power of thought alone

Do you want to get involved in cutting edge science? The *Mental Work* project in Lausanne, Switzerland, starting on October 26th, invites the public to the EPEL Art-

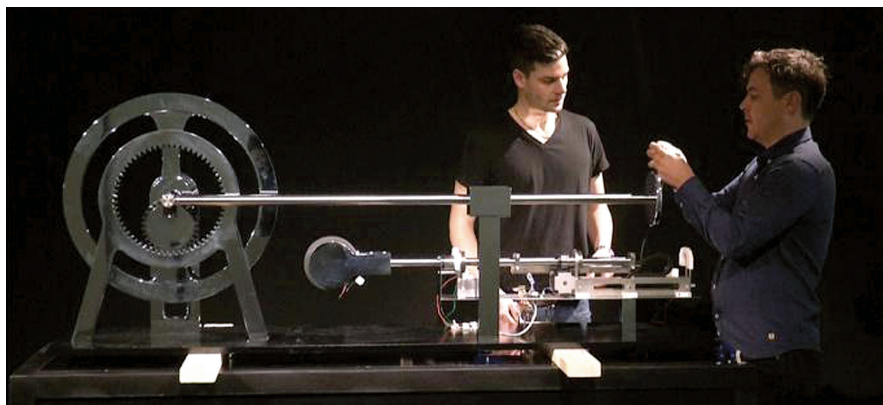
lab to attempt to move some rather beautiful machines evocative of the industrial revolution using only brainpower.

Telekinesis is a favourite theme of science-fiction, but scientists here say it is on the threshold of becoming reality. The *Mental Work* project uses Brain-Machine Interfaces (BMI), developed at an EPFL, (Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale

de Lausanne), lab.

"At the *Mental Work* factory the public can come and we equip them with an EEG helmet which will read the mental activity, the electrical activity, that's in their brain. These helmets are dry, so we don't need gel for conductivity and they're also wireless so they can walk through the mental factory and engage with four of our

machines, activating them with only their mental activity. We think that we are really at the beginning of a moment in time where man is going to become the centre of all this technology. His brain activity is going to interact with the physical world around him in ways that we can hardly imagine today," says *Mental Works* co-founder Michael Mitchell.



Bright facts from artistic chronicle of the capital's rich past

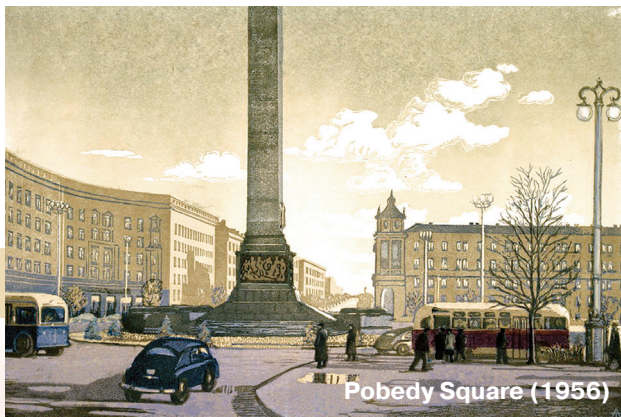
Over two hundred works by Anatoly Tychina are on show, including works held by the National Art Museum of Belarus, around a quarter of which are devoted to Minsk



New Houses on Railways Square (1952)



Evening Motif (1957)



Pobedy Square (1956)



Minsk. Railway Square (2017)

its hills, wide streets, boulevards and avenues.

Mr. Tychina's 1950s works are more diverse, depicting places from his personal life, associated with his meeting of famous people, with whom he worked over his fruitful 89 years. Mr. Tychina met his wife in a street near today's Pobedy Square: Zinaida Kovalevs-



Pobedy Square (2017)

By Veniamin Mikheev

Mr. Tychina's artistry drew strongly on the fate of Minsk during WWII. Like Guernica, the city was severely destroyed, blazing in the first days of the war. The artist survived 1,100 days of dramatic occupation in his native city, until the invaders were dispelled on July 3rd, 1944. Mr. Tychina was among the first to take a pencil and sketch the city in its crippled state, wandering through the ruins, feeling the necessity to paint his beloved Minsk, disfigured, burned and destroyed. He saw with his own eyes the terrible tragedy and death of victims, but himself survived.

