



President of Belarus, Alexander Lukashenko, and President of Russia, Vladimir Putin, during their meeting in Sochi

## Conversation on bilateral co-operation and format of Eurasian Economic Union

During the meeting in Sochi, the President of Belarus invited the President of Russia to visit Mogilev where the Forum of Regions of Belarus and Russia will take place in autumn

“We’ve scheduled a Supreme State Council session. Before the elections [presidential elections in Russia] we decided to hold it in Minsk. In autumn we have the Forum of Regions in Mogilev. I hope you will find time and schedule a visit to Mogilev in autumn. This is a new city for you. Belarusians and Russians work hard to prepare for the forum to make sure

it is held at a high level,” noted Mr. Lukashenko.

In turn, Mr. Putin stated that co-operation between the two countries continues growing stronger, including within the Eurasian Economic Union.

The working visit of the Belarusian Head of State to Sochi included a number of meetings and negotiations.

The major event of the visit was the meeting of the Supreme Eurasian Economic Council. As part of the summit, the Belarusian President has also met with Moldova’s President Igor Dodon, the President of Kyrgyzstan Sooronbay Jeenbekov and Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan.

# Deep memories which must not be lost by our people

It's impossible to forget about the Great Patriotic War, no matter who is in power, President of Belarus, Alexander Lukashenko, tells the media on Victory Day, May 9th



Victory Day celebrations in Minsk

By Vladimir Velikhov

“This memory is too important to lose. I think would be impossible to do so, whoever is in power,” said the Belarusian Head of State. “We will keep this memory alive as long as we make films, write books, read poems and prose about the war, as long as we learn poems and sing

wartime songs in kindergarten, discuss it openly and honestly at schools and universities.”

According to the President, Belarus traditionally honours the memory of the Great Patriotic War and holds commemorative events both on Victory Day and Independence Day of July 3rd. “This has become an integral part of our lives. As

long as we continue this policy, the Great Patriotic War, the Second World War and all wars that swept through Belarus will remain in our memory,” Mr. Lukashenko said, adding that Belarus did not need any of the wars that affected it over the past centuries. “Let us take the 1812 War, the First World War, the Second World War.

Were those our wars? Did we need them? At the same time, we lost a third or a half of our population. How could we ever forget this?”

After the official part of the ceremony in Pobedy Square, Mr. Lukashenko enthusiastically talked to war veterans and other residents and guests of the capital who came to the event.

He also commented on reports spread in the media that people were prohibited to parade with portraits of their relatives who fought during the Great Patriotic War. “Remember: such sacred things have never been prohibited in Belarus and will never be,” he said.

Mr. Lukashenko explained how, several years ago, the country organised a procession when its participants — along with veterans — walked along the avenue to Pobedy Square carrying portraits. “Later, this so-called ‘Immortal Regiment’ travelled around the world. This took place in Belarus long ago.” The President noted that veterans were offered to be taken by cars to make it easier for them to take part in the procession. However, they refused, asking instead for the format of the event to be made more convenient for them. Since then, commemorative events have been held exclusively in Pobedy Square.

“However, if people ask us to parade once again with portraits, flags and so on, we will organise this next year. There’s no need to politicise this and assert that we have forbidden something. This has never happened and never will in Belarus. Everyone has the right to honour the memory of their heroes, walk where they like with their portraits and lay flowers.” the President emphasised.

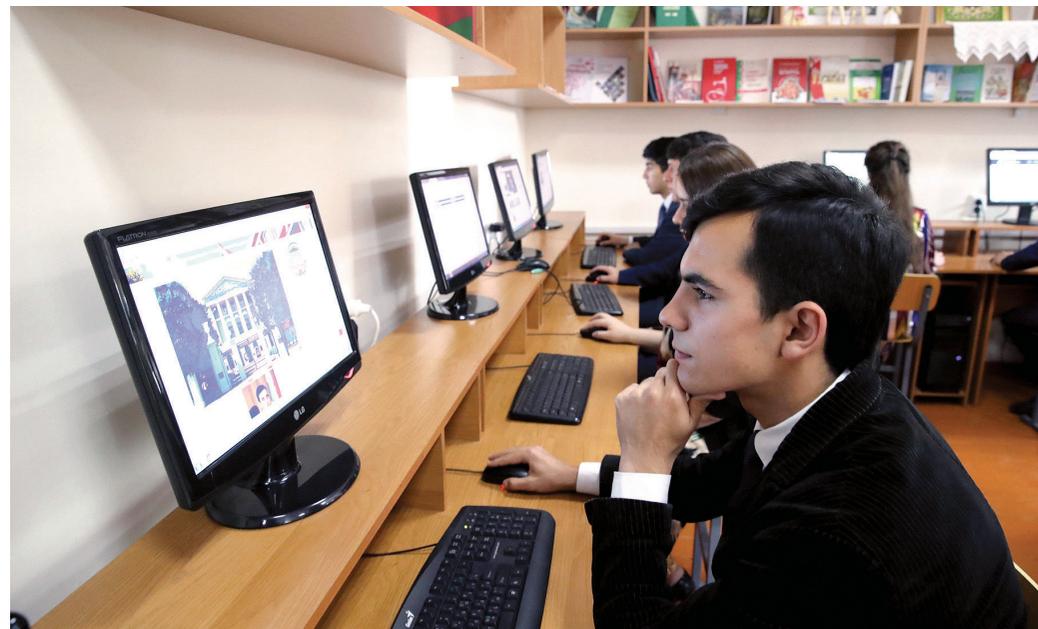
## Roadmap for bilateral interaction until 2020

By Vladimir Khromov

**Belarus and Tajikistan plan to sign a roadmap for bilateral co-operation during the forthcoming official visit of the Belarusian Head of State, Alexander Lukashenko**

“The most important outcome of the visit would be the translation of mutual trust between the two presidents into practical achievements, primarily, in the field of collaboration. We’ve been saying for a long time that we’re ready to help Tajikistan and take interaction as far as it can go,” noted the Belarusian Ambassador to Tajikistan, Oleg Ivanov.

Mr. Ivanov said that, in previous years, trade-economic collaboration with Tajikistan was not steady for a number of reasons. “We’ve outlined a rather pragmatic and specific programme of action, first of all, in trade and the economy. It is during the visit that the road-



Belarus’ Legal Information Centre opens in Tajikistan’s capital Dushanbe

map for bilateral co-operation between Belarus and Tajikistan for 2019-2020 will be signed.” In his words, the roadmap encompasses all major co-operation avenues, including trade, economy, the humanitarian field and culture. “It’s a comprehensive programme of work at state

level, inter-industry and departmental levels,” Mr. Ivanov explained.

The diplomat noted that some 15 bilateral documents are to be signed during the official visit of President of Belarus. Apart from the abovementioned co-operation roadmap,

they include a joint statement by the presidents, a number of agreements, as well as interaction plans between government agencies.

The Ambassador unveiled some details of the forthcoming Belarus National Expo in Tajikistan. He described it as

among Belarus’ biggest exhibitions abroad in recent years. Taking part in the event will be representatives of nearly 150 companies and organisations. Joint assembly products will be showcased there. Everything Belarus is proud of will be presented, including the food industry, mechanical engineering, education, healthcare, sport and tourism, chemistry, communication and information technologies,” added Mr. Ivanov.

