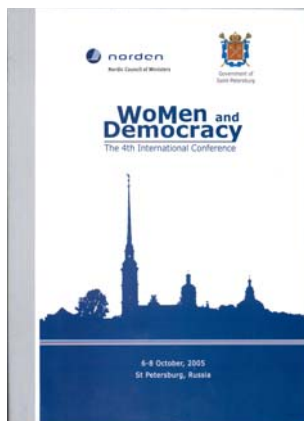


Northwest Russia: Facts and Events

Newsletter by the Stockholm Region Office in St. Petersburg

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4-th International Conference Women and Democracy



The 4-th International Conference Women and Democracy took place in St. Petersburg 6-8 October 2005. The Conference was organized jointly by the Nordic Council of Ministers and the Government of St. Petersburg. Among the participants of the Conference were

eminent politicians and statesmen, scientists, representatives of public organizations, women leaders as well as entrepreneurs from Nordic and Baltic States, Germany, Poland and Northwest Russia. The Conference was the final one in the series of conferences "Women and Democracy" as well as the Baltic Sea Women's Conferences.

Source:
http://www.womenanddemocracy.spb.ru/about_eng.htm

Citizenship matters

A seminar Citizenship Matters was arranged in St. Petersburg on 7 October 2005 within the frames of the corresponding project. The project carried out by Mälardalens Kvinlobby/Tjejlobbyn together with Svensk-Litauiska Föreningen Mälardalen, Västerås Folkhögskola aims at increasing the engagement of the young generation in society and strengthening ties of friendship between people and countries in the Baltic Sea Region.

Over 20 students from Klaipeda, Västerås and St. Petersburg participated in the seminar, which was devoted to such issues as entrepreneurship, equality, regional economic

development in the Baltic Sea region. The seminar was arranged with the support from the Stockholm Region Office in St. Petersburg.

Source: Stockholm Region Office in St.Petersburg, e-mail: stockholm.office@stockholm.spb.ru



Swedish Tourist Workshop



On 26-27 September 2005 the fifth Swedish Tourist Workshop was arranged at "Nevsky Palace" Hotel. The Opening of the workshop took place at the Consulate General of Sweden in St. Petersburg.

The workshop was organized by the Swedish Travel & Tourism Council with the support from the Stockholm Region Office in St. Petersburg. The aim of workshop was to deepen cooperation between Russian and Swedish Tourism industries. Among the Swedish participants were the representatives of such eminent companies and organizations as Nordic Hotels,

Östsvenska Turistrådet, SkiStar Åre, N&J Travels and others.

Source: Stockholm Region Office in St.Petersburg, e-mail: stockholm.office@stockholm.spb.ru



Volvo Opens First Service Center in Russia



On 29 September 2005 Volvo opened a service center in St.Petersburg. It is the first Volvo's service centre in Russia.

According to Valentina Matvienko, the Governor of St.Petersburg, St.Petersburg has a number of advantages to attract investments, in particular: favorable investment climate, steady-state economic, social and financial situation.

The City of St.Petersburg provided the investors with the beneficial conditions of allocation of capital. As a result the world largest companies come to St.Petersburg.

The new center will unit all company's daughter enterprises in the Northwest Russia.



Technical maintenance of high quality will be provided here, as well as the whole range of Volvo's cargo equipment will be sold.

The company invested 11 million euros in the project. 200 working places will be created.

Source: www.gov.spb.ru

New Finnish Plant



The official opening of a new tyre plant of the Finnish Nokian Tyres Company took place on 22 October, 2005. Tarja Halonen, President of Finland, Ilya Klebanov, Plenipotentiary Representative of the President of the Russian Federation in the Northwest Russia, Valery Serdyukov, the Governor of the Leningrad region, and Kim Gran, the President of Nokian Tyres Company participated in the ceremony.



Source: www.interpress.ru

Facts and Figures:

- Inflation rate in Russia for the first seven months of 2005 constituted 8,5%
- Inflation rate in St.Petersburg for the first seven months of 2005 constituted 9,7%

Source: Rossiyskaya gazeta, www.rg.ru



International Project THE BALTIC PARK



On 27 September The Baltic Park project was presented in the Baltic Star Hotel (Palace of Congresses State Complex).

Within the frames of the project there will be created STRELNA Youth Cultural Center and a modern thematic with its historic and ethnographic background as national traditions of people living in the Baltic sea region such as Germany, Denmark, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Sweden, Finland and Estonia. The Baltic Park is a recreation and tourist complex with the area of around 200 ha, its construction being planned in the south coast of the Gulf of Finland in Strelna town. The project is supported by the Slavonic and American Foundation of Cultural Heritage (the USA), the Ort Aid Foundation (Finland), International Public Organization "Union

of the social protection of children", Federal State Enterprise - State Complex "Palace of Congresses", Town Council of Strelna, and other city and regional authorities as well s public organizations.

The official part of the presentation included the strategy of a zone development within the framework of the project, architectural solutions, and time terms of the project implementing.

Representatives of the Consulates General from countries in the Baltic sea region, Legislation Assembly of St.Petersburg and the City of St.Petersburg invited to the presentation expressed their high interest to the project further development.

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The archive of the newsletters can be found at <http://www.stockholmregion.org/tpl/topic.asp?ID=457>

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