

«We will stand up for the diversity of the world. We will keep telling the truth to people abroad, so that everyone can see the real, the genuine – not a distorted or false – image of Russia. We will actively promote business and humanitarian cooperation, as well as scientific, educational and cultural relations. We will do this even though some governments attempt to create something like a new iron curtain around Russia.

We will never enter the path of self-isolation, xenophobia, suspicion and search for enemies. All that is evidence of weakness, and we are strong and confident.

Our goal is to have as many equal partners as possible, both in the West and in the East. We will expand our presence in those regions where integration processes are on the rise now, where politics is not mixed with economy, and where, on the contrary, obstacles to trade, to exchange of technologies and investments, and to free movement of people are removed.

Under no conditions will we curtail our relations with Europe or with America. At the same time, we will restore and expand our traditional ties with South America. We will continue our cooperation with Africa and the countries of the Middle East.»

Vladimir PUTIN, President of the Russian Federation
Excerpt from the Presidential Address to the Federal Assembly
December 4, 2014, Moscow, the Kremlin



About the Federal Agency for the Commonwealth of Independent States, Compatriots Living Abroad and International Humanitarian Cooperation.

The Agency exercises the following powers:

- Performs the state customer (state customer-coordinator) functions that correspond to the federal and departmental special-purpose programs, as well as the intergovernmental special-purpose programs, implemented with the participation of the Russian Federation;
- Interacts, in accordance with the established procedure, with the executive bodies of the international and regional organizations established by the Russian Federation together with the participant states of the Commonwealth of Independent States;
- Renders assistance to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation in conducting the unified foreign policy of the Russian Federation insofar as it refers to the coordination of programs (in accordance with established procedures) in the field of international humanitarian cooperation;
- Develops and implements – in coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, the Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation and other federal executive bodies – both medium – and long-term programs in the field of assistance (on the bilateral level) to the international development of the relations with the participant states of the Commonwealth of Independent States and with other countries, as well as monitors the implementation of these programs.



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Main areas of activity

Strengthening common humanitarian space and promoting integration of the CIS countries

According to the Foreign Policy Concept of the Russian Federation dated February 12, 2013 and to the long-term political and economic interests of the Russian Federation, the Commonwealth of Independent States is a priority area for Rossotrudnichestvo.

Using its network of Russian Centers of Science and Culture (RCSC) the Agency is actively working on the promotion and preservation of the Russian language and culture in the CIS countries. It also contributes to the strengthening and development of interrelations between Russia and Russian compatriots living in the CIS member states.

In accordance with its functions and powers, Rossotrudnichestvo cooperates in this area with the relevant departments of the CIS Executive Committee Central Apparatus, the committees and commissions of the chambers of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, the Russian Ministry of Economic Development, the Russian Ministry of Education, the Russian Federal Migration Service, other ministries and departments, as well as with a number of subjects of the Russian Federation.

Promoting and strengthening integration processes in the CIS is also one of the functional tasks of the RCSC. Russian Centers and organizational resources of the Rossotrudnichestvo representational offices are actively used for conducting joint programs with the diplomatic missions and other organizations of the Commonwealth.

In accordance with the Concept of the Russian Federation Participation in the International Development Assistance, approved by the President of Russia on June 14, 2007, Rossotrudnichestvo (in cooperation with the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Russian Ministry of Finance and other federal agencies) is involved in the development of the national program of International Development Assistance (IDA), which will be used to implement the projects of assistance to the CIS countries in humanitarian, educational and social spheres.

Much attention is devoted to the promotion of innovative cooperation with the CIS countries. Bearing this aim in mind, the Council of CIS State Leaders (CIS CSL) decided, on November 14, 2008, to develop the Interstate



Program of Innovative Cooperation of the CIS Member States for the period up to 2020. According to the decision, taken by the CIS CSL on May 21, 2010, Rossotrudnichestvo was approved to be the customer-coordinator of the Program.

Rossotrudnichestvo also actively supported the idea of creating the Eurasian Union and is now working on the implementation of the goals set by the government in this direction.



Promoting Russian culture on the global scale

The steps that Rossotrudnichestvo undertakes in the areas of culture, science and education are aimed at the global promotion of Russian achievements in the humanities (via the large-scale integrated programs), as well as at the ensuring of the permanent Russian cultural presence abroad (via the network of the Rossotrudnichestvo representational offices – Russian Centers of Science and Culture).

With regard to the CIS countries, the activities of Rossotrudnichestvo are aimed at the creation of a unified humanitarian space and the development of integration processes. With regard to the foreign countries, these activities are carried out in order to strengthen international positions of the Russian Federation, to promote its national interests, and to create objective conditions for the perception of modern Russia as a democratic, free and open state.



Strengthening Russian language positions

Rossotrudnichestvo, using the potential of its representational offices in the foreign countries, pursues a consistent and active work in supporting and promoting Russian language, Russian literature and culture; it assists the Russian language study valuing it as an integral part of the global culture and a tool of the international communication.

Currently, Rossotrudnichestvo is the only Russian government agency that systematically provides the foreign communities with Russian language courses – via the RCSC. These courses are now available at 58 representational offices in 63 countries around the world. The total number of the students is about 20 000 people per year.

Particular attention is paid to the courses of social and professional orientation, and to teaching different target audiences. The most popular form of training is intensive, and short-term courses for the employees of state agencies and services, airlines, banks, hotels and travel agencies. Russian language courses for



children of compatriots living abroad and children born in mixed marriages are operating in 33 countries. Russian language courses at RCSC (jointly with leading Russian universities) offer tests for foreign citizens in the Russian language with the subsequent issuance of certificates.

Rossotrudnichestvo and its foreign representational offices annually organize and conduct cultural, educational, scientific and methodological activities aimed at promoting the Russian language and stimulating interest of foreign citizens to study it; at supporting Russian studies programs abroad and improving the teaching of the Russian language in the host countries.

As part of its regulatory activity, Rossotrudnichestvo pays particular attention to the activation and coordination of effort (at the interagency level) for working out conceptual documents that consolidate and regulate the inter-agency cooperation in order to expand Russia's cultural presence abroad, and to ensure the expansion and strengthening of the Russian language position in the world (the draft of the state concept of the support provided by the Russian Federation to the Russian language abroad; the draft of the «Russian school abroad» concept).