Speaking about the forthcoming business forum in Dushanbe, Oleg Ivanov emphasised that from the very beginning, this event was meant to be tripartite and involve business people from Afghanistan. However, now dozens of companies from Pakistan, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan have confirmed their participation in the forum. Several dozen contracts and memorandums of intent estimated at many millions of dollars are expected to be signed.



We're Proud of Our Motherland campaign takes place on the State Flag Square in Minsk, dedicated to the Day of State Emblem and Flag

# State symbols as embodiment of sovereignty, independence and unity of the Fatherland

By Alexander Pimenov

The holiday was established by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus in 1995 and is celebrated on the second Sunday in May. In line with article 19 of the Constitution, the State Flag, the State Emblem and the State Anthem are the symbols of our country as a sovereign state.

The standard of the emblem and regulations regarding the flag were approved by the Presidential Decree of June 7th, 1995, based on the results of the Republican referendum (conducted on May 14th, 1995) in which one of the issues was the establishment of state symbols. On July 5th, 2004, the Law of the Republic of Belarus 'On State Symbols of the Republic of Belarus' was adopted, which is aimed at legalising the regulation of issues of

## The Day of the State Flag and Emblem of the Republic of Belarus was celebrated last Sunday around the country

the state symbols, established by the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus, and determines the description and the procedures of their use.

The State Emblem of the Republic is represented by a green-coloured map of the country with golden rays from the sun, which is rising over the globe. On top of the map there is a five-pointed red star. The emblem is set in a frame of a wreath of golden wheat-ears interlaced with clover flowers on the right and flax flowers on the left. These wheat-ears are interlaced with a red-green ribbon carrying the inscription 'The Republic of Belarus'. This depiction on the emblem embodies the

best features of the Belarusian nation: hard working character and aspiration towards freedom and patriotism.

The State Flag is rectangular, consisting of two horizontal stripes: a red upper stripe and a green lower. A vertical red-on-white Belarusian decorative pattern is placed against the flagstaff. The red colour on the flag is the colour of the banners of the Red Army and the Belarusian partisans who liberated our native land from the Fascist invaders. The green is the colour of forests and fields, a symbol of spring, hope and rejuvenation, while the white in the pattern reflects the spiritual purity of Be-

larusians. The flag is fixed on a gold-coloured flagstaff.

Both the emblem and flag of Belarus reflect the patriotic, historical and cultural traditions of the country, the character of the nation and its spiritual potential. They are bright and easily recognisable among all the state symbols of the world community. These symbols represent the history and future of the Belarusian state, the embodiment of the idea of national unity and the most important traits of sovereignty and independence of the Fatherland.

The President of Belarus, Alexander Lukashenko, congratulated his fellow countrymen on the Day of the State Emblem

and Flag of the Republic of Belarus. 'Today we underlined the importance of these indispensable symbols of sovereign Belarus — filled with dignity and heroism. We understand their deep historical role in preserving public concord in Belarus' reads the announcement. Mr. Lukashenko noted that citizens who know and respect national treasures are able to make their Fatherland flourish. "It's good that the current generation of Belarusians, by their hard work, created the contemporary history of our country, honourably continuing the glorious traditions of the past," he emphasised.

The Head of State noted that the emblem, flag and anthem are not merely symbols, but a calling card of the peaceful policy of the Republic of Belarus, whose authority was indisputably recognised in the international arena.

## Eastern Partnership in the centre of attention

By Oleg Bogomazov

### Fifth session of EU-Belarus Coordination Group held in Minsk

The Belarusian delegation was led by the Deputy Foreign Minister, Oleg Kravchenko while the Managing Director for Europe

and Central Asia in the European External Action Service, Thomas Mayr-Harting, headed the European party.

During the event, the participants discussed the current state of bilateral relations, the participation of Belarus in the EU's *Eastern Partnership* initiative and issues

on human rights. Future interaction in the field of education, environmental protection, science, transport, the digital economy and energy also received particular attention. The agenda included co-operation in the sphere of migration and in the framework of the EU's international technical

assistance programmes.

Representatives of several Belarusian non-governmental organisations took part in a number of sessions of the Coordination Group. The EU-Belarus Coordination Group held its first session in April 2016. This format was established to ensure structured

political dialogue across a whole range of bilateral collaboration issues between Belarus and the EU. As a rule, sessions take place once every six months, attended by representatives of the European Commission, European External Action Service and Republican public authorities of Belarus.

# Optimal variant — based on the logic of practicability

By Vasily Kharitonov

## Belarus plans to construct a new nitrogen factory and at the same time to modernise Grodno Azot JSC

The Head of State was offered three variants for the development of nitrogen fertiliser production in the country: major modernisation of Grodno Azot, the construction of a new factory and implementation of these two proposals. After a substantial discussion of the possible risks, consideration of advantages and disadvantages of all projects, the President supported the third option. However, he also asked for a detailed report on all possible variants of implementing the projects, not to drag the decision out, but to take prices into account. “We’re interested in the cost of the issue and efficiency of the project,” said the Head of State.

The President remarked that Grodno Azot is an important enterprise for the chemical industry, the region and the country in general. According to the Head of State, the global demand for nitrogen fertilisers will be on the rise: the world population is increasing, it means that existing farms will have to grow more products. “Therefore, this production will always be in demand and will always be growing,” he believes. Mr. Lukashenko commented that more than a half of Grodno Azot fertilisers are delivered to Belarusian agricultural enterprises. Therefore, its stable operation directly depends on the efficiency of these enterprises. “The factory has been working at full capacity for more than 30 years. Using those technologies, the enterprise cannot actively compete with foreign manufacturers of similar products,” the President said.

According to experts’ information, each of the options for the enterprise’s



In Grodno Azot’s manufacture workshop

development — its modernisation or the construction of a new facility — is linked with particular risks, which can have a significant influence on the project’s efficiency. Mr. Lukashenko emphasised that it’s essential to thoroughly analyse all aspects and make a balanced decision with long-term goals. The President asked if the proposals of the government are in tune with his requirements. He also asked about the most optimal variant for Grodno Azot, what resources will be needed for the fulfilment of the plans and what are the sources of financing.

According to the Chairman of Belneftkhim Concern, Igor Lyashenko, the new factory will cost more than \$1bn. In this case, the revenue will total \$335m annually, so the payback period is considerable. “We have been

asked to make a thorough further investigation of the risks of this project,” Mr. Lyashenko told journalists after the session. “We’ll plan to tackle the construction of the new nitrogen facility after conducting the tender to choose the general contractor and study of the above-mentioned issues.” Major modernisation of Grodno Azot will cost around \$400m. The enterprise itself will partially cover the expenses and it’s planning to take loans — worth \$287 under 6 percent per annum (according to preliminary calculations).

The session with the President also tackled the implementation of other important investment projects in the country. In particular, the President was keen to learn about the progress of construction of the Belarusian nu-

clear power station and the creation of conditions for work and living for the nuclear plant’s employees in Ostrovet. The situation at Dobrush Paper Factory and Svetlogorsk’s Pulp and Cardboard Plant was also discussed, as was the state of affairs at Naftan JSC and Mogilevkhimvolokno JSC.