His works convey the tension of the city, as seen during the occupation, after military bombing. Happily, these did not affect the historical centre or the cathedrals. Mr. Tychina began a new stage of work on the *Minsk* series im-

mediately after the war, with restoration of Minsk and other destroyed cities as the unifying theme. Minsk appeared as not merely the capital of Belarus but as a model city of socialist construction, for the whole of the USSR. First projects for Minsk's restoration were proposed, involving architects from Moscow and Leningrad: A. Shchusev, V. Semenov, A. Mordvinov, N. Kolly, B. Rubanenko, I. Langbard and N. Trakhtenberg.

To depict the emotional intensity and joy of the city's revival, Mr. Tychina used coloured linorite, conveying well the torment of fire and flame, the city wounded by bombing. His compositions are bold, taking a classical approach to portraying the city. He captured all the new monuments erected along Stalin Avenue, via his lino prints, showing Imperial Minsk's central avenue. These remain a true treasure, used as an architectural resource by researchers and restorers.



Above the Svisloch River (1954)

In the 1950s, the buildings through central Minsk were colourful, featuring marble and stone flour, quartz sand and other elements, with paint additives. The beauty and solemnity of those original decorations are now hidden under layers of paint, ceramic plates, tinted silicate bricks, metallurgical slag (from steel plants), and brick panels. Minsk became a model for builders of new Soviet towns.

The Minsk of Mr. Tychina's

engravings was one of the youngest European capitals, as he portrayed in *New Houses on the Railway Station Square* (1952), *Pobedy Square* (1956), and *Near Yanka Kupala Public Garden* (1957). His undisputed masterpiece is his view of Troitskaya Hill from a new bridge over the Svisloch — *Above the Svis-*

kaya was a young student at the time (later becoming an actress of experimental theatre). Her family lived near the house where, in 1923, the House-Museum of the First Congress of the RS-DRP opened. Yanka Kupala and his wife, Vladislava Lutsevich, were among their neighbours. In Minsk, he met F. Vykhodtsev — an art critic and a museum employee who later became his best friend. He also met such artists as M. Filippovich, E. Tikhonovich and A. Astapovich, cultural figure V. Lastovsky, art historian N. Shchekotikhin, local historian N. Kasperovich, bibliophile A. Shlyubsky, and art critics V. Shmatov and V. Boiko.

Mr. Tychina planned to draw an even larger urban cycle, dedicated to the Belarusian capital. However, as often happens, he failed to realise his plans. His legacy — preserved at the National Art Museum — is truly unique in illustrating stages of Minsk's urban development.

Mr. Tychina's mastery remains praised by art critics. In 1947, the Tretyakov Gallery bought his *Spring* linocut and, in 1954, acquired his *Above the Svisloch River*.



On the bridge over Svisloch. Minsk (2017)

loch River (1954). Regarding his figurative importance in Belarusian graphics, Mr. Tychina is unrivalled. He demonstrated that Minsk was one of the most beautiful post-war cities in Belarus, with its own 'face', and boasting harmony and perspective in its development. It was born from the ruins and triumphed in

Marriage without words

Minsk's cultural life enriched by *TEART* International Theatre Forum, running for three weeks, gathering prominent theatrical figures from seven countries

By Tatiana Orlova

Belarus presented eleven performances in the *Belarus Open* programme, as well as offering master classes, lectures and open discussions. Guests had the chance to improve their understanding of modern productions. Meanwhile, dozens of people from the ART Corporation Centre, and the MAZ Palace of Culture, and from cultural centres across France, Italy, Slovenia, Latvia, Russia, Germany and Kyrgyzstan gave performances. Belgazprombank and Gazprom sponsored the international festival, which demonstrates excellent cooperation between Belarus and Europe, and beyond. Full houses were the norm, and lively discussions on social networks provided proof of public interest.

