Northwest Russia: Facts and Events

Newsletter by the Stockholm Region Office in St. Petersburg

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The Europe Day in St. Petersburg

On 26 September The Europe Day took place in St. Petersburg for the second time showing a variety of European cultures to the city inhabitants. The festival is organized by the Delegation of the European Commission to Russia together with the European Union member states' consulates and cultural centres.

Mr Paul Vandoren, Acting Head of the Delegation of the European Commission to Russia, Mr Gunnar Klinga, Consul-General of Sweden in St. Petersburg, Mr Alexander Prokhorenko, Chairman of the St. Petersburg Committee on External Relations took part in the opening ceremony at the Grand Hotel Europe. According to Mr Klinga, while each country presents aspects of its unique culture, they also show, by participating side-by-side under the EU flag, the European unity.

The Consulate General of Sweden held its Open Doors event at the Swedish St. Catherine Church together with the Nordic Council of Ministers Information office in St. Petersburg. The event attracted over one thousand guests who had an opportunity to attend lessons in Swedish and Finnish for beginners, take a look at photo exhibitions featuring Sweden and Nordic countries etc. Next Europe Day in St. Petersburg is planed to be held on 25 September 2010.

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Delegation to St. Petersburg: "Infection Control as a tool for affordable, sustainable and safe healthcare"

Swecare Foundation and Ministry of Health and Social Affairs organized a healthcare delegation to St. Petersburg 24-26 September 2009. As a result of the collaboration between Sweden and Russia a seminar was arranged with the focus of Infection Control. The delegation aimed at broadening and further development the initiatives taken during the previous visits in St. Petersburg as well as promoting Swedish knowledge and products. The idea of the seminar was to create dialogue, knowledge sharing and collaboration between authorities, research institutes, organizations and businesses in the area of Infection Control.
Source: www.swecare.se

Global Hospital's Russian Office in St. Petersburg

On 1 October the first Russian office of *Global Hospital* started its activity in St. Petersburg. Global Hospital is an international patient referring company with approximately 100 care providers in more than 20 countries, and it has Europe, the Middle East, Asia and Africa as its spheres of activity.

The main goal of the St. Petersburg office is to direct patients to best medical institution around the world and the mission is to provide patients from Russia with access to modern, innovative and efficient medical technology.

Traumatic Surgery, Orthopedics, Neurosurgery and Bariatrics (method of losing weight) are an incomplete list of Global Hospital services for Russian customers. Another service is Medical Access Cancer, which provides a prompt access to latest technologies in terms of diagnostics and treatment of Cancer. This program was designed specially for Russia and Eastern Europe.

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Discussing cross-border cooperation of Russia, EU and Norway

The V Annual International Conference "Crossborder cooperation: the Russian Federation, the European Union and Norway" was held in St. Petersburg on 28-29 September 2009. The Conference focuses on peculiarities of cross-border cooperation of the Leningrad oblast, which shares land borders with Finland and Estonia - the EU Member States.

The Conference was attended by representatives of federal, regional and municipal authorities, experts from international scientific and business organizations and NGO's from 10 countries of the Baltic Sea region. Traditionally the delegations of the neighboring states and of the European Commission were represented at a high level.

Among the participants and speakers were V. Basargin, Minister for Regional Development of the Russian Federation; B. Ásgeirsson, Ambassador of Iceland to Russia; M. Boedeker, Director of the Nordic Council of Ministers Information Office in St. Petersburg; P. Vandoren, Acting Head of the Delegation of the European Commission to the Russian Federation; M. Guillermo, Secretary General, Association of European Border Regions; E. Lukyanov, Deputy Plenipotentiary Envoy of the Russian President in the North-West Federal District as well as governmental officials of Finland, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

Contact person: Elena Golubeva, Deputy Director, Nordic Council of Ministers Information office in Saint Petersburg, e-mail: eg@norden.ru, http://www.norden.ru. Photo**:** A.Anisimov/NCM St. Petersburg

SAFETY OF TRANSPORT FOR THE SAFETY OF LIFE

On 21-23 April 2010 International Forum "Safety of transport complexes", organized by the Ministry of transport of Russia, the Government of Leningrad region and Congress-Exhibition company "SIVEL", will take place in Russia, St. Petersburg, in Congress-hotel "Park Inn Pribaltiyskaya".

During these dates the 3rd specialized exhibition of technical means for providing safety of transport systems "TransPortSafety-2010" is also organized. On exhibition «TransPortSafety-2010» companies from different European countries show their innovations and equipment for transport complexes, discuss opportunities of its future development in accordance with international experience.