Mr. Lukashenko also wanted to know how his instructions are being fulfilled regarding the establishment of the production of sports equipment and musical instruments. The Head of State had asked that we should learn to restore old instruments and produce new ones in Belarus. Such traditions did once exist in our country, particularly at the Borisov Factory of Musical Instruments, whose famous ‘Belarus’ piano, was known far beyond the borders of our country.

## New projects are currently in focus



By Oleg Bogomazov

### Belarus hopes for larger World Bank portfolio project in the country

On meeting representatives of the Board of Executive Directors of the World Bank Group, Prime Minister of Belarus Andrei Kobyakov, noted that the current portfolio includes eight investment loans for a total of about \$800m. The Government appreciates the current level of interaction and expects the existing portfolio to grow larger in the future. Projects worth about \$1.7bn have been implemented over the course of more than 25 years of Belarus’ co-operation with the World Bank.

“The essence of our partnership goes way beyond money for development purposes. We work together so that the investments funded by the World Bank and the International Finance Corporation could address systemic tasks of enhancing Belarus’ com-

petitiveness,” stressed the PM.

That’s why the World Bank Group’s latest five-year framework strategy includes a balanced project portfolio, which correlates with priorities in Belarus’ economic policy.

According to Mr. Kobyakov, Belarus expects the implementation of projects together with the World Bank to contribute to the implementation of the main government programmes in the medium term, thus creating the foundation for long-term sustainable growth of the country’s economy. In 2015, Belarus and the World Bank put together a roadmap, which lies at the heart of the programme guiding the government’s work. Most of the document specifics have been fulfilled and contributed to the economic growth in 2017 and 2018. Mr. Kobyakov noted that close attention is paid to the encouragement of entrepreneurship and business activities in Belarus. A package of regulatory acts



At the meeting with World Bank representatives

was passed in late 2017 to liberalise entrepreneurship and lay the foundation for a digital economy.

“We hope that it will give an additional impulse to the development of small and medium business and the private sector in Belarus. We’re very happy that the World Bank supports us on this,” said the Belarusian Head of Government.

Mr. Kobyakov also drew attention to opportunities in the High-Tech Park and the Great Stone Chinese-Belarusian Industrial Park. “I believe that the

International Finance Corporation as a private sector funding institution will also be able to find attractive areas of work in these parks, thus greatly increasing its portfolio in Belarus,” he concluded. Belarus is currently in discussion with the World Bank regarding new projects in the sphere of housing and public utilities. This issue was also high on the agenda at the meeting between the Prime Minister of Belarus, Andrei Kobyakov, and representatives of the World Bank’s Board of Executive Directors.

### THE WORLD BANK

Projects to develop water treatment and water supply systems and use biomass for central heating are already being implemented in Belarus thanks to the World Bank’s financial resources. Speaking about reforms in the area of utility rates, Mr. Kobyakov noted that it’s one of the issues Belarus had been unable to find complete understanding on in the course of negotiations on the new programme with the International Monetary Fund. The speed of implementing the reforms is the stumbling block. A lot of work has been done in Belarus in this area in the last few years. Full recovery of the cost of heating services has not been achieved so far.

Belarus is also interested in working together with the World Bank to implement projects in healthcare and education. “It fully meets Belarus’ development priorities,” noted the PM.

# Proposals from investors

April was surprisingly fruitful for the Great Stone Chinese-Belarusian Industrial Park. Within a single week, several new residents joined. Each project is unique in its essence and promises solid dividends to our economy. For example, the joint enterprise of MAZ and Chinese Weichai Corporation promises to assemble the first batch of diesel engines for trucks, buses and special machinery by the end of this year.



By Andrey Konovalov

We may assume that MAZ's Director General, Dmitry Katerinich, is especially pleased. He noted on the occasion of the launch of the plant's construction, "We're co-operating with several suppliers of engines, as having our own engines is a strategic goal for us." The new company will provide the Belarusian automobile industry while supplying CIS and non-CIS markets.

The Head of the Park's Administration, Alexander Yaroshevich, is full of optimism, stating, "If everything works well, we plan to register at least one more partner very soon, and maybe even two. One is a large Israeli-Austrian enterprise, producing solar batteries. The other is Aviation Technologies and Complexes, which was founded by the National Academy of Sciences and Aviation Industry Corporation of China (AVIC), producing pilotless aerial vehicles, including for the world market. AVIC is investing in aviation technologies worldwide and is being compared with such giants as Boeing and Airbus in its turnover."

Among Belarusian residents, Mr. Yaroshevich names Standard NUVO LLC, which is producing ecological packaging materials for the dairy



During the first stone laying ceremony on the construction site of MAZ-Weichai

and food industries: unique within the EAEU. Demand for high-tech and biodegradable packaging is increasing, with evident benefits.

Another Park resident, Duomedi-ka LLC, is establishing production of devices to support heart function and blood flow, aimed at those suffering

from weakened cardiac muscle, creating an 'artificial heart'.

In May, the Industrial Park is expecting another large investor: Chinese CITIC Corporation. The goal is to produce robotics for fire extinguishing and rescue operations. Closer to summer, the Great Stone will

launch construction of housing and a centre for commercialisation of scientific and technological achievements. Influential world businessmen will be able to stay for longer periods. Naturally, they view Belarus as a reliable partner which has created conditions for safe and beneficial business.

## Cost of services as sensitive indicator

We've managed to create a single information system: the Internet, uniting billions of computers. However, we're yet to organise a unified scheme for housing and communal services, and paying for them. In various countries, the system for providing the population with communal fees is influenced by climatic conditions, living standards, and traditions, besides other factors. However, a common element remains: the cost of housing and communal services is one of the most sensitive indicators of social well-being, receiving great attention.

By Vladimir Velikhov

According to the Ministry of Antimonopoly Regulation and Trade, Belarusians paid for just 60.7 percent of housing and communal services' costs in 2016, rising to 69.7 percent in 2017, and 76.3 percent this year. The remaining share is covered by the state budget.

Many countries offer state subsidy. For example, UAE residents don't pay for light or water at all: both are paid for by the treasury. However, only local residents enjoy this privilege — accounting for one-fifth of the nine million population. In the Emirates, foreign visitors subsidise local citizens. The cost of housing and communal services is also low in Iceland: natural clean water doesn't need to be cleaned or chlorinated, and heat is taken mainly from geothermal sources. Meanwhile, in Australia, water shortage leads many people to collect rainwater from their roofs, while still paying \$150-200 monthly to access water (paying for consumed cubic metres). In Brazil, electricity is expensive, charged at up to \$2 per kilowatt.

In our country, people pay for about 85 percent of the cost of electricity and up to 20 percent of heat. The International Monetary Fund recommends giving up this tendency, stating that Belarusians should pay for housing and communal services in full. However, our leadership considers such proposals unacceptable. The Professor of the Belarusian State University's Economics Faculty, Boris Panshin, shares the position of millions of Belarusians, explaining, "We traditionally have a system in accordance with which the state provides its citizens with light and warmth. This is a priority; it's our reality. It's unwise to make changes, for the sake of the IMF or anyone else. It might save five Kopecks, but the financial and psychological damage could be significant."