Last October the drafts of the concepts got approved at the meeting of the Presidential Council of the Russian Federation on the Russian language on October 9, 2014. Currently, the concepts are being finalized in accordance with the comments of the Council members.

The Agency pays particular attention to the support of Russian schools abroad. Rossotrudnichestvo provides constant informational, scientific-methodological and organizational support (with regard to the innovative methods of teaching) to Russian schools abroad and the schools of the Russian Defense Ministry and the Russian Federal Security Service that operate in Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Ukraine.

Rossotrudnichestvo monitors foreign Russian-language schools with the aim to develop criteria for the formation of the registry of Russian schools abroad. As of November 2014, 215 schools from 40 countries took part in the monitoring.

In order to perform the interagency coordination of the joint actions in support of Russian schools abroad, Rossotrudnichestvo initiated the creation of the Expert Council for the support of Russian schools abroad. Working groups in various areas of collaboration were created within the framework of the Council.



Among the Council members are representatives of the Rossotrudnichestvo, the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Russian Ministry of Education, the «Russian World» fund, the leading Russian universities and publishing houses, and the representatives of Russian schools abroad.

Promoting the export of Russian educational services

Activities, aimed at developing international relations of the Russian Federation in the field of education, are conducted pursuant to the concept of promotion of Russian education via the Rossotrudnichestvo representative offices abroad, approved by Sergey Lavrov, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, in March 2014.

The format of the aforementioned activities is that the Agency enters into cooperation agreements with Russian universities and research organizations that are interested in the development of their international relations and in their positioning in the foreign educational and scientific arena.

Rossotrudnichestvo supplies each agreement of this kind with the annual plan of joint actions (developed by a university or a research organization) that presupposes the systematic and targeted export of the scientific and educational services of Russian higher education facilities.

Teaching foreign citizens at Russian universities

Rossotrudnichestvo, in accordance with its powers defined by the Agency Regulations, participates in selecting (and directing to study in the Russian Federation) foreign citizens and compatriots living abroad, at the expense of the federal budget; it assists the development of international relations of the Russian Federation in the field of education; promotes the educational services of Russian educational institutions on the global market; facilitates the cooperation between Russian and foreign educational institutions, as well as organizes congresses, conferences, seminars, forums, exhibitions and other events in the field of international educational and scientific cooperation.



The activities, scheduled to select foreign nationals and Russian compatriots living abroad for their further studies at Russian institutions of higher education, are carried out within the framework of the implementation of the Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 891 «On establishing quotas for foreign nationals and persons without citizenship in terms of their education in the Russian Federation», dated October 8, 2013.



According to this resolution, the Russian party shall provide an annual quota for the specified categories of citizens at the level of up to 15 000 of governmental scholarships that allow studying at educational institutions in the educational programs of vocational education, higher education and secondary vocational education at the expense of the federal budget.

After 2014 the selection is carried out in two stages.

During the first stage, Rossotrudnichestvo performs the functions of the single operator for selecting abroad foreign candidates to study in Russia (via its network of the representative offices abroad; in the countries where there are no representations, the selection is done through the Embassies of the Russian Federation).



Upon the first stage of selection, the sets of documents of those foreign candidates who got recommended for studies within the allocated quotas, are formed locally under the directions of those representatives of a Russian Embassy or a foreign representation of Rossotrudnichestvo, who are responsible for the admissions; the documents are then sent to the central office of Rossotrudnichestvo.

The list of documents submitted by the applicants, the admission requirements and the necessary recommendations can be found on the Internet at the Russian Ministry of Education website: <http://минобрнауки.рф>, the Rossotrudnichestvo website: <http://rs.gov.ru>, the Federal Education and Science Supervision Agency website (with regard to the recognition of foreign education documents): <http://obrnadzor.gov.ru>.

The second stage of the selection is carried out directly by the Russian educational organizations through a specially created Information-analytical system.

Promoting abroad advanced achievements of Russian science, technology and engineering

Appearance of the Russian scientific community in the global research arena is a necessary condition for the development of the domestic economy, which is based, inter alia, on innovative technologies. Rossotrudnichestvo supports the efforts of Russian universities, research organizations and manufacturers of competitive high-tech products in their establishing of mutually beneficial contacts with foreign partners, in shaping and implementing the bilateral and multilateral projects and programs.



The main method of this systematic and complex support is to assist in organizing conferences, seminars and exhibitions in the sphere of high technologies (in the foreign countries), as well as in providing profes-

sional consultations re selecting foreign partners. Theme events involving Russian scientists and experts provide great results when held at the Russian Centers of Science and Culture. For example, in 2014, for the first time in the history of Ecuador, its artificial research Earth satellite was launched with the assistance of young Russian professionals and graduate students. The project was supported by Rossotrudnichestvo, and the foreign participants visited Russia within the framework of the «New Generation» program.



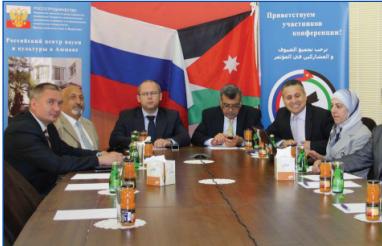
The common way of preparing for further cooperation on important topics is the organization of the videoconferences between Russian and foreign young scientists, done with the Agency's support.