In our modern days, many performances are so far from their traditional form that they're often called theatrical projects, without language barriers or forbidden topics. Time is changing attitudes towards traditional values and tastes of are diverging, but topical issues remain of interest, and digital technologies continue to cause a stir on stage. Contemporary art loves to rework the classics, with this year's festival seeing new interpretations of two plays by Chekhov, as well as works by Gogol, Lermontov, Dostoevsky, Homer, Sophocles, Vladimir Korotkevich and Frantisek Alekhnovich.

Among the themes explored by plays were: how

Many discoveries were expected from the seventh forum and no one was disappointed

to get rich without working; how a Cinderella can transform into a Princess; how to find your love; and how to worthily survive a love triangle. Such themes are generously scattered in TV soap operas and are popular among provincial theatres. The festival aimed to show the cultural reality of post-Soviet countries, whose formats and projects are unfamiliar to many.

There was a staging of Gogol's *Marriage without words*, using mime and music, while Latvia's Liepaja Theatre presented an expres-



Russian-Kyrgyz Demon, directed by Vladimir Pankov, combines epic storytelling with lyricism, showing the destiny of one family



impossible not to be moved. The Palermo theatre has created a masterpiece.

TEART's long-time friends from Slovenia staged Homer's *Iliad* in a modern fashion, winning favour with the audience. They filled the open space of the stage with chairs, musical instruments, microphones, lots of water and modern costumes.

German musician, director and teacher Goebbelts chatted a great deal, in his lecture, on how to give a performance without artists, literary texts or visualisation, working only with feelings and the individual perceptions of the audience. His *Aesthetics of Absence* book is now popular in Europe. His works include showing video footage of a hundred sheep on stage, and dust falling, made from animals' bones. He presented his *Max Black, or 62 Ways of Supporting the Head with a Hand*, which completely opposed his theory. No doubt, that evening will be remembered for brilliant acting, an impressive set and incredible pyrotechnic and sound effects.

Audiences expected to see new discoveries at the seventh forum and were not disappointed. Theatre lovers and experts have been truly 'charged' until next autumn.



sive dance rather than a true ballet. In contrast, the all-female company performing *In the Table Drawers* hardly left their chairs, relying on dialogue.

French ballet choreographer Angelin Preljocaj presented a performance inspired by Chinese fairy tales, called *The Painting on the Wall*: beautiful and unusual,

due to its skilful combination of classics and modernity.

Italian *Sisters Macaluso* tells of a large, poor family comprising only daughters, who continue to dream and fight for their passions, despite life's tragedies. The characters appear unattractive, wearing ridiculous, cheap dresses, but share their stories so sincerely that it's

Listapad always in November

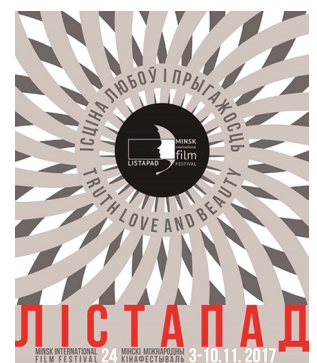
By Natalia Sovrasova

This year's Listapad won't feature any film stars but Igor Sukmanov is convinced that the screening of foreign films will bring real pleasure

The film forum in Minsk has been going for twenty-four years, gathering a grand reputation, and attracting ever more entries: around 500 selected. "All films are suitable," Mr. Sukmanov underlines, with most having already been awarded at international festivals, including in Cannes and Berlin. Thirteen are currently on the longlist for an Oscar."

As to famous people attending, most are screenwriters, producers and directors, rather than actors, in films entered for competition and out-of-competition events, under the motto 'Truth, Love and Beauty'.