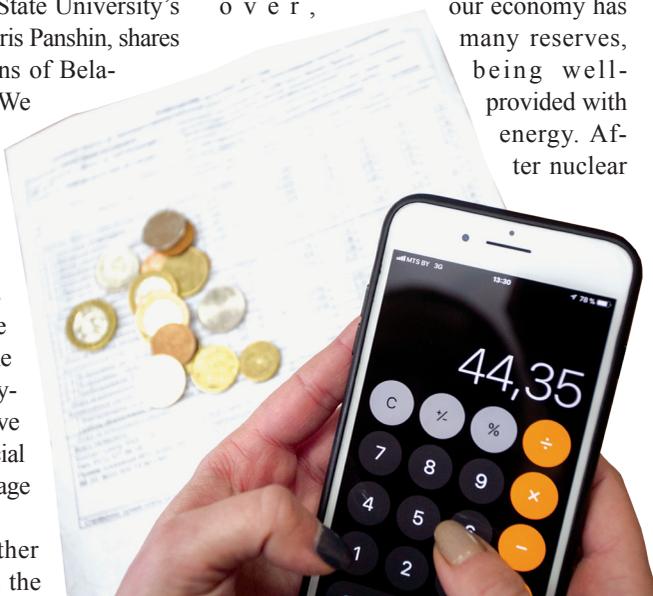
He wonders whether such statements from the

IMF are not even based on its official position. "It's quite possible that this is inertial thinking by experts: a stereotyped position that hasn't changed for many years: since the times when our people paid five percent of the value of housing services, and no more." He adds. "Cardinal changes in this sphere are extremely sensitive. More-

over, our economy has many reserves, being well-provided with energy. After nuclear

power launches, Belarus will have more power than it needs. We'll independently find solutions for housing and communal services and their payment, meeting the needs of our economy and the mentality of our people."

As regards raising tariffs for housing and communal services, the Government will soon determine the list of state-subsidised services, for full payment by able-bodied, employed citizens, from January 1st, 2019. According to the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, figures announced in April will inspire entrepreneurs to register legally, and the problem of employment will be partially solved as a result. Subsidies have to be paid for from the budget, via the taxes paid by those who work. Redistributing funds from the Republican 'piggy bank', the state seeks to support those who cannot contribute to the economy. This system of targeted assistance is being improved, with self-employed citizens paying more for some services than state employees (as meets the notion of social justice).





By Stanislav Galkovsky

Soon, robots will be everywhere. Gomel's school #37 already has one teaching English, under the strict guidance of teacher Vitaly Petrovsky. However, this is only the beginning: perhaps, there will be no need for grade-books, or discussion on why homework is late. Without feelings or sympathy, would robots do a better job in dealing with students? Vitaly Petrovsky says that robotics is already taking a leading position. He ordered his mechanical assistant online. His 'colleague' wears a shirt, a waistcoat and a tie and it's possible to talk to him. He will run commands 'only if satisfied with your pronunciation'.

At present, almost 300 associations are studying robotics, with the sphere growing annually, becoming the most popular countrywide, and its specialists much in demand globally. What role are robots playing in Belarus?

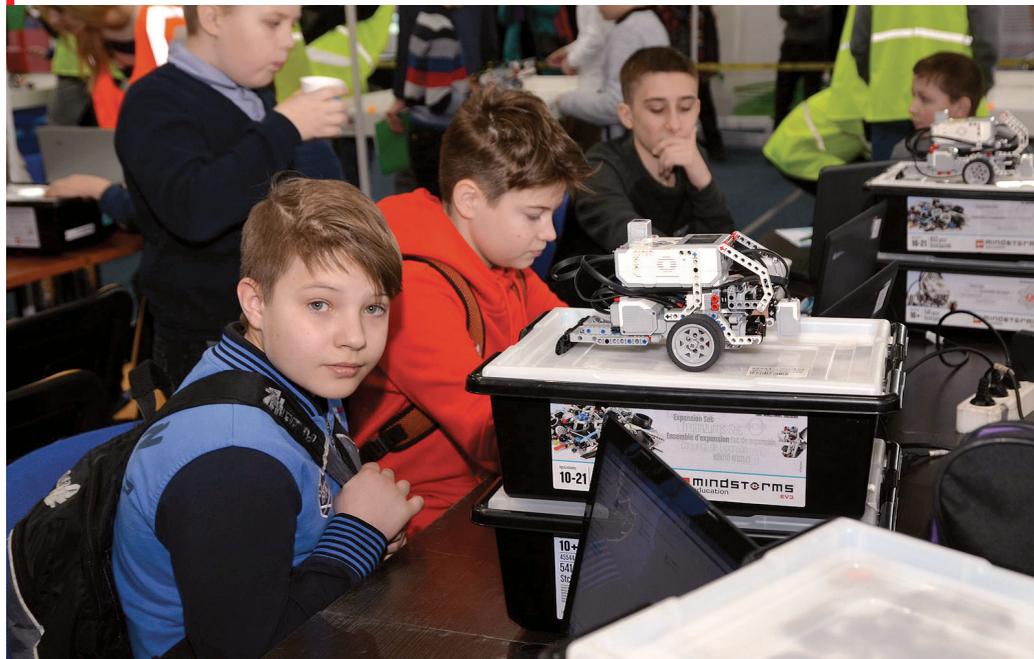
In Gomel, almost two hundred pupils were recently programming robots in the 2nd regional tournament in robotics, *Roboquest-2018*, hosted by the sports centre. The number of guests was twice that of participants. Robotics is certainly the latest thing, combined with radioelectronics. Children are eager to create computer games and algorithms, while parents see them as tomorrow's young engineer-programmers. The Director of the Republican Centre for Innovative and Technical Creativity, Sergey Sachko, notes that development is swift. "Over the past three years, the number of schoolchildren involved in robotics has increased 2.5-fold. In 2015, when we began to seriously tackle this issue, there were forty venues teaching robotics in Belarus; their number has now reached a hundred, uniting almost 300 associations. Within 5-10 years, we should see very interesting results."

What does the future hold? Analysts forecast new jobs, with whole economic branches becoming redundant.

The American retail market is being captured by Amazon, which has automated the process of Internet sales and is ready to launch delivery of goods by drones. No operating personnel

# Robots already teaching us

## Artificial intellect changes labour market



Around 200 pupils take part in *Roboquest-2018* robotics tournament, in Gomel

are needed, being replaced by robots. According to statistical data, ever more companies are using robots (including search and analytical algorithms), with artificial intellect soon to appear almost in every pocket, as we see from leading producers of smartphones: Apple and Huawei. Their flagship models boast in-built neuron network support systems. There's a boom in voice-activated assistants, with automation and optimisation of everyday life as watchwords. Our 'smart' techno-sphere is moving to a new level.

Economist Alexander No-

vikov is confident that our economy will move in this direction, saying, "A fresh forecast has been released regarding the world robotics market, and that for pilotless aerial vehicles. In 2017, the branch was worth almost \$85 billion, and is expected to grow by 22.1 percent this year, with an annual average growth rate of 25.4 percent by 2021. The world market for robotics and pilotless aerial vehicles could be worth \$218.4 billion by then. This is one of the most dynamically developing markets, so what can Belarus offer? Serious investment is needed to succeed

in this sphere; so far, our specialists are our biggest asset."