2015 events with the participation of Russian scientists and experts at the RCSC organized by Rossotrudnichestvo jointly with the Ministry of Education of Russia

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|----|-----------|----------------|---|
| 1 | May | Serbia | New technologies in the electric power engineering. Basic technologies of power electrotechnics |
| 2 | May | Slovakia | Technologies for producing structural and functional nanomaterials |
| 3 | May | Czech Republic | Technologies for diagnosing nanomaterials and nanodevices |
| 4 | June | Armenia | Nano-, bio-, information and cognitive technologies |
| 5 | June | Italy | Nano-, bio-, information and cognitive technologies |
| 6 | June | Kazakhstan | Technologies for search, exploration and development of mineral deposits and their extraction |
| 7 | July | Belarus | Computer modeling of nanomaterials, nanodevices and nanotechnologies |
| 8 | September | Vietnam | Biomedical and veterinary technologies |
| 9 | September | India | Technologies and software of distributed and high performance computing systems |
| 10 | September | China | Developments of young Russian scientists (as part of the Year of Youth Exchange) |
| 11 | October | Brazil | Technologies for oil refining and biofuel extraction |
| 12 | November | Bulgaria | Technologies for creating energy-efficient systems for energy transportation, distribution, and use |



Providing assistance to international development



The modern system of international relations is characterized by the growing interdependence of actors; national borders become permeable to informational and economic impact from abroad, and the development problems even of a very distant country can pose a serious threat to other states. One of the instruments to minimize such risks is the International Development Assistance (IDA).

Russian IDA is the direction of the foreign-policy activity aiming to contribute the solving of global and regional problems and to prevent new threats and challenges by means of providing financial, technical, humanitarian and other assistance in order to facilitate the economic and social development of the states.

Currently, the powers in this area are distributed among several federal executive bodies. Rossotrudnichestvo carries out its activities in the IDA sphere in accordance with the Decree of the President of the Russian Federation No. 476 «Issues of the Federal Agency for the Commonwealth of Independent States, Compatriots Living Abroad and International Humanitarian Cooperation» dated May 8, 2013. According to this document, the Agency is assigned with the task to develop and implement medium- and long-term programs in the field of the IDA at the bilateral level, especially with the member states of the Commonwealth of Independent States and with other countries, as well as to monitor the implementation of these programs.

In order to develop a national system to facilitate the development, Rossotrudnichestvo, together with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, developed a new Concept of public policy of the Russian Federation in the field of international development assistance; the Concept was approved by Vladimir Putin, the President of Russia, on April 20, 2014. In accordance with the Concept, the priorities in the IDA sphere are as follows:

- improving the quality of public administration systems;
- creating industrial and innovative potential in the assistance-recipient countries;
- supporting the efforts in post-conflict peace-building;
- promoting food security and agricultural development;
- strengthening national health-care and social protection systems; improving the quality of education;
- developing democratic society institutions.

Rossotrudnichestvo has competence and experience in implementing corresponding programs in the host countries, including the states that receive Russian assistance for their development. Here are some of the projects:

- program aimed at the development of well-balanced school meals in the Republic of Armenia, which helps to improve the quality of life of children;
- delivery of textbooks and teaching aids on the Russian language to schools in Kyrgyzstan under «The Russian Language» Federal Program, designed to improve the quality of education and make it available to everyone;
- providing foreign citizens with the quotas on receiving education in Russia;
- individual projects to support compatriots living abroad;
- «New Generation»: a program of study visits to Russia organized for young people from foreign countries.

These projects are the real examples of the Russian contribution to the improvement of the human capital with regard to the population of the partner countries.

The official symbols of the Russian IDA were developed in 2013 and approved for use by Sergey Lavrov, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, in order to create a positive image of Russia as a donor country and to raise awareness of assistance both inside the country and abroad. The graphic symbol of the Russian assistance to development is the image of the letters «RU», combined with the image of the traditional Russian nesting doll.

Russia is in the process of institutionalizing its national IDA system. The facilitation of the partner countries' development meets the national interests of Russia, promotes the formation of good-neighborly relations and strengthens the position of the Russian Federation in the international community.





Public diplomacy



Recently, people's diplomacy has been playing an increasingly active role around the world and has become an important addition to the official diplomacy.

People's diplomacy includes a whole variety of activities aimed at interacting with civil society and foreign audiences; it presents itself as a unique tool for the expansion of international public relations of the state.

People's diplomacy includes such elements as non-governmental organizations and associations, contacts between sister cities, social and political events, international non-governmental organizations.

Nowadays Russia has a huge potential for the public diplomacy development. This potential consists, inter alia, of the great international prestige of Russian science and culture; of the extensive experience that has been accumulated since the Soviet era; of the employees and infrastructure of Russian cultural centers around the world; and of the so-called «Russian world», i.e. millions of people in the neighboring countries and far abroad who get attracted by Russia, the Russian language and culture, who experience the human need to maintain ties with Russia and the Russians.

The importance of work in this area is obvious: this work is necessary so that the world would have more objective information about Russia, and so that Russia occupies an important place on the international arena.

The possibilities of this «soft power» will best meet the outside challenges that the Russian Federation faces today. The tasks derive entirely from the needs of the country's internal development: to provide a favorable environment, to create modernization alliances, to strengthen the Eurasian integration – those are not the end goals of the Russian foreign policy; those are the means of modernization of Russia itself.

Being a part of the international humanitarian cooperation, people's and public diplomacy should not only promote fellow feelings for our country in general, but also promote the implementation of specific public interests.

Rossotrudnichestvo successfully interacts with such non-governmental organizations as the «Russian World» Foundation, the Public Chamber of Russia, St. Andrew Foundation, the «Russia Abroad» Library and Foundation, the Russian Cultural Foundation, the International Council of Russian Compatriots, the Theater Union, the International Union of Museums, the «Sister Cities» International Association, the Moscow Union of Friendship Societies, the St. Petersburg Association for International Cooperation, and many others.

Supporting compatriots abroad

One of the important tasks that the President of the Russian Federation set to Rossotrudnichestvo, is the interaction with other federal authorities as to the implementation of public policies to support compatriots abroad: to defend their educational, linguistic, social, labor, humanitarian and other legitimate rights and interests.

The coordination of interaction is carried out within the framework of the Government Commission on the Affairs of Compatriots Abroad (GCCA); on a bilateral basis it is performed jointly with the Department for Work with Compatriots Living Abroad under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia, with ministries and departments, specialized committees of the State Duma and the Federation Council, and with local authorities of the Russian Federation.

This collaboration aims to strengthen ties between Russia and Russian diasporas through the development of social, business and scientific relations between our country and foreign countries, including the international relations of the Russian Federation subjects, inter-regional cooperation and sister city partnerships.

