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## Covering the distance in spite of everything

**Olga Mazuronak wins gold in the marathon at the European Athletics Championships in Berlin**

The Belarusian athlete heroically covered the distance despite a nose bleed at the beginning of the race. However, the brave athlete continued, finishing in first place. “It looked awful, didn’t it? It probably frightened everyone in Belarus. It’s good my mother was at work and didn’t see the race. But now, maybe, this will be shown everywhere on television...,” joked the winner.

Olga was followed by the French runner, Clémence Calvin and Czech, Eva Vrabcova Nyvltova. Furthermore, fourth and fifth places were also taken by Belarusians Marina Domantsevich and Anastasia Ivanova. A similar result enabled Belarus to claim a team trophy in the marathon and the national team was congratulated by the President of Belarus.



# There's effect when modern technology targets the future

## The President of Belarus has made a working trip to the Gomel Region, with issues in the spheres of healthcare, industrial and socio-economic development of the region being in the limelight

By Vasily Kharitonov

The Head of State visited Gomel's Regional Children Clinical Hospital where he saw their recent modernisation, as well as looking at the organisation of the institution, its material and technical base and chatted to medical staff and parents of young patients. Alexander Lukashenko was assured that the hospitals' potential is enough for qualitative coverage of the residents of the regional centre, as well as the whole region, with the necessary medical assistance. "The most important thing is that it should be optimised, and we could provide all children who need it with assistance. One can't save money on children," stressed the Belarusian leader. The President gave instructions to immediately solve organisational issues entrusting the leadership of the Gomel Region to take them under control. This especially refers to medical staffing; there should be enough staff to provide, considering the hospital's modern equipment and technologies. Accordingly, enhanced requirements are imposed on the qualification of medical workers. "It's necessary to calculate the cost of everything and spend it where it is needed — on children," noted the Head of State.

During discussion with residents of the regional centre, the President said that he has a high opinion of the recent reconstruction. "A true palace. I cannot describe it otherwise. Cutting-edge technologies, a magnificent hospital," noted Mr. Lukashenko, adding that similar healthcare centres are being established in each region and this hospital was initially planned to be built outside the city's limits. However, the President instructed the rebuild and expansion of this facility in Gomel. "Now we can see a beautiful city block with its own garden," he said. "We don't mind the expense because it is for our children. The Head of State stressed the importance of providing high quality medical services, considering modern ecological threats, even without taking into consideration the Chernobyl problem, especially in Europe, Russia and Ukraine. The reconstruction of the childrens' hospital was conducted in Gomel from 2016 until July 2018. The institution now boasts contemporary admissions departments which can diagnose any disease during hospitalisation. Contemporary medical techniques have been installed: computer and magnetic-resonance imaging scanners for roentgen and clinical-diagnostic laboratory research. Moreover, surgery departments and those of intensive therapy and reanimation are equipped with high-tech equipment.

During the visit to the hospital, the President was informed about socio-economic developments in the region and agricultural works. In Gomel, Mr. Lukashenko also visited Gomselmash where he was informed about the state and prospects of development of the enterprise, the work of the design bureau on the creation of new samples of highly-productive grain- and forage harvesters. The Head of State was told about the fulfilment of the instruction to develop domestic combine harvester manufacture. After the visit to the enterprise, the President expressed confidence that Gomselmash can reach new heights.

One more reason to come is the promise of designers to create the so-called super-harvester. As the Head of State was informed, the enterprise has created a whole 'family' of harvesters which can be referred to as 'super'. In 2018, plans for the KZS-2124 harvester model were made, which considers new tendencies in the development of combine harvester manufacture. Three prototypes of the new harvester have been produced for the harvesting season. This technique primarily orientates towards



Visit to Gomselmash JSC

advanced farms which grow high-yields. In terms of efficiency and quality of harvesting, the new harvester can rival the best foreign analogue. The President was shown a range of manufactured machinery which has been considerably expanded over the last decade, as well as innovations and development prototypes. These also include a harvester using gas motor fuel. This model is slightly more expensive compared to traditional analogues; however, it enables significant saving on the cost of fuel. Its developers believe that the new harvester may be in demand on the Russian market. Moreover, it's more environmentally-friendly. The Head of State was assured that all issues of safe exploitation have been completely settled. The President said that he actively supports the development of techniques for electric engines. Meanwhile, as far as harvesters are concerned, this is still a remote perspective, so the use of gas (as fuel) is a good alternative from an economic point of view.

Mr. Lukashenko also pointed to the necessity to use untapped potential to provide sustainable and efficient work for the company, especially taking into account the negative influence of external factors and sometimes un-

fair competition from abroad. The President said that people in Russia reproach the Americans and the West for creating a 'non-competitive advantage'. "They themselves create the same uncompetitive conditions for us. This will be also tackled in conversation with the President of Russia. But we should work under the conditions which currently exist," noted the Head of State.

Mr. Lukashenko also tackled this topic during communication with Gomselmash workers. The President noted that efforts will be made to create equal competitive conditions. "You make good harvesters but in quality these should be made better than German or US. Then we'll be able to freely compete with them," the Head of State said. "We can't always say that our machinery is cheaper. We should also sell more expensive models, so that salaries are higher, to conduct modernisation, to invest in the economy rather than go to the bank to take loans or ask for subsidies."

Mr. Lukashenko stressed that the state has no intention of abandoning Gomselmash and similar large enterprises. "You may have heard a lot of idle talk claiming that it is high time the giant companies were split into pieces and sold off. We are not going to axe them or sell them. It is our nation's legacy. Not only this generation's. We will do our best to preserve and reinforce these enterprises," noted the President. He said that there are no intentions to sell Gomselmash JSC to a foreign investor.

Communication with Gomselmash staff tackled the development of the enterprise itself, alongside the social sphere. Residents of the city expressed gratitude for the new childrens' hospital. Mr. Lukashenko also told them several peculiarities about his home where he primarily grows some innovations and tests in practice agro-technical ideas offered by scientists.

Sporting topics weren't ignored either as, for example, Dinamo's victory over St. Petersburg's Zenit. "They have given a true holiday to the whole country. Well done! They were fighting till the end. Dinamo Minsk players have played well during this hot weather. They scored four goals. 4:0 will remain in history," said the Head of State.

Answering the question about the forthcoming 2nd European Games in 2019 that will be hosted by Minsk, Mr. Lukashenko expressed confidence that this sporting forum will bring more dividends than expenses to the country. He emphasised that it is very important for the country's image to host such a large-scale international sporting event as the 2nd European Games. "They have given us an incentive. We'll create good sports infrastructure and accommodation, although we have enough hotels already. Taking into consideration that we introduced a 30-day visa-free regime, this will have a positive impact on the tourism industry," noted the President.

**P.S.** On the fields of the Alexandriyskoe JSC, Alexander Lukashenko tested the Belarusian grain harvester Palesse GS2124, the BELTA correspondent learnt. When visiting Gomselmash on the eve of this event (where he was shown this harvester) the Head of State announced his desire to see the vehicle working in field conditions. "These harvesters are for those farms which have learnt how to prepare their soil. If there are even slight ridges, the vehicle 'catches' them because the harvester is regulated automatically. Therefore, we need the best technologies to work with soil. It should be improved, as it's really a harvester of the future," claimed the President. He paid special attention to the necessity of bigger localisation during the production and training of farm machinery operators.