Isn't Hungarian Benedek Fliegauf a star? His *Lily Lane* was awarded the Grand Prix at *Listapad-2016* and, this time, he's heading the jury of the main competition for feature films. Others are expected, although lesser-known, despite their talent. For instance, the actor playing the lead in children's film *Timm Thaler* is scheduled to attend.



This festival, like in the last several years, will suggest its young spectators serious discussions about entering the adult life without rose glasses rather than entertaining pictures. As far as documentaries are concerned, there're also particular changes in the topics. Previously it was exclusively of social direction while now there're many portraits pictures there, including with historical incline.

Major venues of *Listapad* Film Festival remain the same: Tsentralny, Mir, Pioner, and Belarus cinema houses, being also joined this year by the Falcon Club. The opening and closing ceremonies of the festival will take place in Moskva cinema.

Honorary place in Hall of Fame

Well-known Belarusian basketball player turned coach Yegor Meshcheryakov joins top eight sportsmen being presented at George Washington University's Hall of Fame, on February 3rd, 2018

By Igor Svitov

The official University website notes that the universal forward from Minsk, Yegor Meshcheryakov, played for the GW men's basketball team for four years, in the late 1990s. The Belarusian repeatedly performed as part of Academic All-America teams, owing to his success in sports and studies. He received a Bachelor of Science degree with honours and, in May 1998, was awarded the honorary title of 'Best Student-Athlete of the University'.

In his debut season (1995/1996), Yegor played for the Colonials, scoring an average of ten points per match, and was selected to the Atlantic-10 All-Rookie

Team. With his friends from the University squad, he many times participated in the main student's league of the USA, the NCAA. Having played 116 games for GW University, Yegor helped the team achieve eighty wins.

He is currently ranked eighth among GW's best basketball players, with 1,645 points. In 2001, Yegor was elected to the symbolic Colonials All-Century Team. In 1999, he began playing for the New Jersey Nets, in the NBA Summer League.

He has since played for clubs in Italy, Greece, Tur-



55 Yegor Meshcheryakov with his teammates in 1998 basketball season: 5 Mike King, 35 Pat Ngongba, 45 Alexander Koul, and 54 Shawnta Rogers

key, Russia and Ukraine and for the national team of Belarus, retiring in September 2012. Yegor is now the

Deputy Chairman of the Belarusian Basketball Federation and the Sports Director of Tsmoki-Minsk club.

Doves of peace for PyeongChang

By Sergey Atkinson

The world is changing but Olympic traditions continue: in Greek Olympia, the Olympic flame for the 2018 Winter Games has officially been lit. The ceremony was accompanied by rain but it didn't spoil the solemnity and beauty of the moment. The first torchbearer, Greek skier Apostolos Angelis, handed the flame to South Korean footballer Park Ji-sung, who is known for playing for English Manchester United.

On November 1st (100 days before the Olympics launch) the Olympic torch relay kicked off in the capital of the Games — PyeongChang. The Olympic flame will complete its journey on February 9th, at the Olympic Stadium which will host the opening ceremony.

Sadly, each Games seems to be accompanied by scandal and disaster these days. In London 2012 and Sochi 2014, terrorism was feared, while the deadly virus Zika and street crime scared participants and fans in Rio de Janeiro in 2016. This time, Pyongyang is more often mentioned than PyeongChang, due to the acute political crisis, centred on North Korea. Many delegations

have made a public statement, demanding security guarantees for their stay in the city and expressing their readiness to refuse participation at any time. The International Olympic Committee is trying to reduce tension, stating that there's no reason for concern but, apart from words, it has no other arguments.



Our team is fully prepared and hoping to at least rival its performance in Sochi, where Belarusian athletes won a record number of medals (for the Winter Games): five gold and one bronze. All three of our champions are ready: Darya Domracheva, Anton Kushnir and Alla Tsuper. Their teammates also hope to distinguish themselves. PyeongChang 2018 will see athletes compete in the biathlon, freestyle, cross country skiing, skating and skiing, and short-track. Belarus hopes to have a team 25-30 strong and will be watching eagerly for their success.