Undoubtedly, our training system offer students a good basis to create robotised systems. However, until recently, universities have failed to offer relevant courses. Higher education is now being 'rebooted'; the oldest Faculty of Physics at Gomel's Skorina State University has been renamed as the Faculty of Physics and Information Technology, offering study of 'Intelligent Mobile Systems' (preparing 'robot technicians'). It also has a student scientific-research laboratory of Robotics.

### OUR ORDER

Can robots replace humans? A robot-waiter is able to meet clients, bring orders and remove dirty dishes, while an advertising robot can promote on the street and in shopping centres. A robot-rickshaw can transport people and a robot-labourer can load and unload goods, as well as grinding, cutting and polishing components. Robot-milkmaids are already used in Belarus. Recently, Rechitsa's Kholmech agricultural company acquired a robot to give forage to cattle at regular intervals, along a set route. It takes fifteen minutes for the robot to move through the cowshed, before returning to be recharged.

According to Yevgeny Shershev, who heads the Department of General Physics, our secondary and higher education is on an upward curve. He explains, "When I was a student, we had laboratory facilities to train specialists in the sphere of physics and laboratories to teach other specialisations. Today's world of technical opportunities enables us to create intelligent systems: robotised electromechanical devices and 3D-printing. Theoretical knowledge is based on physico-mathematical disciplines. Our task is to teach students to apply their knowledge to build models and algorithms for 'hardware', using code. Moreover, we should teach them to assemble and design this hardware."

Our country has the opportunity to attract major investors, to open new manufacturing enterprises, as is being discussed at the highest level. If we want to compete in the world of robots, we need to create highly-productive jobs for our children, who are already on first-name terms with robots.

### EXPERT OPINION

Olga Bashlakova, Candidate of Economic Sciences and Head of Finance and Credit, at Gomel's Skorina State University:

At a recent session, which discussed the economic results of 2017 and tasks for the future, the Head of State raised an acute topic: the creation of highly-productive jobs. It's very important. We have plenty of examples of enterprises opening new production facilities which aren't competitive from a technical point of view. Credits and budgetary funds have been used but there has been no return. It's vital to direct efforts and funding towards the creation of new jobs in branches developing worldwide, to bring economic benefit. Private business should be attracted into these spheres.

In neighbouring Poland, the state is inviting businessmen to enter into public private partnership. The Poles have managed to stop their 'brain drain'. It would be great for small towns to host IT companies and modern technological manufacturing, away from the capital. It would create jobs and local prosperity, while aiding infrastructural development.

# Hello, engines!

Smoke pours from the wheels and the roar of engines is in the air: bikers have brought their iron horses out of their winter hibernation. The 3rd International *Motoveloxpo* in Minsk has been combined with the opening of the Republican season.



By Kristina Vetrova

And they're off! The roaring column rushes down the capital's streets to the accompaniment of cheers from the crowd. Three thousand bikers make a noisy but organised parade from the Ice Palace in Pritytsky Street to the Sports Palace, which is the centre of the festival. In the spring sunshine, all the different makes of motorbikes are shining — including classical Soviet vehicles, legendary Harleys and custom-made unique creations.

Bikers from Belarus' fifteen motor clubs have gathered for the opening of the season; among them were West Region MCC, Iron Brothers MCC, Nashorn Free Riders MCC, Volnye (Free) MCC, Mammoths MCC, 8th Region MMC, Shalenyia Sekachy MCC and the country's only women's motor association — Lastochki (Swallows). Hundreds of guys in leathers have come from Russia, including Moscow's famous Night Wolves.

The annual motor-parade is hosted by the capital on the initiative of the Iron Pride club, led by famous Belarusian biker, Alexander Tarasov. "We are pleased to gather so many members together. Our event is a message to all road users — motorists, cyclists and pedestrians — and a kind of appeal: let's live in



3rd International Specialised *Motoveloxpo* opens at Sports Palace

peace and respect each other on the roads!" he says. Belarus' Open Championship on the Customisation and Spray-painting of Motorcycles and Bicycles has also aroused great interest. Its participants — skilfully juggling spray-paint canisters — transform bikes into works of art in front of the amazed audience. The performance of a Moscow band of stunt riders — *Just Do Stunt* — makes a stir, becoming the focus of the entertainment programme. The guys perform impressive tricks on motorcycles and ATVs; making the crowd squeal with delight... and fear for the stuntmen.

The capital doesn't fall sleep until night falls — entertaining

the audience with a concert of stars, performances and aeropainters. The boldest guests are having tattoos and fireworks light up the sky over the River Svisloch at the end of the day.

### 'Valery Chkalov' inspired to make 'Yuri Gagarin'

The Belarusian custom-designer is famous for making 'miracle-bikes' and the latest example of them has been produced to honour the first cosmonaut. "Don't look for a realistic portrait. This is a dedication not to the cosmonauts but to the epoch!" the author explains. His pieces are however, truly worthy of travel to the stars. "This is one of the best motorcycles

ever made at our workshop. While using minimal expressive means, we've managed to achieve a mega-effect. The result astounds people at first sight," Yuri Shif admits proudly.

It's impossible to argue. The simplicity of form, conciseness of outlines and shades impress. The body is made of silver aluminium and bold red lines intensify the elegant form. Elements of the graphic design have been invented by Belarusian artist and designer — Vladimir Tsesler. A legendary phrase — 'Having flown around the Earth on a satellite, I've seen how wonderful our planet is. People, let's keep and increase this beauty and not destroy it!' — is inscribed on the

back panel, as if with a black marker.

"The 'Yuri Gagarin' bike is a symbol of our time. This ordinary Russian guy stepped beyond the horizon which opened a completely different world to all humanity. In the Soviet years, selfless, courageous people were ready to jump into an incomprehensible box and fly into the unknown," he adds.

The bike can be used for driving but it's actually been produced for shows; people love to look at it and take photos. Interestingly, its predecessor was named in honour of another great Russian: 'Valery Chkalov'. It inspired the team to produce to create another masterpiece. His collection also includes the 'Victor Tsoi' and 'Time Machine' bikes.

Works created at Mr. Shif's workshop are well known around the world: he is a participant of major international motor competitions and exhibitions in Russia, Germany and Italy. Jointly with his team of professionals and like-minded artists, Yuri once again shows that we can create something unique in Belarus; these pieces have become a recognisable brand. Exclusive motorcycles by the Belarusian customiser are owned by actor, Mikhail Porechenkov, rap singer Timati and other celebrities.

## Safe driving — acute issue for everyone

By Oleg Bogomazov

### Diplomats for Security workshop held at Silichi Republican Ski Centre

The event was organised by the Belarusian Auto Moto Tourism Club public organisation and the Foreign Ministry of Belarus, with support from the Ministry of Transport and Communications and the Emergency Ministry. It was attended by the heads of the foreign diplomatic corps in Belarus and representatives of international organisations, as well as honorary consuls and their families.

"The topic of road safety is acute both for the Republic of Belarus and in an international context," stressed Belarus' Foreign Minister, Vladimir Makei, during the event. "The Belarusian Head of State underlined his support of the measures



Diplomats observe

taken by the UN, as he met UN Deputy Secretary General, Amina J. Mohammed, in Minsk on February 21st."