Hiromichi Watanabe

## Japan to expand diplomatic presence in Belarus next year, with positive signals coming from the Land of the Rising Sun



Shigeru Murayama

# Specifics of co-operation

By Vladimir Velikhov

Meeting Hiromichi Watanabe, Chairman of the Special Committee for Regional Recovery, of Japan's Parliamentary Group and heading the Japan-Belarus inter-parliamentary friendship group, the Chairman of the Council of the Republic, Mikhail Myasnikovich, said, "We're delighted that you've taken the political decision to open a fully-fledged Japanese Embassy in Belarus in 2019."

At present, Japanese interests in Belarus are represented by the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Russia, Toyohisa Kozuki, although Hiroki Tokunaga is acting as Chargé d'Affaires in Minsk. As Mr. Watanabe confirms, Belarus will receive its own Japanese ambassador next year. "Then, the relationship between our countries will develop more actively," he is convinced.

Belarus and Japan need to expand the contractual-legal basis for co-operation,

Mr. Myasnikovich believes. "I'd like to note that we lack a sufficient contract-legal base of co-operation. We have virtually no basic agreements defining issues of trade, investment, taxation and other key issues of co-operation," he stressed, adding that the Belarusian Parliament is eagerly awaiting agreements on trade and economic co-operation, mutual protection and support of investments, as well as avoidance of double taxation.

The documents are under consideration in Japan. "Of course, upon receiving the approval of Japan, we'll immediately proceed to ratification of these agreements in Parliament," Mr. Myasnikovich stressed. He comments that that move should inspire the development of trade-economic and humanitarian relations. "We're very interested in this," he stressed. "Groups of friendship are a good tool of parliamentary contact and overall bilateral relations."

Japanese businessmen, led by the President of Kawasaki Heavy Industries Corporation, Shigeru Murayama, are

scheduled to visit Belarus in October. The Chairman of the Standing Commission of the Council of the Republic for Foreign Affairs and National Security, Sergey Rakhmanov, tells us, "In October, the President of the largest Japanese corporation, Kawasaki Heavy Industries, will come to us for the first time. This company has a multi-billion Dollar turnover. Moreover, its President presides over the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan: ROTOBO (which is keen to liaise with post-Soviet countries)," Mr. Rakhmanov adds.

ROTOBO unites around 150 firms, so the Japanese delegation will include several dozen businessmen. "During the visit, we'll work on some quite serious projects," he stresses. Japan is a global technology leader and, with this in mind, Belarus is keen to attract its investment and technologies. "We're relying on high technologies — such as microelectronics, robotics, biotechnology and additive technologies," says Mr. Rakhmanov. He adds that Japanese companies may agree

to participate in Belarusian projects, including in the fields of metallurgy, pharmaceuticals, and paper production. "Our task is to form an expert level platform, to develop recommendations and communicate proposals to Japanese partners. We're working on this now and have agreed to create a permanent group to oversee such issues (rather than only during special visits). This should bring results by the end of the year, and especially in 2019."

Mr. Rakhmanov notes that Belarus is interesting not only to representatives of Japanese business but to financial structures and investment banks. For example, the Japanese Bank for International Co-operation (JBIC) has expressed interest in developing relations. The combination of business and financial structures is much needed, with Belarus wishing to negotiate with Japanese partners from business communities, financial institutions, ministries and a variety of enterprises. Who knows what may be achieved?



On a pedestrian street in Brest

## Becoming twin cities

### Brest and China's Báiyín have signed agreement on twin city relations

By Svetlana Savelieva

The agreement has been signed by the First Deputy Chairman of Brest City Executive Committee, Vadim Kravchuk, and the Deputy Secretary of the People's Government of Báiyín, Zhang Guorong. The agreement envisages mutually beneficial co-operation in industry, entrepreneurship and

trade, the social sector, ecology, local administration and youth policy.

The two sides have agreed to exchange delegations and advanced experience while also organising exhibitions and trade fairs for enterprises from Brest and Báiyín. Joint projects are also hoped for.

"Our relationship began in 2016. During the current visit,

we'd like to explore Brest and study potential for further co-operation. We're giving special attention to trade and logistics, as our cities are important hubs on the new Silk Road," commented Zhang Guorong.

Mr. Kravchuk views the partnership agreement as another step towards strengthening interregional relations between Belarus and China.

## Justice ministries agree on interaction

By Oleg Bogomazov

**Memorandum on mutual understanding signed between Justice Ministry of Belarus and Justice Ministry of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia by the heads of the ministries: Oleg Slizhevsky and Walid bin Mohammed Al-Samani**

The memorandum was signed during Oleg Slizhevsky's working visit to Riyadh. The heads of the justice ministries

discussed possible forms and areas of co-operation of the two states in the legal sphere while also expressing mutual interest in preparing and signing bilateral international agreements on mutual legal assistance and crime prevention.

The meeting with the Chairman of the Supreme Court of Saudi Arabia and the Chairman of the Riyadh Court also tackled issues dealing with the execution of justice and of court rulings.

## Collaboration on international arena

By Olga Korneeva

**Belarus and Palestine to reinforce interaction within international arena**

Belarus and Palestine are to step up co-operation internationally, noted Belarus' Deputy Foreign Minister, Andrei Dapkiunas, on meeting the Ambassador of Palestine to Belarus, Khaled Ariquat.

They discussed the situation in Palestine and the latest events in the Middle East, Mr.

Dapkiunas and Mr. Ariquat commenting that a steady path is crucial to the peace process, showing respect for principles of international law and the interests of neighbours and partners.

The Belarusian and Palestinian diplomats exchanged opinions on a large number of items on the bilateral agenda: in particular, the development of joint projects and trade-economic co-operation, to raise trade turnover.

# Investors attracted to where it's comfortable to do business

By Vasily Kharitonov

The law on free economic zones was adopted in Belarus in 1998 as an instrument for creating dynamic new production facilities. As a result, each regional centre now has a free economic zone, with major ambitions to attract foreign investors. This approach is already working well, with zones driving investment activity and generating new production using the latest technologies.

Of course, time doesn't stand still and we need to be adaptable, moving with today's trends. The Head of State emphasises that highly-productive jobs are vital for Belarus, as never before. We need to build upon our intellectual, industrial and export potential, while attracting investments. Efficient functioning of free economic zones is, naturally, important. We want to ensure that no opportunity is missed.

Speaking at a recent session to discuss mechanisms to enhance the efficiency of FEZ work, Mr. Lukashenko stated, "The Government informs me that free economic zones make a considerable contribution to the socio-economic development of regions and to that of the country as a whole, generating 4 percent of GDP. Almost 13 percent of industrial production, about 16 percent of exports and nearly 7 percent of foreign direct investments are concentrated there. It's a weighty contribution, but is it commensurate with the preferences given to resident companies of free economic zones?"

The development of free economic zones was last discussed with the President in December 2016, due to changes in EAEU customs legislation. New approaches were approved and a corresponding decree signed. Today, the Government is again putting forward new proposals to help stimulate the development of our free economic zones.