Rossotrudnichestvo is directly involved in the implementation of the Program of work with compatriots living abroad for 2013 – 2014, «The Russian Language» Federal target program for 2011 – 2015, the implementation of activities within the regional programs of support for compatriots; Rossotrudnichestvo provides information support and helps to implement the State program to assist the compatriots living abroad in their voluntary resettlement to the Russian Federation.

After 2010 Rossotrudnichestvo, in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia, the Ministry of Culture of Russia, the Russian Archive and the GCCA, has been organizing the activities aimed at maintaining and preserving the overseas burial sites that hold historical and memorial significance for Russia.

Rossotrudnichestvo, via its network of the representational offices abroad and the Russian Centers of Science and Culture (RCSC), contributes to the strengthening and development of relations with Russian compatriots; organizes the ongoing activities to meet their cultural, informational and linguistic interests and needs; promotes the participation of Russian compatriots in cultural, educational, sports and youth events held in Russia.

The representatives of Rossotrudnichestvo and the associations of compatriots are working together on organizing activities that contribute to the process of the Russian diaspora consolidation (holding statewide and regional conferences of compatriots).

Rossotrudnichestvo, together with the consular authorities and the representatives of the Federal Migration Service, carries out the information support of the State program to assist the compatriots living abroad in their voluntary resettlement to the Russian Federation. The representative offices of Rossotrudnichestvo



organize such events as presentations of pilot programs of the Russian Federation subjects, meetings, round tables, thematic conferences with the participation of the compatriots' associations; they also distribute information package pertaining to the State program.

The tasks that are currently relevant to Rossotrudnichestvo include the expanding of the RCSC network abroad (especially in the member states of the Commonwealth of Independent States); establishing the RCSC branches and enriching their activities with new effective projects (that aim at the development of partner interaction with the Russian diaspora overseas and the increase of its role and influence in the countries of the compatriots' residence); consolidating and promoting the Russian language abroad; supporting compatriots in preserving their ethnic and cultural identity, as well as expanding their opportunities for getting access to education in Russia.

Rossotrudnichestvo faces the challenges associated with the recruiting and deploying compatriots to study in the Russian Federation; the opening of branches of Russian universities in the countries of compatriots' residence; the organizing (via the RCSC) of the Russian language courses, including the courses for children of compatriots.

The Agency's task is to play an important role in informing the international public about the situation in the sphere of compatriots' human rights, and in protecting their interests abroad. In order to ensure the real protection of the rights and interests of compatriots, the Agency will continue its practice of establishing the centers of access to legal information at RCSC.

Preservation of historical and memorial monuments and places of burial

Starting in 2010, Rossotrudnichestvo, in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia, the Ministry of Culture of Russia, the Russian Archive and the GCCA, organizes the activities aimed at maintaining and preserving the overseas burial sites that hold historical and memorial significance for Russia. These activities include the installation and repair of gravestones, restoration works, payment for services on keeping the burial grounds in good condition, including the lease of land.

The financial security of the expenditure commitments related to the implementation of the project is provided for with the funds received from the permitted activities of Rossotrudnichestvo.

The Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 379 dated May 31, 2010, approved the Rules of the organization of work to maintain and preserve the overseas burial sites that hold historical and memorial significance for the Russian Federation. The Order of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 1948-p dated November 11, 2010, approved the List of the respective places of burial overseas. The Rules provide for the extension of this List. The selection of the burial sites is carried out by the GCCA based on the Rossotrudnichestvo suggestions.

The main selection criteria are: the historical importance of the contribution that the buried persons made into science, culture, art and spiritual life of Russia; the location of burial sites; the strengthening of relations between Russia and foreign countries.

In 2011, arrangements were made for the foreign missions to collect the materials on historical and memorial sites that meet the basic eligibility criteria in the non-CIS countries. The information about such sites came from Argentina, Hungary, Bulgaria, Germany, Greece, Egypt, India, Italy, China, Macedonia, Mongolia, Morocco, Paraguay, Poland, Serbia, Tunisia, Turkey, and the Czech Republic.



In some countries, the representatives noted the presence of either the historical and memorial monuments and large complexes (Belgium, Vietnam, Germany, the Netherlands, Peru, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Croatia, France, and Japan), or the presence of the appropriate burial places on the territory of monasteries and churches under the patronage of the Russian Orthodox Church (Israel), under the protection of the state (Finland) or directly pertaining to the competence of the specific «cemetery societies» (Chile).

In 2011, the total sum of the expenses of Rossotrudnichestvo spent on financing the works and services for the maintenance and preservation of 38 burial sites situated in Greece, Italy, Macedonia, Morocco, Tunisia, and Turkey, reached 39 346.09 US dollars.

The additional lines of expense are the funds for annual maintenance of the good condition of the restored burial sites and tombstones, as well as the preparation of the official estimate and financial documentation for the restoration and reconstruction of large-scale sites.

The activities of Rossotrudnichestvo aimed at maintaining and preserving the burial places abroad evoked positive response among the foreign community and the associations of compatriots.

Currently, there exist proposals for the development of the long-term governmental program to promote the conservation of the overseas places of burial that hold historical and memorial significance for the Russian Federation, as well as of the historical sites related to the spiritual, historical and cultural heritage of the traditional Russian religious denominations.

Development of international relations of the subjects of the Russian Federation

The Agency makes extensive use of the resources offered by the Russian Scientific and Cultural Centers abroad (primarily in the CIS countries) with the intention to incorporate them in various activities: scientific and practical conferences; seminars; round tables with the participation of the representatives of political elite, official personalities from Russia and abroad, as well as public figures, lawyers, scientists and experts; presentations of economic, cultural, scientific and educational potential of the region.



The coordination of the cooperation between sister cities belongs to yet another area of our business



Rossotrudnichestvo is working in this direction, in collaboration with the «Sister Cities» International Association (IASC), the Eurasian branch of the «United Cities and Local Governments» World Organization (UCLG), the International Assembly of Capitals and Cities (IAC), with the interested bodies of federal government, as well as with the authorities of the Russian Federation subjects and cities.