This April, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution on 'Improving Global Road Safety', co-authored by Belarus.

The *Diplomats for Security* campaign aimed to draw

the attention of the diplomatic and consular corps working in Minsk to the importance of strengthening road safety. During the event, a master class took place on advanced driving manoeuvres. The participants of the workshop learnt how to deal with vehicle fires and give first aid to those involved in road traffic accidents. They



were also shown a driver eye movement tracking system.

Following requirements which have been in operation in Belarus since 2015, diplomats and their wives have taken training courses on choosing and the use of child restraints.

A demonstration of what can happen if traffic rules are violated, used tests of drunk

**Master class in driving** goggles whose glasses imitate inebriation, as well as a 'roll-over accident' showing what happens with passengers during vehicle roll-over if safety belts aren't used.

The guests at the event also saw machinery presented by the MAZ JSC team who took part in the Dakar 2018 Rally, winning a silver medal.



# Hamas warns Israel of 'starving tiger' in Gaza

Thousands of Palestinians gathered at Khan Younis in the Gaza Strip, near the border fence that separates the Palestinian territory from Israel

For six weeks they've held these demonstrations, charging at the fence that cuts the Palestinians of Gaza off from the outside world because of a more-than-10-year blockade which has exacerbated their poverty.

The Israelis have responded to the protesters hurling rocks, Molotov cocktails and burning

tires with bullets and tear gas. They've killed at least 41 and injured almost 2,000 since the protests began on March 30th.

Many of the Palestinian protesters are peaceful, and Israel says it only targets protesters who threaten the border.

In a statement last Friday, the Israel Defence Forces said about 5,000 Palestinians were

taking part in 'riots' along the border.

The Palestinians want the right to return to land they were forced to leave behind in 1948 when the state of Israeli was formed. There are about 2 million Palestinians living in Gaza, and two-thirds of them are refugees or decedents of refugees.

The Hamas militant group's

leader in the Gaza Strip compared protesters to a 'starving tiger', and held out the possibility that tens of thousands of people could try to burst through the fence and swarm into Israel. Israel has said it will defend its border. It accuses Hamas of exploiting civilians and using the chaotic scenes to stage attacks.



# US commercial drones have been given green light

**Drones that monitor crops, control mosquito populations and deliver defibrillators are to be tested in US airspace**

Ten commercial drone projects have been selected to try out new ways for unmanned aircraft to be integrated into the skies.

They include Zipline, which currently offers a blood-delivery service in Rwanda, and Ap-

ple. But Amazon, which wants to offer drone parcel deliveries, has not been chosen.

The Federal Aviation Authority has previously had extremely tight rules about the use of drones.

A permit is needed to fly one, with beyond line-of-sight flights and night-time flying banned. More than one million drones and 90,000 pilots are currently registered with the FAA.

# California becomes the first US state to mandate solar panels on new homes' roofs

**California is the first state in the US to require that new homes have solar panels on their roofs**

The new law will take effect in 2020 after winning the unanimous approval of the California Energy Commission.

It's part of a policy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions

in the state. California sees itself as being at the forefront of progressive energy policies.

Environmentalists have welcomed the news; however, critics have warned that it could put up the price of a new house by around \$10,000 in a state that already has a problem with affordable housing.



# Shell Midstream to buy Shell stake in Amberjack pipeline for \$1.22 billion

**Pipeline operator Shell Midstream Partners LP said it would buy parent Royal Dutch Shell's stake in the Amberjack Pipeline Co for \$1.22 billion**

The Amberjack pipeline, located in the Gulf of Mexico, transports roughly 300,000 barrels per day of oil.

# DR Congo confirms new outbreak of Ebola virus

**The Democratic Republic of Congo has confirmed the first death in a new outbreak of the Ebola virus in the central African country**

Health Minister Oly Ilunga said that a further 11 people had been infected, including three medical staff.

The DRC Health Minister, Oly Ilunga, said, "The ministry deployed a first team of twelve experts who arrived in Bandaka, May 9th, in order to start the first investigations and to organise the response in the field."

This is the ninth time the disease has been recorded in the Democratic Republic of Congo since it made its first known appearance in the 1970s near the country's Ebola River.

# Investigation is underway after a Tesla electric car killed two teenagers in Florida

**An investigation is underway after two teenagers died when their Tesla electric car crashed, and went up in flames**

The National Transportation Safety Board has sent a team to Fort Lauderdale.

Focus will be on the battery of a Tesla Model S.

It's the second time in the last two months that the agency has investigated this type of blaze.

Two 18 year olds were trapped and died and another teen was thrown from the car and taken to hospital.

The Californian company maintains its vehicles catch fire far less often than those powered by gasoline.

**Materials prepared with aid of information agencies**



# Meet: Algerd, Sergey and Elina Malishevskie

An exhibition of paintings by Algerd, Sergey and Elina Malishevskie, opens at Minsk's Artel Gallery as part of the *Famous Art Dynasties of Belarus* project



By Veniamin Mikheev

The *Famous Art Dynasties of Belarus* project continues to familiarise its visitors with works by recognised figures of Russian culture and their successors. This gives them an opportunity to present Belarusian art of the late 20th-early 21st century in all its diversity, while demonstrating the interconnection and continuity of traditions combined with innovative searches.

The Grey Hall of the gallery now exhibits works by Honoured Arts Worker of the BSSR, a legendary teacher of the Minsk Art School — Algerd Malishevsky — from the artist's family collection; these pieces were drawn mostly in the 1970-1980s. Experts and art critics believe that the creativity of this master is a landmark for 20th century national fine arts. Algerd Malishevsky lived and worked in the Soviet period when official art was subordinated to the dogmas of socialist realism. Although he accumulated many of the tendencies of the 1960-1970s, at the same time, he stood alone. The artist continued the style developed by Mikhail Filippovich, Mikhail Stanyuta and Mikhail Sevrak in the early 20th century: the aspiration to establish a connection between the national basis and European art traditions. His works are based

on the search for his own style, colour, composition and space.

The current show features landscapes, still-lives, portraits and sketches of Algerd's paintings. In search of a picturesque 'formula', the artist went from private to general. In the late period of his artistry, the tendency towards even greater refusal of the objective image was evident. In these works, the inner impulse, unrestrained expression and the author's strongest energy seem to blur the boundaries between writing, drawing and painting. These show a shift from objectivity to non-objectivity, there is the direct impact of colour and form on the spectators' minds, bypassing their reasoning and logical thinking.

The White Hall displays paintings by Algerd's son Sergey and his wife Elina (who is a daughter of famous Genady Gorkunov). Mr. Gorkunov is the principal artist of the Borisov Works of Applied Art and, in the 1970s, he organised a tapestry workshop and an experimental and creative laboratory of art weaving at the factory.

Sergey Malishevsky is an artist with a pronounced individ-

ual style and inner charisma. His work is a synonym for mystery. Sergey's pictures are amazing puzzles, their meaning not immediately obvious. They follow an idea of people's eternal search for their essence and mission.



The artist's works are fascinating in their depth and originality, intimacy and incomprehensibility. Some are full of irony, while others feature satire and even the grotesque. The characters in these paintings are often endowed with surreal features, just like actors on the stage, they play scenes

with plots invented by Sergey Malishevsky's limitless imagination. Visitors to the show see the works of Sergey painted mostly in 2018; many showcased for the first time.