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Protecting personal data at 'Sfitex 2009'

On 18 November 2009, St. Petersburg will host a conference "Ensuring security of personal data during processing in personal data information systems". The conference will be one of the main events of the 'Sfitex' exhibition (17-20 November), which will be held for the 18th time this year.

The conference includes a plenary session and workshops: procedure for protecting personal data, organisational and technical measures; protecting personal data information systems; training specialists in the protection of personal data.

A number of issues will be discussed at the conference, including: the relevance of protecting personal data, responsibility for violating data protection law, the procedure for carrying out checks, possible leakage channels for personal data, data protection requirements, operator problems and common mistakes in protecting personal data and many others.

The following have been invited to participate in the conference: employment offices, recruitment agencies, insurance companies, banks, regional and municipal administrations, tour operators, hotel networks, mobile phone network operators, educational and medical establishments, and other organisations involved in the collection, classification, accumulation, storage, use and distribution of personal data. The conference participants will have an opportunity not only to listen to specialists, but also to share their experience of the problems of securing personal data in Russia at a round table.

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The experience of Nordic countries in the environmental education of the population

On September a round table «The experience of Nordic countries in the environmental education of the population. The project proposal «Creation of the School of Nature on the territory of Novgorod region» for the Development Program of Novgorod region in 2010» was held in the «Shelonnik» development center of South Priilmenye (village Korostyn, Shimsky district, Novgorod region).

From 16 to 24 August 2009 within the project «Responsible Citizens: the formation of a responsible relationship to nature through environmental education for youth and adults, based on the experiences of public organizations» a Novgorod group made a study trip to Finland and Sweden. The group included public figures, representatives of the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources in the Novgorod region and members of the local community in the Southern Priilmenye.

As a result of the project activities, a movable photo-exhibition «Window to Northern Europe» will be prepared and demonstrated in the rural cultural centres, schools of South Priilmenye, partner NGOs and other communities. More information: http://www.norden.ru/News.aspx?id=317&lang=en

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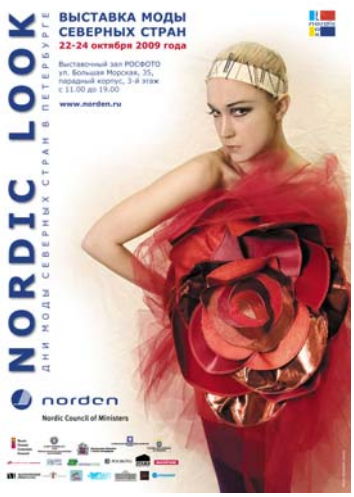

NORDIC LOOK - Nordic Fashion Days in St. Petersburg

On 22-24 October, 2009 the Information office of the Nordic Council of Ministers in St. Petersburg again arranges the Nordic Fashion Days NORDIC LOOK. The newest trends of the five Nordic countries will be represented by ten famous design companies.

Every year the NORDIC LOOK event is dedicated to a special theme connected to the Nordic fashion. The theme of 2009 will be *Colours of the North*. Visitors of the exhibition will be able to see conceptual clothing by bARBARA Í gONGINI (Denmark); costumes by STEiNUNN (Iceland) reminding of lava fields, glaciers and surrounding seas; the red rose-dress by Ingunn Birkeland Oslo (Norway); wedding and evening dresses by Janne Renvall (Finland) and elegant jackets by Linda Carlén (Sweden) produced of denim which resemble the Nordic nature in its colours and have never-ending possibilities to offer.

Colours of the North will be represented at ROSPHOTO exhibition hall by the Nordic fashion exhibition, and also by photos. Within the frames of the festival “Nordic Autumn” a personal exhibition of one of the leading Icelandic photographers Ari Magg, as well as the exhibition “History of the Finnish fashion photography” from the Finnish Photography Museum (Helsinki) will be presented.

The main goal of the NORDIC LOOK project is establishing Nordic-Russian professional contacts in the sphere of fashion and design. One of the days of the project will be dedicated to the seminar on Nordic-Russian cooperation in the field of fashion. The programme of the seminar will include presentations by organisations and designer companies interested in professional contacts, and presentation of the main cooperation programme of the Nordic Council of Ministers – Knowledge Building and Networking Programme.

The NORDIC LOOK project will be held in partnership and by support of Nordic consulates, as well as companies, organisations and institutions of St. Petersburg.

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The archive of the newsletters can be found at http://www.stockholmregion.org/website1/1.0.1.0/16/3/index.php

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