Mr. Lukashenko asked if free economic zones are needed in their current form or if measures taken in late 2016 have served their purpose in aiding Belarus' economy.

"Are the proposals enough for the development of free economic zones, if we agree that they should be developing in a certain preferential, special regime? Are the proposals enough to inspire greater foreign direct investments? Or will you come up with a new draft decree for the future?" the President asked representatives of the Government.

As of today, there are six free economic zones in the country, boasting 409 resident companies and over 122,000 employees. "All regions wanted to have their own free economic zones, and I agreed. We'll see how they're working today," noted the President, adding that, initially, employment needed a major boost. "Today, we need to do more than just employ people; employment is not a problem, we need highly-productive enterprises. Progressive enterprises should contribute to economic development. Setting up simple production

## Efficiency within free economic zones is vital, as President underlines

creating new enterprises at free economic zones in Belarus, reported the First Deputy Prime Minister of Belarus, Vasily Matyushkevsky. "The total volume of declared investments across all six free economic zones is close to \$850 million," he asserted. "These are new projects. Together with regional administrations, we've asked to expand these free economic zones."

The discussion went beyond the issue of whether to offer additional privileges to companies residing in free economic zones. In particular, it's being suggested that additional financial sources be allocated, to connect natural gas and electricity. FEZ territories may be expanded to accommodate new projects proposed by investors, with all proposals stipulated by relevant draft presidential decree. The Head of State has asked for a document to

be polished and signed soon.

Mr. Matyushkevsky believes that free economic zones give Belarus an

edge in the fight for investments within the Eurasian Economic Union. "Belarus didn't invent free economic zones. Such zones exist in other countries, too. As we're competing for investors, we should offer terms at least as good, because investors always have a choice," noted the First Deputy Prime Minister.

Obviously, investors need to be attracted. Free economic zones have proven their usefulness, so shouldn't be disregarded. They need to be developed for today's world, encouraging investors (primarily foreign) to see the opportunities open to them for doing business.



GRODNOINVEST

BREST



FREE ECONOMIC ZONE "MINSK"

MINSK

VITEBSK

MOGILEV

GOMEL-RATON



MOGILEV

FREE | ECONOMIC | ZONE

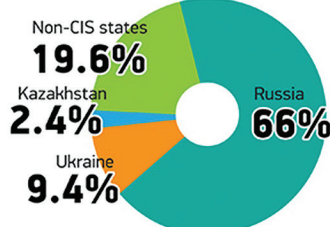
FOREIGN MERCHANDISE TRADE: \$4.7bn\*\*

Export +6.6%

Import -4.4%

Foreign trade surplus \$742.3m

MAIN EXPORT DESTINATIONS



facilities to make nuts and bolts is good but our level of economic development has moved beyond this."

Free economic zones are still promising investment venues, with investors ready to inject \$850 million into

## Real project

By Vladimir Velikhov

**The FEZ concept will enable a European hub project near Minsk to become global, noted Freddy Opsomer, Vice-President of World Federation of Free and Special Economic Zones, in an interview on Our News programme on the ONT TV Channel**

Apart from being one of the heads of the World Federation of Free and Special Economic Zones (FEMOZA), Mr. Opsomer is an investor who has views on Belarus. According to the Belgian, a plot of land near Minsk National Airport could in future become a hub for European companies which intend to take their

place along the new Silk Road.

"I believe Belarus is in an extremely good position, primarily due to its location along the new Silk Road which connects Asia and Europe. I think that Belarus should create a true European hub for production and trade and the concept of free economic zones will make this project global," said the expert. Mr. Opsomer noted that to attract potential investors, a range of factors is needed. "You should understand that supra-national companies don't look only in one country. When considering this area, they can view Poland, Lithuania and Belarus. For them the most important thing is the business environment. This doesn't mean only the land: a good plot can be found



Freddy Opsomer

anywhere. It primarily refers to the conditions of work, investigations conducted in the country and the quality of life. It's important whether people are able to communicate in English, German or French, i.e. it's a whole range of factors, as companies would like to find a fertile soil for business," notes FEMOZA Vice President.

According to Mr. Opsomer, the interest in Belarus from European companies is highly regarded by experts, the project of a hub near Minsk could be realised within a few years.

# Opportunities to promote ourselves in a favourable light

## Invitation to first international exposition for imported goods and services — *Import Expo* — in Shanghai

By Alexey Fedosov

China has the second largest economy in the world, being a leader in volumes of imported goods. With a population of about 1.4 billion, and growing, demand for foreign products is high, and Belarusian products are enjoying increasing popularity in China — especially meat and dairy products. Our two countries have established strategic partnership so it's no surprise that Belarus has been invited to attend the first Chinese international exhibition of imported goods and services — *Import Expo*, to be held in Shanghai from 5th to 10th November. The Belarusian national stand is being organised by the National Centre for Marketing of the Foreign Ministry. Centre Director Valery Sadokho tells us about the participation of Belarusian enterprises in the exhibition and other ways to promote exports to China.

**The exhibition will feature products from over 1,600 companies from around the world. How does the Belarusian pavilion plan to stand out?**

Visitors will be able to get acquainted with our industrial, educational and transportation logistics, and the export potential of our country. We'll present the latest scientific, technical and innovative developments, and our unique opportunities for tourism in Belarus. We'll offer sampling of food products, too. The Belarusian stand's design was admired by Chinese colleagues during a meeting held on July 11th at the Chinese Embassy to Belarus. In addition to the traditional 'Made in Belarus' logo, we're using the popular Belarusian cornflower motif of an eight-pointed star, which symbolises the sun. Our cultural code is our distinguishing feature, although we're yet to decide a slogan which reflects the friendly relations between Belarus and China.

**Belarusian companies will cover about 500 square metres of the exhibition area. How many have already**



Pavilions that will host the Shanghai Expo

**declared their participation?**

The commercial block of the exhibition will feature almost all spheres of the Belarusian economy. More than seventy companies plan to exhibit their products and services, across six exhibition halls: automotive, consumer products, intelligent and high-tech equipment, trade in services, medical equipment, and food and agro-products. The latter is likely to be the most popular, presenting about

machinery to meet local market agro-machinery needs. China's ability to consume is higher than its rate of production, so high-quality and competitive products from abroad are in demand. Trade turnover between Belarus and China hit \$1.09 billion from January to April this year, while Belarusian exports rose 37.9 percent, to \$138 million (compared to the same period of last year). Exports included potash (\$100.9

under very favourable terms, thanks to the National Centre for Marketing. In particular, you can set up wholesale trade of Belarusian products 'free of charge' via this office, gaining warehouses and showrooms. The Belarusian contact office is located in the Innovation Centre, liaising with countries along the Belt and Road (BRCIC). Embassies from Asia and Africa have set up similar offices but the Belarusian office is just launching. It should help intensify Belarusian-Chinese co-operation in the fields of trade, finance, culture, sports, tourism, transport and communications, and raise export figures for Belarusian enterprises in China.

**Do you plan to establish similar structures in other countries?**

We'll see how the Chinese project goes, and how much interest there is among Belarusian exporters.