The activity pursued by Rossotrudnichestvo overseas aims primarily to spread objective information about modern Russia, its material and spiritual potential, via the work with the regions and municipalities. The main objectives of this activity are:

- to promote the establishment of favorable external conditions for the implementation of the constitutional right to engage in international and foreign economic relations by the subjects of the Russian Federation;
- to assist the regions and municipalities of the Russian Federation in the facilitation of international relations in order to promote their socio-economic development, at the same time keeping to the idea of a unified foreign policy, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Russian Federation;
- to support the use of international and foreign economic relations created by the regions and municipalities of the Russian Federation to make them serve the foreign political and economic interests of the Russian Federation in the international arena;
- to promote the cross-border cooperation at the regional and municipal levels while viewing it as a tool for forming a belt of good neighborly relations along the perimeter of our borders;
- to assist in the development and implementation of the regional programs with the intention to support compatriots living abroad; to bring the regions to implement joint activities in this sphere;
- to assist in the development of economic and cultural relations between the Russian cities/municipalities and their foreign partners: to make use of the advanced foreign experience and modern technologies, to exchange their experience of democratic local governance, to ensure the sustainable development of cities and regions, to bring the citizens to actively participate in various spheres of urban life.

The list of Programs implemented by Rossotrudnichestvo

«Foreign-Policy Activities»: State Program of the Russian Federation

The priorities of the state policy in the sphere of the state program implementation are:

- promotion of international humanitarian cooperation and enforcement of human rights and freedoms, based on universal democratic values;
- protection of the rights and legitimate interests of Russian citizens and compatriots living abroad; support and promotion of the Russian language and culture of the peoples of Russia that make their unique contribution to the development of partnership among civilizations;
- information support for foreign-policy activities by means of communicating (to the broad circles of the global community) complete and accurate information about the positions of the Russian Federation on major international issues, its foreign-policy initiatives and actions, processes in and plans for the internal socio-economic development of the country, the achievements of Russian culture and science;
- assistance in promoting the objective global image of Russia as a democratic state with a socially-oriented market economy and an independent foreign policy;
- strengthening the position of Russian media in the global information space; development of broad international cooperation in the field of information, providing the necessary measures to meet any information threats to the sovereignty and security of the country.



Strategic Communications of the Russian System of International Development Assistance (IDA) in 2014

The «Strategic Communications of the Russian IDA» program includes a number of major events designed to unite the main interested parties in order to discuss the topical issues of Russian IDA.

In 2014, within the Program framework, the Agency held a Meeting of the Business Council under the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation. This event is to be the first in the series of activities designed to strengthen the cooperation between state and business with regard to the IDA issues. There are plans to organize a special section at one of the Russian Economic Forums. The program involves holding an international IDA conference with the aim





to formulate the Russian agenda in this area. In order to strengthen the support of the analytical, expert, information and consulting activities of Rossotrudnichestvo in the IDA sphere, it is planned to establish the Expert Council, which aims to facilitate the search for and discussion of the best ways to implement the state policy in the field of the IDA activities.

«New Generation»: the Program of the Short-term Study Visits to the Russian Federation, intended for young representatives of foreign political, social, scientific and business circles



Rossotrudnichestvo pays special attention to the development of the activities within the framework of the «New Generation» Program of the short-term study visits to the Russian Federation, intended for young representatives of foreign political, social, scientific and business circles; the Program is implemented under the decree No. 1394 of the President of the Russian Federation, dated October 19, 2011.

The main goals and objectives of the Program are:

- Development and promotion of social, business and scientific relations between the Russian Federation and foreign states;
- Promotion of the objective global perception of the socio-political, socio-economic, scientific, educational and cultural transformation processes taking place in the Russian society;
- Expansion of the range of those active young citizens of foreign countries having constructive opinions about the Russian Federation; making efforts to ensure their participation in strengthening the partnership between the Russian Federation and the states they represent.

The Program participants are those young representatives of political, social, scientific and business circles of foreign countries who have professional and leadership potential. An intense program of their stay in Russia is being created, including their meetings with the leaders of science and culture, visits to the state authorities and public organizations; and the cultural program that would get the delegates to become acquainted with the rich spiritual and cultural heritage of Russia. The agency develops post-program activities with the participants, involving them in the sphere of cooperation with the Russian Federation.

2 380 people took part in the «New Generation» program within the last four years (212 participants in 2011; 500 participants in 2012; 668 participants in 2013, and 1 000 participants in 2014).

The number of countries sending their delegations of program participants is constantly expanding. While only 38 countries were participating in the program in 2012, this number increased in 2014 to 62 countries.

The CIS countries still remain the priority focal area. The number of the Russian cities participating in the program increased from 10 to 28, including such cultural and scientific centers as Moscow, St. Petersburg, Ufa, Kaluga, Dubna, Vladimir, Sochi, Ulyanovsk, Nalchik, Kazan, Novgorod, Kaliningrad, Vladivostok and Arkhangelsk.

«The Russian Language» Federal Target Program for 2011 – 2015

Since 2011, Rossotrudnichestvo has been the state customer of «The Russian Language» federal target program scheduled for 2011 – 2015, which was approved by the decree No. 492 issued by the Government of the Russian Federation on June 20, 2011. The state customer-coordinator of the Program is the Ministry of Education and Science of Russia.

Within the framework of its powers, authority and competence, Rossotrudnichestvo is responsible for the implementation of the following international objectives of the Program:

- Providing support for the Russian language as a basis for the development of integration processes in the Commonwealth of Independent States;
- Meeting the linguistic and cultural needs of compatriots living abroad.

While implementing these tasks, Rossotrudnichestvo:

- organizes and conducts scientific and methodological, educational, cultural and educational activities aimed at promoting the Russian language in the world, providing support for foreign teachers and teachers of the Russian language and literature, preserving the linguistic and ethno-cultural identity of Russian compatriots;
- provides constant support to national educational institutions of foreign countries to supply them with educational, methodological, scientific and reference materials on the Russian language, literature and culture of Russia via Rossotrudnichestvo and Russian embassies abroad;
- opens and equips Community Centers of Access (CCA) to Russian educational resources and special distance technologies in teaching the Russian language.

