



Plastics are so convenient
Popularity of banking cards continues, as this market is newly developing **Page 5**



Belye Rosy ensemble visits Tchaikovsky Hall
Year of Belarusian Culture in Russia embraces various events and venues **Page 9**



Master's hand felt through centuries
Ivan Khrutsky's works exhibited at Tretyakov Gallery for first time **Page 10**



Heads of delegations take part in Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe Summit in Kazakh capital

Architecture of stability is important in reality rather than in draft form

Astana hosts Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Summit. For the first time since the Istanbul meeting of 1999, OSCE member countries have gathered at a top level, with Alexander Lukashenko reporting at the event

Astana welcomed 28 presidents and 10 heads of governments, with three problematic OSCE 'baskets' on the agenda: political-military, economic-ecological and humanitarian. Military conflicts and associated problems have been evident: the Russian-Georgian war of August 2008, the situation in Iraq and Afghanistan, bloody events in Kyrgyzstan, and unresolved conflicts from the 20th century — in Nagorno-Karabakh and Transdniestria.

Participants were absolutely unanimous in their view that the OSCE is an important venue for dialogue on acute problems: such as those relating to nuclear disarmament. Belarus' Foreign Minister, Sergei Martynov, met the US Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton, who thanked Belarus for its elimination of highly enriched uranium stockpiles. "This is a very significant and important step being taken by Belarus," underlined Mrs. Clinton.

A joint statement by the Republic of Belarus and the USA was adopted during their meeting, which also tackled the forthcoming presidential elections. Mrs. Clinton welcomes Minsk's decision to invite so many international observers to monitor the elections. The US Secretary of State stressed that the electoral campaign's meeting of democratic standards is of great importance for improving Belarus-USA relations. → 2

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Ulf Schneider / Sven Henniger
Minsk 220012 ul. Surganova 29
Tel.: +375 (17) 290 25 57
Fax: +375 (17) 290 07 42
info@belarus-consulting.eu
www.belarus-consulting.eu

GERMANY CONSULTING

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UNP 102350048

Joint statement issued by the Republic of Belarus and the USA → 2

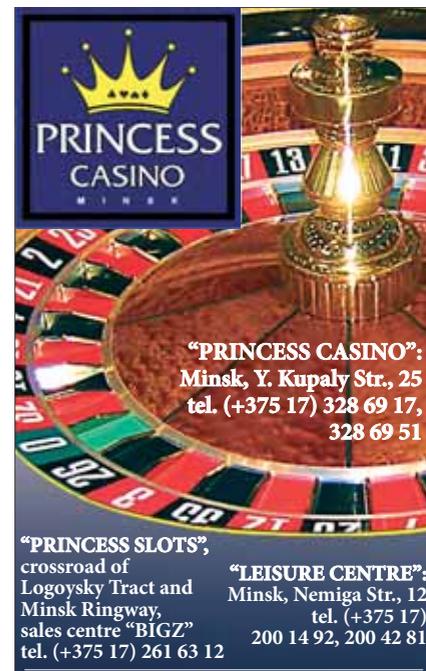
Logistics has taken us to Kiev

Santa Bremor actively expanding its presence — primarily, within post-Soviet space → 4

Long race of kindness

Belarusian athletes take part in *Give Children a Hand* charity campaign, hosted by Minsk's McDonald's — a sponsor of the National Olympic Committee of Belarus → 6

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