New dynamics in athletics



By Dmitry Komashko

The most interesting, and unprecedented, event took place as part of the recent meeting of the European Athletics Congress. It went almost unnoticed, although much connected with Belarus. Dynamic New Athletics (DNA), the queen of sports, will be represented in Minsk at the European Games in 2019.

The Dynamic New Athletics team will have two hours to compete in ten nominations, with a mixed relay-persecution (called 'hunting') closing the competition. Starting lags will be determined by the number of points scored in the previous nine stages. The features five track disciplines, with male and female 'short' sprints and hurdles, a 4x400 mixed relay, a women's long jump and high jump, and men's javelin throwing. These will take place one after another in the format of a knockout tournament. In addition, there will be a mini-athlon for mixed pairs of athletes.



Explaining the format and commission of the tournament, the European Athletics Federation notes that there was little interest during the 1st European Games in Baku but that the idea is to combine traditional sporting elements in a drastically new format, showcasing the dynamics and beauty of athletics. Thirty teams will participate in the first competitions, divided into five groups of six teams each.

The format and regulations should be approved by June 2018, when Minsk will officially receive the right to host this innovative tournament. The European Federation hopes to test the model for future athletics competitions and to attract young people's attention. The final version is to be presented to the world in 2020 but even the present demo-version gives much to ponder. For example, who

MT REFERENCE:

Could the Olympics, in their classical form, become a relic of the past? Each year, the Games programme features new sports, displacing those proving less popular. The face of the competition is changing significantly. In 2020, in Tokyo, sport fans will enjoy five new elements within the programme: baseball (for men) and softball (for women), in addition to karate, skateboarding, sports climbing and surfing.

will agree to act as 'guinea pigs'? Will the number of participants at Minsk's Games be even smaller than in Baku? What should be done with sports not included in the presented programme? What about meeting qualifying Olympic standards? What if an artificially created show — like American wrestling or

Japanese adventure races with elements of athletics — is created as a result, confusing top athletes?

The Chairman of the Belarusian Athletics Federation, Vadim Devyatovsky, is convinced that everyone will eventually benefit from the new format of the competition. "Of course, there are many questions; for example, the President of the International Association of Athletics Federation (IAAF), Sebastian Coe, has accepted the proposal with a certain ambiguity. There are established traditions and it's important to be aware of them," he comments. "However, a reason for such changes is that — under present Olympic quotas — most countries fail to be represented at the Games. In turn, many receive chances in team competitions. Changes will be introduced into the announced format. For example, we're keen to ensure that the maximum possible number of 'our' types are included in the programme. The result should be an interesting and unpredictable format for track and field athletics."

Dance of the week



Minsk hosts 1st International Dance Sport Tournament

EXHIBITIONS

NATIONAL ART MUSEUM OF BELARUS

20 Lenin Street
Until 3rd December. *Napoleon Orda. Illustrated Encyclopaedia of the Country*
Until 3rd December. *Ernst Barlach and Käthe Kollwitz: Beyond the Borders of Existence*
Until 10th December. *Treasures of Ancient Egypt*
Until 12th December. *Lenin '17*

NATIONAL HISTORY MUSEUM

12 Karl Marx Street
Until 10th January. *Fashionable Century*

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF BELARUS

116 Nezavisimosti Avenue
Until 20th November. *Skaryna's Letters and Words*
Until 31st December. *Francysk Skaryna and His Epoch*