In 2014, the Agency implemented 44 projects in more than 50 countries around the world, or with the involvement of participants from these countries.



Among the most significant and large-scale projects were:

- Humanitarian «expedition» to Germany as part of the Year of the Russian language and literature in Germany and the Year of the German language and literature in Russia;
- International Competition «Best Teacher of Russian philology abroad»;
- A complex of events dedicated to the Day of the Russian language in the CIS countries and beyond, that are aimed at the Russian compatriots and foreign citizens;
- XI International Russian Language Olympiad for students from schools with Russian as the language of instruction, situated in the CIS countries, the Baltic states, Georgia, Abkhazia and South Ossetia;
- International Internet Conference «Russian language: between Europe and Asia»;
- II International Internet Conference «The Russian language in the dialogue of cultures» within the framework of the International Humanitarian Forum.

Besides, the agency distributed 83 793 Russian-language copies of educational, teaching and reference materials, fiction, non-fiction and children's literature, as well as multimedia materials on the Russian language, literature and culture of Russia (their total costs was over 50 million rubles).

Presently, 19 countries (both CIS and non-CIS states) have Community Centers of Access (CCA) to the Russian educational resources and special distance technologies in teaching the Russian language.

Interstate Program of Innovative Cooperation of the CIS Member States for the period up to 2020

The Interstate Program of Innovative Cooperation aims to create conditions for improving global competitiveness of the CIS member states' economies; to transform them into socially-oriented knowledge-based economies; to implement the priorities of economic development based on the effective interaction between the national innovation systems in the integratable innovation space; to approve the international authority of the Commonwealth as one of the global centers of technological leadership.

The objective of the Program is to offer a large-scale mechanism that will allow harmonizing the national innovation system, developing and implementing interstate target programs and innovative projects in other formats, as well as interacting with the national target programs of the Commonwealth.

The Program has started to be filled with specific projects in the priority areas of the Commonwealth member states' innovative development; the member states have already presented about 150 projects. Currently eight CIS member states take active participation in the Program: Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan,

Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, and Ukraine – but the doors are also open to other member states of the Commonwealth.

2013-2014 Program of Work with Compatriots Living Abroad

The program was approved by Directive No. 1149-p of the Russian Federation Government issued on July 5, 2013.

The main activities of the program:

- promoting the consolidation of public associations of compatriots living abroad, and these associations' realization of coordinated international actions, forums and festivals;
- promoting the realization of complex coordinated activities by public associations of compatriots (also providing them with the state symbols of the Russian Federation, the materials with the state symbols and other information products);
- providing assistance to such international public associations of compatriots, as the International Council of Russian Compatriots, the European Russian Alliance, the World Congress of Tatars, the World Congress of Russian Jewry, etc.;
- developing the information support provided to compatriots;
- the information support provided to compatriots is also carried out under the State Program of Assistance to Compatriots Living Abroad in their Voluntary Resettlement to the Russian Federation, approved by the Presidential Decree No. 637 dated 22 June 2006: «On measures to assist the voluntary resettlement of compatriots living abroad to the Russian Federation», the events held by the Ministry of Communications of Russia, by such federal state unitary enterprises as «Information Telegraph Agency of Russia» (ITAR-TASS) and «Russian Agency of International Information «RIA Novosti» etc.;
- developing the educational, cultural, scientific and religious ties with compatriots, contributing to the preservation of the Russian spiritual and cultural and linguistic environment in the Russian-speaking communities of compatriots;
- meeting the language and cultural needs of compatriots living abroad is also carried out as part of the «Russian language» federal target program for the years 2011 – 2015, as well as within the program activities of the «Russian World» fund, held by the Russian Ministry of Culture and the Russian Ministry of Education, etc.;
- measures to support the young people in the Russian diaspora;





- support for socially disadvantaged compatriots;
- protection of the rights and freedoms of compatriots carried out mainly through the activities of the Fund to Support and Protect the Rights of Compatriots Living Abroad, created at the expense of the federal budget in accordance with the Presidential Decree No. 678 dated May 25, 2011.

State Program to Assist Compatriots Living Abroad in Their Voluntary Resettlement to the Russian Federation



To promote the voluntary resettlement of compatriots living abroad to the Russian Federation is one of the priorities of the Russian Federation migration policy.

The State Program will contribute to the social and economic development of Russia, which is impossible without a fundamental change in the demographic situation, presently characterized by the outflow of population from the territories that are strategically important for Russia, as well as by the total population reduction, including people of working age.

The main objectives of the developed State Program is to stimulate and organize the voluntary resettlement of compatriots to Russia, to offset the natural decline in population in the country (both as a whole and with regard to its individual regions) by attracting immigrants to seek permanent residence in the Russian Federation.

Major public events of a convention and exhibition nature, conducted by the Agency on a regular basis

Day of Russian Science Abroad

In February 2015, Rossotrudnichestvo will conduct a pilot project run by the organization (based on the Russian centers of science and culture abroad) of a complex network event dedicated to the Day of Russian science. This event is designed to strengthen the international relations in the field of science and technology, to attract the attention of world public to the achievements of Russian science and its potential, to promote Russian education, as well as the development of Russian scientific and research organizations.



The main participants of the event will be Russian scientists and education leaders, as well as the representatives of the academic community of the hosting countries (where the Rossotrudnichestvo representations are situated) and other interested persons. A set of events may include public lectures on topical issues of science and technology, workshops and roundtables, exhibitions of scientific achievements, and business meetings with the potential partners from abroad.

In this case, the Russian Culture and Science Centers (RCSC) allow the partners of Rossotrudnichestvo using the center infrastructure, information support and the expertise of its employees as the key to successful organizing the largest and most promising projects abroad.

Campaign: «The Single Day of the Foreign Graduates of Russian Universities»

The campaign events are based on the RCSC and the representations of Rossotrudnichestvo. An active part in their implementation is taken by the national associations of foreign graduates of Soviet and Russian universities, and by the graduates themselves – eminent statesmen, diplomats, scholars, intellectuals, as well as leading Russian universities. The events of the campaign started in the autumn of 2014; they have already attracted great interest of foreign and Russian public and will be held annually.

