

Northwest Russia: Facts and Events

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St. Petersburg International Economic Forum

On 17-19 June 2010 *St. Petersburg International Economic Forum* (SPIEF) will be held. The highlight of the Forum is *Global Economy: Managing the Recovery Russia - Today and Tomorrow Looking into the Future*.

“For over 10 years now this international event has attracted delegates from countries all over the world. The presence of the most eminent politicians, entrepreneurs and experts is not only an indicator of the growing interest in the Forum, but a clear signal of readiness for mutual cooperation” said Dmitry Medvedev the President of the Russian Federation

SPIEF gathers the world’s leading decision makers from government, business and civil society to identify and deliberate the key challenges facing emerging markets and the world and engage communities to find common purpose and frameworks to forge solutions.

The Swedish delegation this year is headed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs Carl Bildt.

More information about SPIEF partners, participants, programme and Previous Events you can find at <http://www.forumspb.com>

Source: <http://www.forumspb.com>



The 1st EU-Russia Innovation Forum

The 1st EU-Russia Innovation Forum was held on 25-27 May 2010 in Lappeenranta, Finland. The Forum was organized by the City of Lappeenranta, Lappeenranta University of Technology (LUT) and the European-Russian InnoPartnership.

The participants have included the Prime Ministers of Finland and Russia, high-level political leaders, innovation policy makers and experts from Russia and the EU and over 700 conference guests.

The Innovation Forum had four specific themes: modernization of industry, commercialization of Russian innovations, EU-Russia Innovation Collaboration Roadmaps for the years 2010-2013, and energy efficiency.

In addition, parallel events included a Russian Innovation Exhibition, Award Ceremony of Innovation Competition and a Business Matchmaking Event organized by Technopolis.

The Forum speakers were ministers, business leaders, researchers and other high-ranking officials from Finland, Russia and Europe. Representatives of the EU Commission at the Forum included Managing Director of the European Business and Innovation Centre Network (EBN) Philippe Vanrie and other leaders responsible for innovation policies. In addition, Anatoly Chubais, President and CEO of Rusnano, Tapio Kuula, President and CEO of Fortum, Mauri Pekkarinen, Minister of Economic Affairs of Finland, Jyri Häkämies, Minister of Defence of Finland, and Henna Virkkunen, Minister of Education of Finland, made their speeches at the event.

The highlight of the third day of the Forum was a visit of Prime Ministers of Russia and Finland. As part of a specially organized session Minister of Economic Affairs of Finland Mauri Pekkarinen presented the Key initiatives of the Forum to Prime Ministers Vladimir Putin and Matti Vanhanen. The Key Initiatives included the identification of priority areas and specified action plan, affecting such themes as partnership modernization and innovation collaboration.

At the end of the Forum organizers announced that Innovation Forum would become an annual event and invited all present to participate in the 2nd EU-Russia Innovation Forum in Lappeenranta in the spring of 2011.

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Photo: ©City of Lappeenranta



Forum “SUPPLIER 2010”. Russia, St. Petersburg

On 29-30 June 2010 the Vedomosti & St.Petersburg Times will hold the 5th annual forum “SUPPLIER 2010. THE NORTHWEST CONSUMER MARKET. STRATEGIES FOR WORKING WITH FOOD/NON-FOOD NETWORKS.” The conference will be held in Angletterre Hotel.

Forum program includes following topics: what is happening in the Russian economics and how it will change the consumer market by the end of the year, how to build business after the adoption of Federal Law: ways to save margins, new approaches to input conditions for suppliers: new terms of payment, delivery in terms of a narrowing of assortment matrix, how to come to agreement with chain stores about production of goods under Private Labels.

The Forum is targeting brand owners and top managers, CEOs, directors of developing manufacturing companies and representatives of retail chains. Details: <http://events.vedomosti.ru/description.shtml?2010/06/29/6699>

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Russia – Europe: Cooperation without Frontiers



A business opportunities / investment matchmaking forum organized by the Moscow Entrepreneurs Association was held on 7-8 June 2010 in Moscow. The purpose of the forum was to facilitate establishing business cooperation among Russian and European companies, especially SMEs, to attract foreign direct investment and modern technologies into Russia (www.ru-eu-cooperation-without-frontiers.com).



135 Russian SMEs and 111 companies from 19 countries (Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Swede, Switzerland, Turkey and UK) registered to participate in the forum. Total number of scheduled meetings was 469. An important number of “out-of-schedule” meetings were also

held.

In parallel to bilateral negotiations among companies a seminar for Russian regional officials and business support organizations was held. Speakers from Austria, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Serbia, Sweden (Stockholm Region) and the UK shared their expertise and experience in regional development, attraction of foreign direct investment, export promotion and technology transfer with representatives from Republic of Tatarstan, Moscow, Kursk, Vladimir, Ivanovo, Bryansk, Belgorod, Kaluga, Ulyanovsk and Lipetsk regions.

This year a stand of the Stockholm-Mälardalen region presenting the investment opportunities in the region was arranged at the Forum. The participation of the Stockholm-Mälardalen region was coordinated by the Stockholm Region Office in St. Petersburg.

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The archive of the newsletters can be found at <http://www.stockholmregion.org/website/1/1.0.1.0/16/3/index.php>

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