**How is the National Centre for Marketing helping Belarusian exporters enter the Chinese market?**

Apart from organising exhibitions abroad, including in China, we're conducting market research and seeking out importers, dealers and business partners. We're hosting B2B meetings and negotiations, as well as international forums and online video conferences, featuring foreign experts and diplomats from the Embassy of Belarus abroad.

In addition, the Centre runs Export. BY: the main tool showcasing Belarusian enterprises' exports. Our goods are really competitive and the site allows companies to show what they have to offer, including at major exhibitions.

Participation in the most important project lies ahead and we expect to enter into multiple contracts.



Samples of Belarusian produce to attract attention in Shanghai

forty Belarusian enterprises making meat and dairy products. It costs money to participate but it can result in lucrative contracts and lay the path for many years of co-operation. The Expo is being attended by major importers from various Chinese provinces. Meanwhile, our national stand reflects the image of our country and its economic potential

**Which Belarusian products do you think will be most in demand in China?**

Beef and dairy products and natural honey are gaining popularity. In addition, we're keen to set up joint productions to assemble agricultural

million), polyamides (\$13.8 million), flax (\$3.6 million) and dairy products (\$2.9 million). In turn, China supplied \$949.8 million of goods to Belarus: mainly communications and computer equipment, parts and accessories for vehicles and tractors. The Belarusian Government is aiming for \$1.5 billion of exports to China by 2020, but this will be very difficult to achieve without diversification.

**A Belarusian contact office has opened in Qingdao to support exports. What expectations do we have?**

It's possible for any Belarusian company to open a representative office

and domestic obligations in foreign currency in July. According to the country's main monetary guidelines for 2018, the volume of international reserve assets, taking into account the honouring of domestic and foreign commitments in foreign currency, should reach at least \$6 billion by January 1st, 2019.

## Revenue received from various resources

By Oleg Bogomazov

**Belarus' gold-and-currency reserves reach \$7 billion**

According to preliminary data, as of August 1st, 2018, Belarus' international reserve assets stood at \$7,030.2 billion (in equivalent). In July 2018,

gold-and-currency reserves rose by \$198.8 million (up 2.9 percent) after falling \$108.2 million (1.6 percent) in June 2018.

Belarus' international reserve assets were bolstered in July thanks to the purchase of foreign currency by the National Bank via the Belarusian Cur-

rency Stock Exchange. Also, budget revenue swelled via export duties on oil and oil products and from selling government bonds (nominated in foreign currency by the National Bank and the Finance Ministry).

The Government and the National Bank honoured \$450 million of foreign

and domestic obligations in foreign currency in July. According to the country's main monetary guidelines for 2018, the volume of international reserve assets, taking into account the honouring of domestic and foreign commitments in foreign currency, should reach at least \$6 billion by January 1st, 2019.

# Bold decision prolongs life

Belarusian oncologists install first ever titanium rib, at Republican Scientific and Practical Centre for Oncology and Medical Radiation named after N.N. Alexandrov

By Alexander Pimenov

“Our Centre has long conducted chest surgeries,” notes the Centre’s Deputy Director General for Science, Sergey Krasny. “However, their number has been restricted, due to some complications for patients. If too many ribs are removed, it compromises the chest frame (skeleton) and can make it very difficult to breathe.”

Various attempts have been made to apply new materials to the problem of chest surgery, but without great success, until the titanium implants were tried. It’s hoped that this material will allow significant resections, including replacing lots of ribs simultaneously. This will considerably expand the opportunities available to Belarusian doctors.

According to oncologist-surgeon Yevgeny Tskhovrebov, of the Centre’s Department of Reconstructive and Restorative Surgery, titanium plates avoid the usual complications, prolonging the life of the patient and improving its quality.

One of the anaesthesiologists at the Centre’s Department for Anaesthesiology and Recovery tells us that a recent surgery lasted around six hours, on a patient who had been prepared for a week. Following blood transfusion, the man spent two days in intensive care before being moved to the Department of Reconstructive and Restorative Surgery. “We’ve killed the disease and the patient is considered to be cured,” explains the doctor.

The patient, Victor Kireev, will be back every three months for monitoring and tests. He tells us, “I’m feeling uplifted, and want



When doctors and patients are pleased with the result

to thank our doctors for taking the decision to experiment with new materials and methods. We, patients, have

to join in fighting our illness, working as one team with doctors. I’ve been battling for my life since 2008.” Mr.

Kireev is now working and leading a full life, travelling a great deal and dancing.

According to Mr. Tsk-

hovrebov, the titanium plate was initially developed to fix rib fractures during thoracic surgery. “Its main application is in cases of four or more ribs being broken in several places, where a patient has needed artificial lung ventilation for a long time. This technology enables patients to breathe independently the very next day after surgery.” Titanium is already commonly used during chest reconstruction after cardiac intervention but is seldom used in oncology.

It’s difficult to forecast how many patients need titanium plates. “Before, we sometimes had to refrain from treatment because we knew that we couldn’t restore the chest frame; now we have wider opportunities,” Mr. Krasny underlines.

## Achievements known all over the world

Republican Scientific and Practical Centre for Oncology and Medical Radiology (named after N.N. Alexandrov) receives prestigious award from National Cancer Institute of United States



The award was bestowed in recognition of the achievements of the Belarusian centre in developing the cancer service and its study of malignant tumours.

The Republican Scientific and Practical Centre for Oncology and Medical Radiology of Belarus has been working closely with the National Cancer Institute of the United States, holding two conferences within the past three years. One was dedicated to gynaecological and urologic cancers while the second dealt with screening of malignant tumours. The third conference will take place in 2019, focusing on gynaecological and urologic cancers, as well as breast cancer. A similar event is scheduled for 2020. The conferences are funded by the National Cancer Institute of the United States, bringing together specialists from around the world.

Five joint publications are planned, unveiling the results of programmes on cancer screening and early detection of cancer. Work will involve not only the Alexandrov Centre of Belarus, but leading cancer centres from CIS states.

# Visa free entry enhances attractiveness

Vietnam’s tourism industry presented in Minsk as part of Days of Vietnamese Culture

By Olga Korneeva

The Vietnamese Ambassador to Belarus — Le Anh — believes there is great potential for strengthening Belarusian-Vietnamese tourist ties. He drew attention to the fact that, in recent years, especially in 2017, the number of Belarusian tourists in Vietnam has significantly increased. According to the diplomat, this has become possible owing to the measures adopted at governmental

level: in particular, Vietnam introduced a visa-free regime for Belarusian tourists coming for a period of up to 15 days. “Tourists from Belarus are welcome in Vietnam,” the Ambassador said, adding that trips to Belarus are becoming increasingly attractive for Vietnamese travellers.

The Head of the International Cooperation Department at the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of Vietnam — Nguyen Cheung Khang — also highlighted a keen interest in developing tour-



ism. He noted that Vietnam welcomed almost 30 percent more foreign tourists last year.

The presentation demonstrated the most attractive areas of Vietnam and its

historical, cultural and natural monuments. The event was attended by representatives of ministries and agencies of the two countries, in addition to travel companies.