Forum of Scientists from the CIS Countries

Rossotrudnichestvo, within the framework of the implementation of the state «Foreign-policy activity» program of the Russian Federation, holds, in November 2015 in Moscow, the First Forum of Scientists from the Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States. The Forum will be a platform to meet and discuss topical issues of bilateral and multilateral cooperation between the research organizations of the Commonwealth member states, to intensify the dialogue between the academies of sciences of these countries, as well as between the associations of young scientists.



The Forum program will include not only the workshops and roundtables on topics of mutual interest (the popularization of science among young people, the development of basic research and cooperation in this area), but will also serve an opportunity for direct communication between the representatives of leading research organizations of the CIS countries in order to further develop the cooperation on a wide range of areas.

Russian representation at the Forum is envisioned to consist of the management board of the largest research organizations in the country, as well as the leaders of the foundations and non-profit organizations working in the area of promoting the development of science and scientific knowledge.

Olympiad: «Time to study in Russia!»



In order to improve the process of selection of the foreign nationals who will study in Russia at the expense of the federal budget, Rossotrudnichestvo, together with the consortium of leading Russian technical universities and with the support of the Russian Ministry holds the «Time to study in Russia!» Olympiad abroad. The events of the Olympiad include not only the testing and identification of the winners, but also the exhibitions dedicated to Russian education, the presentations of the educational programs of the participating universities held in the foreign schools, as well as the meetings with the administration of these countries' leading specialized higher education institutions.

The results of the Olympiad make the winners eligible for a government scholarship awarded by the Government of the Russian Federation; the winners may study at one of the Russian universities majoring in technology and science.

Forum of the Foreign Graduates of Russian Higher Education Institutions



The event takes place in Moscow in June and brings together the graduates of the current year. The atmosphere and the format of the Forum serve to facilitate the comprehensive interaction between those citizens of foreign countries who have been educated at Russian universities and their future Russian partners; to promote the active and constructive discussion of prospects of the graduates' interaction with their alma mater, and the implementation of the projects to promote the Russian language and the culture of the peoples of Russia in foreign countries.

«Eurasia – that's us!»: Festival of Youth and Students from the Countries of the Good Neighborly Relations Belt (Eurasian Youth)

The participants of the Festival are the young leaders of the Eurasian countries (journalists, leaders of youth organizations, young politicians, scientific and cultural leaders), as well as the foreign students from more than 30 countries who study at Russian universities. A rich and varied program of the festival promotes the active communication and personal contacts between young people from the «good neighborly relations belt». The cultural and educational activities harmoniously alternate with the events of the Festival business program. Such topics as the Eurasian integration, historical and cultural unity of the Eurasian space, scientific and educational cooperation, and interaction of youth organizations within the Eurasian space are discussed within the framework of roundtables and workshops.



Day of the Russian Language Abroad

The Presidential Decree No. 705 «On the Day of the Russian Language» dated June 6, 2011, establishes the annual celebrations to mark the birthday of the great Russian poet Alexander Pushkin. The goal is to preserve and develop the Russian language as the all-national heritage of the peoples of Russia, the means of communication and the integral part of the cultural and spiritual heritage of global civilization.



The celebration of the Day of the Russian Language in all countries of the world strives to identify the true role of Russia and the Russian language on the international arena, and to establish the equitable cultural, scientific and economic relations between the Russian Federation, the CIS states and the foreign countries, as well as to unite people from different religious denominations and associations. The Day of the Russian Language must be the day of cultural enrichment and demonstration of historical reconciliation (where relevant), language tolerance and openness of people from different countries; the celebration must take into account the specific political situation in the hosting country.

International Internet Conference: «Russian Language in the Dialogue of Cultures»

The II International Internet Conference with the above-mentioned name was held on June 10 – 11, 2014 in Perm, within the framework of the «Russian Language in the Dialogue of Cultures» International Humanitarian Forum.



The purpose of the Conference is to consolidate the domestic and foreign public with regard to the preservation and global expansion of Russian as a language of international communication. The Conference is dedicated to the Day of the Russian Language (June 6) and the Day of Russia (June 12).

The main site of the Conference is Perm: the location of the city allows attracting public all over the world and on all the continents and hold the online events within working hours.

The following topics were presented for the discussion during the conference:

- the Russian language as an integral part of global culture;
- does the knowledge of Russian help in science, culture, business, politics;
- national identification and the Russian language;
- should Russia take care of the preservation and development of the Russian language on its own;
- what could be the role of Russian non-governmental organizations in the preservation and development of the Russian language in Russia and beyond;
- the role of compatriots living outside Russia in the support and development of the Russian language;
- the possible role of foreign citizens and foreign (non-Russian) organizations (for which the Russian language is not mother tongue) in the studies, preservation and promotion of the Russian language.

The conference participants were the representatives from many countries. They were of different professions, age and social status, fluent in Russian and ready to take part in the discussion. Among them were the representatives of national associations of Russian studies specialists; specialists in Russian philology working at national educational institutions; philology students; representatives of associations of compatriots living abroad; representatives of associations of the Russian (Soviet) universities' alumni; artists, journalists, politicians, businessmen and public figures who use Russian as their working language.

**Advertising and exhibition events in the field of education,
to be held in 2015 at the abroad venues, including those taking place
at the Russian centers of science and culture**

| Event Name | Date | Venue |
|--|---------------------|---|
| Educational Exhibition providing information about Russian higher education institutions; dedicated to the 260 th anniversary of Moscow State University and the Student's Day | January | India, New Delhi |
| A set of activities held on account of the Single Day of the Russian (Soviet) Universities' Graduates | February | India, Delhi |
| «Maslenitsa»: all-republic tutorial workshop | February | Czech Republic, Prague |
| Exhibition of educational programs of Russian higher education institutions | February | Palestine, Bethlehem |
| Russian Education Week | 20 – 25 of February | Uzbekistan, Tashkent, Samarkand, Fergana, Kokand, Namangan |
| Regional Forum of Russianists | March | Belarus, Minsk |
| «Modern Russian language: Functioning and Problems of Teaching»: XX International Scientific and Practical Conference | March | Hungary, Budapest |
| «Bishkek-2015»: II International Exhibition-Fair of Russian higher education institutions | March | Kyrgyzstan, Bishkek |
| Complex event to promote Russian education: - lecture: «Russian scholarships and opportunities for higher education in Russian higher education institutions»; - video presentations of Russian higher education institutions; - posting the information about studying at Russian universities on the website of the embassy and/or representation | March – April | Peru, Lima |