According to collectors, no one buys a painting by Sergey Malishevsky for the purpose of investing money. They purchase pictures exclusively for themselves and put them on their walls. The soft reflection of his paintings is so unassuming and warm, as if it is being produced by candles from a time before electricity. People whose houses are warmed by Sergey's works are unanimous: these surreal fantasies do not seem sinister; on the contrary, they are full of light energy and faith. "Sergey Malishevsky belongs to the generation of artists who have managed to embrace both mature socialism and capitalism," comments collector Vsevolod Polyakov. "However, romantic is not the best word to describe them. Sergey's canvases embrace everything: the period of the defective development of society, the tragedy of the loss of the old and the not yet acquired new... His epoch-making *Last Bell* features

the author himself: a small boy with a sable on a bicycle among huge figures of everyday life, neighboured by his muse and a magic cat."

Neither a fighter, or a political activist, he was among the first Belarusian artists whose exhibitions were banned before their opening. He is not a follower of Bosch and Dali, although he once openly demonstrated interest in their works. Sergey Malishevsky has long been on his own: in his own world illuminated not by the screen of the monitor but by the fire of his own creativity.

On the other hand, Elina Malishevskaya is known primarily as a professional who has been engaged in batik for over a quarter of a century; she performs artistic painting on fabric. This professional is distinguished by her love and devotion to this kind of creativity. However, she is always in search of the new and open to experiments. Unsurprisingly, Elina presents her new paintings made in the author's style at the show. In her still-lives and landscapes, the image of the material world is filled with the author's poetic love for nature. Elina appreciates creating her own colour, making new stories and compositional solutions. Her works — presented at the exhibition — stand out for their emotion, colour expression and a sense of harmony.



# Where famous historian Herodotus once stepped

## Five interesting reasons to visit Stolin

By Kristina Khilko

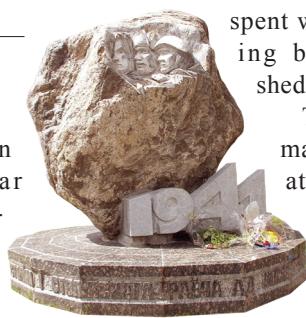
### Tasting green cucumbers

The agro-town of Olshany, near Stolin, is the cucumber capital of Belarus, with almost every family having its own greenhouse. Heavy trucks from Moscow, St. Petersburg and, even, Murmansk arrive to purchase the crisp cucumbers, which harvest until late autumn.

Residents spend days and nights in their greenhouses, even sleeping there! They joke that 'if you work on a vegetable patch, you lie down with it!'

### Seeing Polesie Amazonia

In spring, the area around Olshany turns into a 'tropical jungle', due to the flooding of the River Pripyat, through boggy lowlands, which joins with its deep side streams into a single water system. Ancient Greek historian Herodotus, after visiting, named the Polesie waters 'a sea'. In honour of the great traveller and historian, the water 'mirror' was called the 'sea of Herodotus'. The view is like that described in Nekrasov's verse: 'Water understands all and raises the village in spring'. Wooden and rubber boats are essential transport and there were times when cows and pigs



spent weeks on floating boats, tied to sheds.

The famous Olmanskies marshes attract hundreds of tourists with their flora and fauna, registered in the Red

Book. There are many rare birds to photograph: egrets, black storks, night herons and blue-throated robins. Of course, the landscape is wild, so it's vital to go with an experienced guide.

a riot of colour and excitement, transforming the tranquil town.

Just imagine: a devil with horns jumping in the streets, a splay-footed bear frightening young girls, and gypsies in motley costumes singing to the accompaniment of guitar and timbrel. Youngsters love 'Koniki', with new masks depicting Batman, Superman and Jack Sparrow joining traditional versions.

The main character of the magical night is the 'horse', whose head is made from a felt boot and whose body is

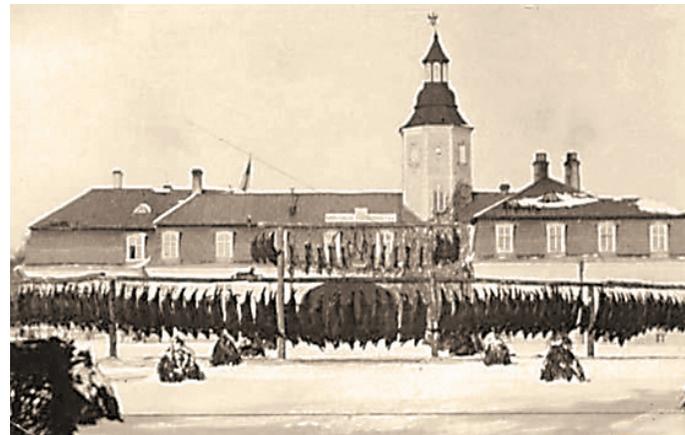


In 2016, the unusual New Year ritual celebrated its centenary

### Driving 'horse' on carnival night

The Stolin District remains unique. You may think that carnivals only take place in Venice but it's not true. Polesie's flamboyant 'Koniki' (Horses) ritual, held in David-Gorodok just before New Year is

made from basket weave, with a flax tail fixed behind. A soldier in an overcoat leads the horse by its reins, followed by a noisy crew with songs and dances, going from one house to the next, singing carols. The custom appeared during the First World War. On the eve of the old calendar New Year, Russian



Radziwill magnates once organised true 'tsarist' hunts

Cossacks created a 'horse' from materials to hand, wishing to amuse honest folk. Today, the tradition has been entered for registry on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Belarus.

### Finding Gorynych

Those keen on mystical stories won't be bored around Stolin. Adventurers should go directly to the River Goryn, where it's said that a fire-breathing dragon lives, creating mysterious circles on the water and sudden 'fountains'. No one has seen a dragon but local fishermen sometimes catch gigantic catfish, weighing more than fifty kilograms.

According to legend, the name of the town derives from 'fish'. Once, there was a huge lake, in which a lucky man caught one hundred tench.

### Guessing the mystery of petroglyphs

Five hundred years ago, the town was owned by the magnates Solo- moret-

skie, then Vishnevskie and Patsy. Meanwhile, Stolin was glorified by a representative of the richest family of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, Anthony Radziwill (or, to be more exact, by his sweetheart, French Duchess Marie Dorothea Elisabeth de Castellane). The elegant mademoiselle renovated the shabby castle in Nesvizh and then began to restore Stolin. She brought an architect from Berlin, who constructed a luxurious palace for her. An oak-grove under the window was joined with exotic trees. Alas, during the war, the residence was burnt down; only the park survived.

Another attraction for tourists is four dozen ancient boulders. Fanciful signs and inscriptions have been carved on those pagan stones. No one has managed to decipher them but similar signs have been found in books and on famous Borisov boulders. Local historians suppose that the Stolin findings are almost a thousand years old. They say that touching them allows wishes to come true.



# When leaving the elite, it's important to think about the return

Belarusian hockey players lose one of the key matches of the IIHF World Championships against Austria and are expelled from the elite division

By Yegor Vetrov

Sadly, according to the results of the performance in the company of the strongest teams in Denmark, the Belarusians were defeated six times in a row. The final match against Slovakia did not affect the standings in Group A of the preliminary stage of the tournament.