Belarusian team at International Army Games

Winning at least one of the competitions at the International Army Games is like winning an Olympic gold, with Belarus taking first place in the 'Sniper Frontier' contest, ahead of Kazakhstan in second place, and Russia and the Chinese sharing bronze, following the multi-day event hosted by Brest and featuring almost two dozen countries

By Dmitry Umpirovich

The 'Sniper Frontier' in the 'military Olympiad' is the most prestigious contest, rivalled only by the 'Tank Biathlon'. Soldiers from eighteen countries took part, from CIS states, Asia, Africa and even South America. The finals featured Russia, China, Kazakhstan and Belarus, with marksmen having to demonstrate accuracy and strength, overcoming a one-kilometre-long obstacle course of climbing a wall, crawling under barbed wire, and carrying an ammunition box, among other tasks. Our Belarusian marksmen hit every target but were a little slower than their rivals from China and Kazakhstan. However, they claimed gold overall!

General Major Vadim Denisenko, who commands the Special Operations Forces of the Armed Forces of Belarus, is pleased, underlining that the sniper programme at these competitions is always complex. "It's difficult to say who's better prepared. All four teams in the finals were prepared equally, boasting a very high level of professionalism as snipers are ready to fulfil the tasks set before them. Some were luckier, some were stronger, some turned out to be tougher while other demonstrated more

# Very precise marksmanship brings gold



our country while building bridges of friendship. Moreover, the Day of Paratroopers and Special Operations Units was celebrated in Brest by the whole world in the direct sense of this word.

"Representatives of eighteen countries were communicating with each other and, after ten days of the competition, many no longer bothered with interpreters. The competitions finished with a mixed relay, where representatives of various states ran in pairs. Such events strengthen inter-personal relations and friendship while demonstrating readiness to improve, so that we can show progress at some future time, having learnt from each other," Mr. Denisenko added.

The Military Attaché of Brazil was present as an observer at the 'Sniper Frontier'; probably, next year's event will see one more team.

"What did you like most about our country?" I asked Galymdzhan Kasymbekov, a representative of the Kazakh squad, after the competition. "I enjoyed your benevolence and amiability. I'm pleased with the performance of my team, despite not taking first place. The refereeing was objective and transparent, and we still have much to work on."

courage; all these influenced the result. All worthily represented their countries. At first, representatives of South-East Asia and Africa experienced difficulties because of the climate but they quickly adjusted and, within three days, were able to fulfil their tasks." Belarusian organisers see these competitions as an opportunity to show foreigners

## Poles lead but citizens of Lithuania, Latvia and Germany are also active

By Olga Korneeva

**Visa-free tourists from almost 50 countries visit Brest tourist and recreational zone**

On average, tourists spend over three days in the Brest Region and this indicates that they are interested not only in excursions. Guests take part in diverse mass events and go shopping. Around 40 shops offer the Tax Free service; these trade in jewellery, cosmetics and perfumes, clothes, shoes and textiles. In addition, agreements on the sale of goods without VAT have been concluded by Brest's Central Department Store (TsUM) and a branded store of the Neman Glass Factory.

Foreign travellers prefer to spend time not only in the regional centre; they often go to neighbouring districts. For example, 25 percent of visitors to the Brest tourist and recreational zone visit the Belovezhskaya Pushcha National Park. In addition, travel agencies increasingly offer customers combined tours: tourists travel from Brest to Kamenets, visit the Belovezhskaya Pushcha and then complete their route in the Pruzhany District.

## Medicines from natural ingredients

**Borisov Plant of Medical Preparations is joining Chinese specialists in producing alternative Chinese medicine in Belarus, explains Vitaly Deresh, the Director General of the enterprise**

A modern pharmaceutical enterprise is to be built at the Great Stone Industrial park jointly with Beijing Pharmaceutical Corporation. The Director of the Belarusian company notes that this is a whole new area for pharmaceuticals in Belarus.

Representatives of the plant and of the Great Stone Park plan to go to China to discuss details of co-operation. Mr. Deresh underlines that medicines will be produced from natural ingredients rather than biologically active supplements.

Produce will be supplied to the Belarusian market, as well as being exported. Alternative Chinese medicine enjoys popularity in western countries but, of course, the company is keen to saturate the domestic market.

Promising negotiations are underway to build a factory with Shanghai State Pharmaceutical Company but it's too early to speak of firm plans.



# Anti-government protest in Romania turns violent

Since August 10th, 2018, tens of thousands of members of the Romanian diaspora have returned to the capital, Bucharest, and their home cities to express their growing discontent with the current government, led by the Social Democratic Party

Romanians are the largest migrant population in the European Union, with one fifth working in other EU states. The diaspora members provide a crucial contribution to the country's GDP. In 2017 alone, they sent 4.3bn Euros in remittances, while the preceding year ensuring 2.99bn Euros.

Joined in protest by numer-

ous fellow nationals, the diaspora members demanded the resignation of the executive branch in response to its contentious recent decisions in the economic and legal fields. This included changes to the Penal Code that further enable political impunity and the firing of Laura Kovesi, the Chief of the National Anticorruption Direc-

torate, hailed for her competent work in internal and external circles.

While, over the past five years, the diaspora has generally been supportive of protest movements in the country, marching or adding its voice abroad, it is unprecedented to return to Romania in person to demonstrate and demand change.

The direct opposition between the diaspora and PSD is ultimately a battle for the country's future. Relying on a mass of uneducated, rural supporters, PSD, is striving to maintain the political status quo, in which politicians brazenly make decisions that serve their own interests, not those of the people or the country.



## France opens arms to Spain's new migrant arrivals

**The French government says it will take in a number of migrants from the rescue boat Open Arms that docked in Southern Spain**

After spending a week in international waters — the boat — carrying 87 people, including 12 minors, rescued near Libya, was permitted to make landfall in the port of Algeciras by Spanish

Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez. The French Presidency says it will take in around 20 of those on board the boat which, had previously been refused entry by both Malta and Italy. France says it is helping as a show of 'European Solidarity' after Spain saw a huge increase in migrant arrivals since Prime Minister Sanchez accepted the rescue vessel Aquarius back in June.

## Firefighters keep vigil though fire was extinguished

**Portuguese firefighters have put out a huge fire that devastated the forested hills in the southern Algarve tourist region, the head of the operation said, but emergency services will remain in the area to monitor potential hotspots**

Europe's biggest wildfire this year forced nearly 300 people to leave their homes but nobody died as authorities went to great lengths to keep people safe after last year, when the worst fires on record killed 114 in Portugal.

This year's fire erupted a week ago during an extreme heatwave. Europe's summer has been unusually hot, sparking wildfires as far apart as Sweden



and Greece, where a brutal blaze killed at least 88.

"The fire has been dominated," said Patricia Gaspar, who is commanding the Portuguese operation. "At this moment there is no significant risk that the fire will spread."

## Turkey has done enough to repair ties with US

**Turkey has done enough to repair its ties with the United States, Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu said, adding that Washington had acted contrary to their alliance regarding fundamental security issues**

Cavusoglu made the comments during a speech to ambassadors in Ankara. He also said the United States should learn that it will not achieve any results by threatening Turkey.

## Caspian nations agree on division of oil and gas spoils

**The five nations that border the Caspian Sea say they've reached agreement in principle on how to divide up the oil and gas resources of the world's largest enclosed body of water**

But at a meeting in Kazakhstan, no deal was found on the more contentious issue of where the seabed border should be traced.