| Event Name | Date | Venue |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| «Russian education. Dushanbe – 2015»: IV International Educational Exhibition-Fair | April | Tajikistan, Dushanbe |
| International Exhibition-Fair «Studieren in Berlin und Brandenburg» | April | Germany, Berlin |
| International Educational Exhibition Studyworld (undergraduate level, graduate level, exchange education, scholarships, internship in Germany and abroad) | April | Germany, Berlin |
| Russian Language Week. «Text. Language. Human»: VIII International Scientific Conference | May | Belarus, Mozyr |
| «Education in Russia»: Exhibition-Presentation of Educational Services performed by Russian higher education institutions | May – June | India, New Delhi |
| A set of activities held on account of the Single Day of the Russian (Soviet) Universities' Graduates | June | Abkhazia, Soukhum |
| «Education in Russia 2015-2016»: Exhibition of Russian Educational Services | July, August | Jordan, Amman |
| Exhibition of educational programs of Russian higher education institutions | August | Palestine, Bethlehem |
| A set of activities held on account of the Russian Day of Knowledge and the Nepalese Library Day | August – September | Nepal, Kathmandu |
| Workshop on «Educational programs, jointly held by economic higher education institutions in Russia and Austria» | September | Austria, Vienna |
| Roundtable on «Joint Russian-Austrian educational programs in the fields of hospitality, wellness and spa management» | October | Austria, Vienna |
| Methodological school of the Russian language, literature and culture for the Russianists from Slovakia, Czech Republic and Croatia | October | Czech Republic, Prague |

| Event Name | Date | Venue |
|--|---|--|
| The project «Russia – a guest of Paris segment of the national program «Science Festival in France», including a photo exhibition «Russia – the world-renowned scientific nation» and a stand on the issues of innovation, created with the support of the Russian regions | 5 days in October | France, Paris |
| EXPOLINGUA: International Exhibition of languages and cultures (programs regarding the foreign languages studies, the training of translators) | November | Germany, Berlin |
| Educational Exhibition held on account of the Single Day of the Russian (Soviet) Universities' Graduates | November | India, New Delhi |
| «Russian Education Fair»: Educational Exhibition | November | Moldova, Chisinau |
| A set of activities held on account of the Single Day of the Russian (Soviet) Universities' Graduates | November | Mongolia, Ulaanbaatar Portugal, Lisbon Slovenia, Ljubljana Morocco, Rabat China, Beijing Kyrgyzstan, Bishkek Jordan, Amman India, Kolkata Germany, Berlin Hungary, Budapest Belarus, Minsk |
| As a part of the «Russia and France – the bridge of world science» program: joint actions-lectures with the participation of prominent Russian scientists and the «College de France» scientific institution, aimed at the development of the high-level Russian-French scientific relations | Over the course of the year 2 lectures within the year | France, Paris |



| Event Name | Date | Venue |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Reissue of the popular book-guide «Studying in Russia» (French language edition) for young people in France as well as for Francophones, with the assistance of the Ministry of Education of Russia and the Russian regions | Over the course of the year | France, Paris |
| The work of the new Russian-French Laboratory in linguistics, semiotics and comparative literature, in order to study the modern communication practices; two conference and two workshops within the laboratory agenda | Over the course of the year | France, Paris, Sorbonne |
| The second scientific conference within the «Vernadsky's Parallels» project; the development of the project regarding the installation of a memorial plaque in Paris (on the house where, in the 1920s, Vernadsky lived when he was a lecturer at the Sorbonne) | Second half of the year | France, Paris |

The representative offices and the authorized representatives of Rossotrudnichestvo form the Rossotrudnichestvo foreign administrative apparatus

The representative offices and the authorized representatives of Rossotrudnichestvo act in accordance with: the Constitution of the Russian Federation, Russian federal constitutional laws and federal laws, the decrees and orders of the President of the Russian Federation, the decisions and orders of the Government of the Russian Federation, the present Regulations, the regulations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, the decisions issued by Rossotrudnichestvo and the instructions given by its management, as well as in accordance with the international treaties of the Russian Federation and the legislation of the receiving state.

Rossotrudnichestvo operates in 81 countries on 4 continents.

THE PRIMARY DUTIES OF THE ROSSOTRUDNICHESTVO REPRESENTATIVE OFFICES

- participation in the development and implementation of the programs of international cooperation in the humanitarian, scientific, technical, cultural, information and other fields, as well as in the field of education;
- development of contacts between the international, regional and national governmental and non-governmental organizations; making use of the Rossotrudnichestvo information capabilities in order to create favorable conditions for the expansion of the comprehensive cooperation between the Russian Federation and the states - members of the Commonwealth of Independent States, as well as with other countries;
- participation in the development and implementation of the programs and projects aimed at ensuring the rights and legitimate interests of the compatriots living abroad – in the socio-cultural sphere and the sphere of education, the development of the compatriots' comprehensive relations with the Russian Federation and the preservation of their national and cultural identity;
- familiarization of the foreign general public with the history and culture of the peoples of the Russian Federation, Russian domestic and foreign policy, scientific and economic potential;





- cooperation with the associations of compatriots living abroad, promoting the activities with their participation, as well as the establishment and development of contacts and business relations among these associations;
- organization of work on the expansion and study of the Russian language abroad; providing assistance to the scientific, cultural, educational institutions, creative teams, people of science, culture and education in their promotion of Russian culture;
- assistance in the development of the international relations of the Russian Federation in the field of education; promotion of the Russian educational institutions on the world market; expansion of the cooperation between Russian and foreign educational institutions;
- assistance in the development of the international contacts of the Russian Federation subjects and municipalities in the humanitarian, cultural, scientific, technical and economic fields.

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