STATE MUSEUM OF HISTORY OF BELARUSIAN LITERATURE

13 Maxim Bogdanovich Street
Until 29th December. *Kandrat Krapiva: from Childhood to Maturity*

MIKHAIL SAVITSKY ART GALLERY

15 Svobody Square
Until 12th November. *Whole World is Theatre*
Until 31st December. *Meeting the Master*

TUT.BY GALLERY

57 Dzerzhinsky Avenue
Until 20th November. *Letters from Venice. Alexandra Stelmashonok and Alexandra Zaruskaya*

NATIONAL CENTRE OF CONTEMPORARY ARTS

3 Nekrasov Street
Until 4th November. *Suomi 100 — 10 Photographers from Finland*

HOUSE-MUSEUM OF FIRST RSDRP SESSION

31a Nezavisimosti Avenue
Until 14th January. *Minsk 1917*

GALLERIA MINSK

9 Pobediteley Avenue
Until 15th January. *Museum-Factory of Fir Tree Toys*

CHELYUSKINTSEV PARK OF CULTURE AND REST

84/1 Nezavisimosti Avenue
Until 30th June 2018. *Legacy of Belarus: Dedicated to Minsk's 950th Anniversary*

BELARUSIAN STATE CIRCUS

32 Nezavisimosti Avenue
03-07.11. *Lighting Stars*

ST. ELISABETH CONVENT

6 Vygotsky Street
Until 21st November. *Crown-Bearing Family. Path of Love*

THEATRES

NATIONAL ACADEMIC BOLSHOI OPERA AND BALLET THEATRE

1 Parizhskoy Kommuny Street
02.11. Jubilee night with participation of world and Belarusian ballet stars
03.11. *Aida* 04.11. *The Fountain of Bakhchisaray*; *Favourite Romance*
05.11. *Koshchey the Immortal*
08.11. *The Magic Flute*
09.11. *Don Quixote*

BELARUSIAN STATE ACADEMIC MUSICAL THEATRE

44 Myasnikov Street
02.11. *Buratino.by*; *Mister X*
03.11. *Town Musicians of Bremen*; *Jane Eyre* 04.11. *Little Red Riding Hood. Generation NEXT*; *Clandestine Marriage (Duke Luxembourg)* 05.11. *Golden Chicken*; *Ball in Savoy* 08.11. *Gypsy Baron* 09.11. *A Glass of Water*

YANKA KUPALA NATIONAL ACADEMIC THEATRE

7 Engels Street
02.11. *Pan Tadeusz* 04 and 05.11. *Kolyady Night* 04 and 05.11. *Paulinka*
05.11. *School of Taxpayers* 06.11. *People of the Marshes* 08.11. *The Black Lady of Nesvizh* 09.11. *Jeweller's Jubilee*

MAXIM GORKY NATIONAL ACADEMIC DRAMA THEATRE

5 Volodarsky Street
04 and 05.11. *Zoika's Apartment*
08.11. *Run* 09.11. *An Ideal Husband*

THEATRE-STUDIO OF FILM ACTOR

13 Pobediteley Avenue
02.11. *Forgetting Herostratos*
04.11. *The Mechanical Man*
05.11. *Seventh Planet*; *Robbery at Midnight* 06.11. *Abduction of Yelena*
08.11. *An Unnamed Star* 09.11. *The Battlefield*

REPUBLICAN THEATRE OF BELARUSIAN DRAMA

44 Kropotkin Street
02.11. *Two Miraculous Umbrellas*; *Grandfather* 03.11. *Concrete*
04.11. *Doctor Raus' Career*
05.11. *This Is All She*
08.11. *Three Giselles*

YOUTH THEATRE

17 Kozlov Street
02.11. *Summer Night's Dream*
03.11. *Masculine, Single* 04.11. *Playing Happy Family* 05.11. *Overtaken with Love*
07.11. *Sasha, Take Waste Away*
08.11. *Warsaw Melody*
09.11. *Chelestino's Career*

BELARUSIAN STATE PUPPET THEATRE

20 Engels Street
02.11. *Aladdin and His Magic Lamp*
03.11. *Christmas Story*
04.11. *Mysterious Hippopotamus*
05.11. *Puss-in-Boots*
09.11. *Belvedere*