Russia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Azerbaijan say the bulk of the waters will be considered as a common resource and that the Caspian will given a special status that is neither that of a sea or a lake. The division of lakes and seas is already governed by international law.

## German union to start pay talks for Ryanair cabin crew

**German union Verdi meets Ryanair in Dublin to start pay talks for around 1,000 cabin crew working in Germany for Europe's largest low-cost airline**

Verdi is seeking a substantial pay increase for cabin crew, it said in a statement, and wants Ryanair to recognise German law and pay social security contributions. "Through seasonal shifts and a lack of guaranteed flight hours, some full-time employees receive gross pay of only around 1,000 Euros a month. That's completely unacceptable," Verdi Board member Christine Behle said.

Ryanair endured its worst one-day strike last Friday after a walk-out by pilots in five European countries disrupted the plans of an estimated 55,000 travellers with the budget airline at the height of the summer holiday season.





By Veniamin Mikheev

**Vladimir Prokoptsov is a member of the Belarusian Union of Artists, the General Director of the National Museum of Art, and an Honoured Artist of the Republic of Belarus. With pleasure, his exhibition is dedicated to the Year of Native Land and marks his 65th birthday.**

Vladimir Prokoptsov likes to be unique: his show at the National Art Museum will last 8 days, 8 hours, 8 minutes and 8 seconds. Being born on the eighth day of the eighth month of the year, he has a special relationship with the number eight.

Speaking of his *My Belarus* exhibition, he tells us, “The project includes my works dedicated to my ‘native land’. My administrative work is time-consuming so I work as an artist at the weekends and holidays. I want to show my philosophical outlook on life. Since I have a specialised education, it’s very important for me to announce myself as an artist.”

The show unites thirty paintings, with the last finished only a few days ago. “This picture is devoted to museum employees of various generations. We continue their work, transforming our cultural institutions in the museum quarter,” he adds.

The Chairman of the Council of the Republic, Mikhail Myasnikovich, has been on friendly terms with Mr. Prokoptsov for many years, telling us, “He’s a very charismatic person, moved by all manner of events, not only relating to the world of art. With his help, Belarusians and visitors to the country can discover fine art and the boundless talent of our people.”

The canvases on show span many decades but most explore the theme of love and nostalgia for his native village of Zhgunskaya Buda, in the Gomel Region, where his family home is found, surrounded by its garden, river and trees...

The master’s works are kept at the National Art Museum of Belarus, as well as at the National Art Museum of Lithuania, and in corporate and private collections.

For the past two decades, Vladimir Prokoptsov has combined his artistic endeavours with his duties as the Director General of the National Art Museum of Belarus. He has two lives: as the director of the country’s main museum and as an artist. However, it seems to suit him.

**You didn’t expect to become a museum director, but it’s what fills your day. Does painting remain only a hobby for you?**

*I take it seriously, as you must if you wish to announce yourself as an artist and exhibit works. As the museum’s director, I’m naturally scrutinised by fellow artists since I purport to ‘lead them’. In declaring myself as an artist, I need to follow the rules of the game. If it was only a hobby, I’d paint purely for pleasure. However, it’s more than a hobby.*

*Of course, I lack time, being unable to work from morning until evening as a freelance artist. I can only work in the evening or at night, at the weekend and on holidays. To make a brilliant picture and be*

# Two paths in life

On August 8th, 2018, at eight seconds past 8.08am, Vladimir Prokoptsov launched his *My Belarus* exhibition



Vladimir Prokoptsov with his *My Belarus* album

*recognised as a talented artist, much effort is needed and many works should be painted. Meanwhile, you might create a hundred paintings without them being ‘great’. Sometimes, only one or two are such, so it’s perhaps better to create just one picture a year and for it to be amazing, touching the soul and stirring a response. Ordinary viewers will have a different perspective to professionals, no doubt. I’m cultivating my skills but I’m aware that I’m in competition with my colleagues. It’s easier for me to work with the expert committee since I’m not only an academic director. I also visit open air workshops and the exhibition at the National Art Museum is my third show. My works are exhibited at the Artists’ Union and I also contribute to major shows.*

**Why does the style of your pictures vary?**

*It depends on my mood and desire to experiment. I used to combine realism with impressionism but my recent pictures are more decorative. It probably comes with age and experience. I have a different mental outlook and ‘rhythm’ today; it’s as if I’m in a chariot and can’t stop. I present my*

*feelings on the canvas.*

**Are works by Belarusian artists interesting to foreign audiences?**

*Yes; of course. In fact, the Belarusian school, especially the realist school of our older generation, is rated highly. Europe lacks such a level today. Sadly, we lack an art market which can support auctions. I’d like to see something in Vitebsk: the place permeated by the smell of paint since the times of Chagall and Malevich. Why do we have so many casinos and so few art galleries? We want to be a European capital, and we certainly have the perfect geographical position. Our cities are well-groomed. We lack a Pavarotti but we have gorgeous artworks, so why shouldn’t we take a leading role in the art market; especially when we have such traditions?*

**Should a museum try to guide visitors’ taste?**

*It’s essential. A museum should not operate without an aim: its mission is education and teaching. It’s an educational centre. Our museum is becoming more active, branching out. An exhibition doesn’t need to be limited to art works; it can con-*

*tinue its theme along various avenues, for the pleasure of children and adults. Our museum has received a lot of funding to modernise its halls and raise salaries, with the aim of guiding public taste. A museum must act ‘aggressively’, in the best sense, being three steps ahead — especially in our modern times of globalisation. Visitors should be enticed, through lectures and excursions. I’m convinced that museums are educational; no other purpose is needed.*

**How is museum infrastructure developing?**

*I hope we’ll soon complete our work on the museum quarter.*

**Are you drawing on foreign experience?**

*When I visit a foreign country and local galleries, I focus on how works are displayed, looking at the flooring and lighting. I look with my ‘manager eyes’ first, and only then view the pictures.*

**In your twenty years of directorship, have you seen visitors become more demanding?**

*Of course. We have the Internet now, so people can take a virtual tour of the Tretyakov Gallery or some other museum. Modern art lovers can take a two-hour trip on a Belavia plane to Paris, to see the ‘Mona Lisa’. Nothing can surprise us now. Audiences are true gourmands of art: demanding and sophisticated. We need to be ready for this, keeping up with today’s technologies, exhibition styles, methods and staff training. It’s a global issue so I, as museum director, cannot remain idle. I keep my staff from resting on their laurels, although some may dislike this.*

*In the 1960-1970s, the museum was a safe harbour; now, it must earn money, as well as promoting the country’s image and organising international projects. Our visitors wish to see a Marc Chagall show or a Tretyakov Gallery exhibition. Moreover, museum staff should know foreign languages. In a word, the museum format needs expansion.*

**Are you ‘fighting’ for visitors?**

*We fight for every visitor. Only interesting exhibitions and programmes attract visitors so an ideal modern museum is a large cultural industry.*

**It must be difficult to manage such a ‘mechanism’?**

*It’s certainly not simple; it’s a huge responsibility. The museum is our country’s ‘calling card’. I’m always telling my staff that — sooner or later — new people will replace us. The museum should not remain idle; it must work and, accordingly, I bear huge responsibility, as its head.*

**Is a museum director a manager or an academic?**

*Everything together. I can hardly imagine a manager — rather than a painter or art critic — as a National Art Museum director. Can you imagine an economist heading the Hermitage or the Tretyakov Gallery? I personally cannot. Of course, these museums have their own managers but must be headed by a specialist. A museum director is a universal figure: they should be a manager, an economist and an art critic. This is why I have no shame in continuing to learn something new.*



# Heroes of Zamkovaya Hill

**Knightly festival of medieval culture amazes Mstislavl guests**

By Diana Garaninova

The Knights' Fest medieval culture festival has been held in Mstislavl for the 11th time, gathering over two hundred knights from thirty Belarusian and Russian historical reconstruction clubs. The festival is a calling card for ancient Mstislavl, being the brightest event in the district. Welcoming visitors and participants, the Chairman of the Mstislavl District Executive Committee, Alexander Prokopov, noted that the medieval culture festival inspires tourism for the district.

The main action took place on Zamkovaya Hill; after the opening ceremony, horses and knights, with squires and approximates assembled, leading to equestrian entertainments in the afternoon, featuring the Golden Spur horse-historical club. A grand battle (a buhurt) concluded the day, starting with five knights on either side, and growing in size until there was a breath-taking clash of swords.

Dmitry Tsurganov was attending the Knights Festival for the first time. Despite being born in Mstislavl, he's lived in Vladivostok for twenty-five years. Taking a special trip to the festival, as recommended by friends and relatives, his admiration is clear. He tells us, "It's great that such a wonderful idea has come to life in Mstislavl. The atmosphere is great. You feel the power of knightly battles and metal ringing in this magnificent and majestic show on Zamkovaya Hill. Now, in the place where we played as boys, it's a true open-air museum. I'm so proud!"

Many spoke of the festival's special atmosphere, including Wolfgang Rodger, the captain of the Free Bird historical reconstruction club's ranch. Attending for



Historical reconstruction of ancient events



Participants of the fest

the eighth time, he comments, "This is a special place. The energy of the Castle Hill is invigorating. It's filled with the spirit of real historical events. We're all soldiers and it's an honour for us to come here."

The rich festival programme was not limited to the show on Zamkovaya Hill. It involved almost every historic building in the city, many of which hosted exhibitions, workshops, and dance and concert venues. Piotr Mstislavets Square's former hotel and café are still under repair; but provided the perfect setting for the chilling theme of a witch-hunt. Former re-enactor Alexander Varlamov initiated the interactive performance of the Inquisition. We all know how torture was used in the Middle Ages, but the show reminds us in the most immediate way. Alexander comments that it's vital to get guests involved, as much as possible, "In Europe, city residents — young and old — participate in festivals, putting on medieval costumes. We lack such a tradition but I hope this special festival culture will grow in Belarus."

A permanent leader of the Mstislavl holiday, the creator of the country's first knight club, Igor Nestyuk, also sees the festival as a unique phenomenon in historical reconstruction. "I'm a great fan of Mstislavl's festival. Zamkovaya Hill is orderly and local authorities offer warm hospitality. We have access to water and food and are grateful for the town's efforts to help us. Mstislavl is celebrating our glorious past through a modern festival, enticing tourists."

# China's capital presented in Belarusian capital

**Beijing tourist potential presented at Minsk's House of Friendship**

The presentation took place during the photo exhibition dedicated to the Chinese capital at the House of Friendship. The Inspector of the Beijing Municipal Commission of Tourism Development, Shi Anping, emphasised that this year special attention is

being paid to the development of bilateral tourist exchange. He noted the fact that the presentation aims to tell as much as possible about the advantages of the Chinese capital for Belarusian tourists. Shi Anping reminded the audience that in 2019, China will be hosting the World Expo, in 2020, the World Leisure Congress and in 2022, the Winter

Olympic Games. These important events will attract a large number of guests from abroad and the Chinese representatives hope Belarusians will be among them.

In turn, the Advisor of the Chinese Embassy to Belarus, Luo Zhanhui, expressed the opinion that collaboration between the two states is developing in

leaps and bounds each year. He underlined the importance of the Belarusians focussing on the development of this area and expressed confidence that in the future tourist links will become even more active.

The event also saw a presentation by the Chinese company Air China, which has been fulfilling direct Beijing-Minsk

flights since 2015. Representatives of the company described the advantages offered to their passengers. In total, the company performed flights to 16 European states.

The photo exhibition in Minsk was presented by the Beijing Municipal Commission of Tourism Development and Uvisvit cultural and business centre.

# Sparkling like bright lightning



EUROPEAN  
ATHLETICS  
CHAMPIONSHIPS  
BERLIN 2018

**Elvira German — European champion in track-and-field**

The 21-year-old athlete covered the 100m hurdles at the Olimpiastadion (Olympic Stadium) within 12.67 seconds, writing her name in gold letters in history. Sprint finals of the top tournaments are no ordinary events, while our emotions on the eve of the women's 100m hurdles in Berlin made us quiver with expectation. Two Belarusian athletes were at the start — Alina Talay and Elvira German — both occupying leading positions in the European ranking. Six years ago in Helsinki, Talay became a European champion. Two years ago, at the same tournament, she claimed silver and arrived in Berlin as a leader of the season. She was dreaming of one more medal but this didn't happen...

In the mixed zone after the finish, a disappointed



Alina didn't appear, but no one could blame her. The unfortunate injury against which she has been struggling for the last three weeks, didn't allow her to fight for the medal or even to finish the distance. However, this drama did not spoil the triumph of the new champion. Elvira is 21 years old while Talay reached the top step of the medals podium at 23. No other Belarusian athlete has started so early and so powerfully, as Elvira German, after the results were announced Elvira was so excited she was ready to jump higher than the winner of the pole vault competition, Ekaterini Stefanidi of Greece.

## Speed walking

**Belarusian athlete Dmitry Diubin wins bronze in the 50km speed walking at the European Athletics Championships in Berlin**

Express-interview with the athlete immediately after the competition:

*Yes, the distance is complex but today I had good feeling. Moreover, the atmosphere was great. I steadily gathered speed and my rivals jostled each other during the whole distance. Of course, I feel tired but the fact that I managed to finish third overrules all other feelings. I haven't ever experienced such drive and emotions.*



**Dmitry Diubin**

**The bronze medal is your first award. Does this encourage you?**

*Definitely! The coach was always telling me that I needed to be patient, to reach a particular level and everything will be ok. Of course, I was patient but had some doubts. Today, when I crossed the finish line in third position I finally believed that I can fight for medals at any competitions. The IAAF World Race Walking Team Championships, in Minsk and the Olympiad in Tokyo lie ahead and I will try to build on my success there.*

# Zenit has never been dealt with like this

St. Petersburg's Zenit loses to Dinamo Minsk (4:0) in first match of third qualifying round of Europa League: its greatest defeat since 1989



**Moment of historical match between Dinamo Minsk and Zenit**

**By Kirill Karin**

In their wildest dreams, neither the Dinamo Minsk players nor their fans could have imagined defeating Zenit 4:0. However, Sergey Gurenko's trainees have smashed the richest club in Eastern Europe and shown that football is not just a game of money. Zenit's coach Sergey Semak may regret not having sent Artem Dzyuba, Leandro Paredes and Róbert Mak to Minsk. However, even without them, the St. Petersburg club's line-up was impressive.

Dinamo kept up a steady stream of attack, with Vladimir Khvashchinsky most active, making a goal attempt already in the first 12 seconds and a little bit later another goal attempt was made by Filipp Ivanov. Meanwhile, Uros Nikolić decided not to de-

lay with the goal and, after skillfully making a penalty kick not far from the penalty area corner, scored the first goal — 1:0. Minskers didn't want to stop and continued to actively attack,

**Minsk Dinamo's coach, Sergey Gurenko:**

**'Belarus has not witnessed such a holiday for a long time'**

with Vladimir Khvashchinsky being especially active. In the 32nd minute his fourth goal attempt was a success: Portuguese Rocha passed the ball to Ivanov with his heel. However, there was a ricochet and the ball headed to Khvashchinsky, who used the chance

to send the score to 2:0!

Just before the halftime whistle, Uros Nikolić made a pass to the penalty area where Dinamo captain Nino Galović scored with his head, placing the team 3:0 in the lead.

The beginning of the second half saw fierce attack from the St. Petersburg club but Dinamo's defenders rose to the challenge. When the midfielders were unable to hold back Zenit's players, goalkeeper Andrey Gorbunov came to help.

In the 67th minute, Dinamo made a rare (for the second period) attack, passing the ball from Filipp Ivanov to Uros Nikolić, who immediately headed it into the net — 4:0! The end of the match was full of attacks by Zenit, including penalty and corner kicks, but the Minsk squad defended well, even producing a counter-attack!



## There is a head start, and we can not miss it

**BATE Borisov claims away victory over Azerbaijani Qarabag in first match of Champions League third qualifying round**

Spanish legionary Dani Quintana (who scored two penalty goals to the Albanian Kukësi in a return match of the second qualifying round) failed to play in the Azerbaijani team against BATE. This was reflected in the level of attack by the Azerbaijani club.

BATE played the first half much more confidently than the hosts and Stanislav Dragun's goal in the 36th minute became a logical development of events. Borisov footballers demonstrated a perfect and dynamic attack which was started by Ivanić and Stasevich after a 'steal' of the ball in the centre of the field. Halfback Dragun found himself in the position of a centre forward and turned Sigenevich's kick from the right wing into a goal to the net with his head.

In the first period, BATE had at least a couple more good plays to hit the net, for example, Sigenevich's kick from the corner of the six-yard box after Ivanić's exact pass in the 29th minute but the ball flew over the bar.

The second half was successfully started by the Qarabag footballers, who controlled play for most of the remaining part of the match (the number of shots at goal 11-2, with 3-0 to the goal mouth). However, most attacks were not dangerous and goalkeeper Denis Shcherbitsky saved the squad several times. As a result, the Borisov players managed to defend their minimum advantage in the score before the return game in Borisov.

## Shot of the week



On the night from August 12th to 13th up to 110 falling stars per hour could be seen in Belarus — the peak of the Perseids meteor shower

### EXHIBITIONS

#### NATIONAL ART MUSEUM OF BELARUS

20 Lenin Street  
Until 26<sup>th</sup> August. *Equos. Kon. Horse*

#### NATIONAL HISTORY MUSEUM

12 Karl Marx Street  
Until 25<sup>th</sup> August. *Questoria* Until 2<sup>nd</sup> September. *Motherland. Reconstruction*

#### NATURE AND ECOLOGY MUSEUM

9A Bogdanovich Street  
Until 14<sup>th</sup> October. *Life with Cold Blood*

#### GREAT PATRIOTIC WAR HISTORY MUSEUM

8 Pobediteley Avenue  
Until 13<sup>th</sup> August. *Piotr Masherov: His Heart Beats for People*

#### NATIONAL LIBRARY OF BELARUS

116 Nezavisimosti Avenue  
Until 31<sup>st</sup> August. *Enlightenment. Experience. Progress* Until 5<sup>th</sup> September. Gavriil Vashchenko's exhibition: *Land Under White Wings* Until 15<sup>th</sup> September. *ABCs from Around the Globe* Until 1<sup>st</sup> October. *Colourful Days* Until 31<sup>st</sup> January. *Maly Trostenets*: exhibition-chronicles of large-scale horror

#### PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY

11 Sovetskaya Street  
Until 3<sup>rd</sup> September. *War Chronicle in Mikhail Ptashuk's Films*

#### ART-MORJE

31 Surganov Street  
Until 18<sup>th</sup> August. Exhibition of Vitaly Chernobrisov: *Wine Makers*

#### YAKUB KOLAS SQUARE

Until 8<sup>th</sup> September. *The Artist and the City*: open air exhibition of Georgy Skripnichenko's pictures

#### MUSEUM OF FOLK ARCHITECTURE AND EVERYDAY LIFE

*Ozertso village*  
Until 18<sup>th</sup> August. *Folk Images of Belarus*

#### NATURE AND ECOLOGY MUSEUM

117 Kazinets Street  
Until 31<sup>st</sup> August. *Safari Park* exhibition of exotic animals

#### LEONID SHCHEMELEV ART GALLERY

10 Revolyutsionnaya Street  
Until 16<sup>th</sup> September. *Minsk. Photo. History. News*

### THEATRES

#### MODERN ART THEATRE

5 Oktyabrskaya Street  
16.08. House Upside Down 2 17.08. Paying for Pleasure 19.08. Barmaley 20.08. Two Henpecked Husbands 21.08. House Upside Down 22.08. Happiness Exists

#### EVENTS

#### RE:PUBLIC

62 Pritytsky Street  
17.08. Disco of the 1980-1990s  
18.08. Disco of the 1990-2000s  
18.08. Otto Dix disco (St. Petersburg)

#### MINSK CITY HALL

2a Svobody Square  
18.08. Classics by Town Hall

#### LILY

1 Kalvariyskaya Street  
17.08. Disco Friday  
18.08. Disco Saturday

#### UPPER TOWN

23A Svobody Square  
16.08. Forgotten Love Melodies: music and songs from Soviet cinema  
18.08. Peshekhodka 21.08. Summer musical nights in Upper Town  
22.08. Valery Skorozhonok: dedication to Vladimir Mulyavin 23.08. Animal Carnival: Minsk Classic ensemble

#### MAXIM GORKY NATIONAL ACADEMIC DRAMA THEATRE

5 Volodarsky Street  
18.08. How to Become Rich  
21.08. Zoika's Flat  
22.08. Lady for a Day  
23.08. Red Hot Mamas

#### PALACE OF ARTS

3 Kozlov Street  
Polina Respublika

#### DREAMLAND PARK

80 Orlovskaya Street  
16 and 17.08. Disco of the 1990s. Perestroika

#### RADZIWILLS' PALACE

City of Nesvizh, 19 Leninskaya Street  
18.08. Saturdays with Musical Accent in Radziwills' Palace

#### GRAFFITI

16 Kalinin Lane  
18.08. Osimira

#### TNT ROCK CLUB

9 Revolyutsionnaya Street  
16.08. Make Like a Tree  
18.08. Tribute to Arctic Monkeys (Ape It), Oasis & Muse (The Apples)  
23.08. Just