In 2019, the national team will play in Division I of Group



L. Haudum of Austria in action with S. Drozd and goaltender M. Karnaukhov of Belarus

A against Kazakhstan, Hungary, Slovenia and Lithuania, next April. The venue for the tournament is yet to be determined. Following the results of

the competition, the two best teams will gain entry to the elite division.

The last time Belarusian hockey players played in Di-

vision I was in 2004, in Oslo. They then were placed first and earned the right to play against the strongest teams in the world.

## Title fight scheduled for September

By Oleg Samsonov

Belarusian boxer Kirill Relikh will defend his World Boxing Association (WBA) world champion title in September 2018

The match will take place during the World Boxing Super Series (WBSS) tournament in the under 63.5kg weight category. His rival will be Eduard Troyanovsky of Russia.



The Russian boxer is a former world champion of the International Boxing Federation

(IBF). In total, he boasts 27 victories (including 24 knock-outs) and one defeat, while 28-year-old Relikh has 22 victories (including 19 knock-outs) and two defeats.

The title of world champion was claimed by Kirill in March 2018, after beating Cuban boxer Rances Barthelemy in US San Antonio. Another Belarusian — Ivan Baranchik — will take part in the WBSS tournament in September.

## 'I was lucky — I worked with Fabio Capello'

One of the best Belarusian footballers, Sergey Gurenko, ready to bring the champion's title to Dinamo Minsk

By Artur Nanyan

Sergey Gurenko is one of the most acclaimed players of Belarus, having played successfully for teams from Russia, Italy and Spain. In total, Gurenko claimed nine titles and finished his career in 2008. Last May, he became the head of Dinamo Minsk for the second time.

Is Dinamo able to fight for the champion's title this season?

I don't want to think about whether it's possible or not at the moment. We have proven this year that we can rival even BATE. I believe that we'll be able to show our mettle this season.

You've played in Italy and Spain. What was difficult for you there?

I can give advice to those wishing to play in top European championships. The most important thing is to communicate. It's vital to speak to foreigners and not be afraid of making mistakes. Only in this way it is possible to learn the language. It's helpful to watch television and listen to the radio more. It's imperative to know the language.

Did you feel shy or did you immediately become a 'familiar face among the players in Roma for example?

No, I didn't feel shy and was warmly accepted in the team. I became friends with many Italians; we went to restaurants and chatted. I had no problems on a day-to-day level; neither did my wife. We didn't read books in the foreign language but had no problems in communicating.

You have two sons: Artem and Nikita. Do they play football?

My elder son Artem is playing in my team and he used to play in all the junior national teams of Belarus. Nikita has moved from the second league to the first Belarusian league, on loan. We'll see what will happen. Let them prove themselves in time and work hard.

Did they choose football themselves or did you encourage their love of the sport?

I think they did it independently. I haven't ever insisted that they should become football players. It's their choice.

When you were a player did you imagine that you would become a coach?

When I was playing I was already writing summaries of trainings and did this back in

1999 when I moved to Roma. I have kept my notes from then.

Who made the strongest impression on you?

I was lucky because I worked with such specialists as Fabio Capello and Yuri Semin. I could learn something from each of them. Primarily, I tried to take what helped me and what I liked. There are many different methods but one's own experience is also very important. I hope that my experience as a player will help me in my coaching activity.



Sergey Gurenko

## Award for fair play

International Biathlon Union awarded Darya Domracheva World Fair Play

It's important to mention that the winner of this category is determined by the biathletes themselves, taking part in the World Cup stages. 'Darya Domracheva was awarded the Fair Play medal due to her noble gesture at the World Cup stage in Italian Antholz' reads the IBU official statement. Among the men, Johannes Thingnes Bø of Norway was given the same award.

The episode that rewarded our four-time Olympic champion occurred during the pursuit race in Italian Antholz. Domracheva accidentally stepped on the ski pole of Italian Dorothea Wierer and decided not to overtake her 'disarmed' rival. As a result, the Italian took silver while Darya finished with bronze.

## Belarusian finals in Karshi

Yegor Gerasimov wins tournament in Uzbek Karshi

In the final of the competition, with a prize fund of \$75,000, Yegor beat another Belarusian tennis player — Sergey Betov — winning the first set with a tie-break (7:6). After the break and the score reaching 2:0 in Gerasimov's favour, Sergey refused to continue the match.

Yegor Gerasimov also excelled at this tournament last year. This time, he's been seeded third. As for Sergey Betov, he went through to the main draw of the competition, after successfully completing the qualification.

## Carnival of the week



Minsk hosts traditional cycling carnival — Viva Rovar

### EXHIBITIONS

#### NATIONAL ART MUSEUM OF BELARUS

20 Lenin Street  
Until 21<sup>st</sup> May. Exhibition of Mikhail and Valeriya Svistunovs: *In Language of Watercolours* Until 27<sup>th</sup> May. *Territory of Earthly Hopes* Until 1<sup>st</sup> June. Aivazovsky and Marine Painters  
Until 26<sup>th</sup> June. *Chinese Painting of Ideas*

#### NATIONAL HISTORY MUSEUM

12 K. Marx Street  
Until 31<sup>st</sup> May. *Divine Comedy* by Salvador Dali  
Until 10<sup>th</sup> June. *Under Muse's Heel: Footwear History Facts*

#### EXHIBITION HALL OF NATURE AND ECOLOGY MUSEUM

9A Bogdanovich Street  
Until 3<sup>rd</sup> July. *Song Birds and Pigeons*

#### MUSEUM OF MODERN BELARUSIAN STATEHOOD

38 K. Marx Street  
Until 26<sup>th</sup> June. *Man. Cosmos. Belarus*

#### GREAT PATRIOTIC WAR HISTORY MUSEUM

8 Pobediteley Avenue  
Until 25<sup>th</sup> May. *Red Banner Belarusian Military District: History in Faces*  
Until 13<sup>th</sup> August. *Piotr Masherov: His Heart Beats for People*

#### NATIONAL LIBRARY OF BELARUS

116 Nezavisimosti Avenue  
Until 31<sup>st</sup> August. Enlightenment. Experience. Progress Until 15<sup>th</sup> September. *ABCs from Around the Globe*

#### MIKHAIL SAVITSKY ART GALLERY

15 Svobody Square  
Until 13<sup>th</sup> May. Bronislav Pilsudsky (1866-1918). *From Sakhalin to Zakopane: Ethnographic Travel*

#### VANKOVICH'S HOUSE

33a Internatsionalnaya  
Until 27<sup>th</sup> May. Photo exhibition by Margarita Trenina: *Fairies* artistic cycle (as part of the *Close* exhibition)

#### MINSK GALLERY

9 Pobediteley Avenue  
Until 27<sup>th</sup> May. *World of the Future*  
Until 31<sup>st</sup> May. *The Art of Brick*

#### CHELYUSKINTSEV PARK OF CULTURE AND REST

84/1 Nezavisimosti Avenue  
Until 30<sup>th</sup> June. *Legacy of Belarus: Dedicated to Minsk's 950<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

#### BELARUSIAN STATE CIRCUS

32 Nezavisimosti Avenue  
19-20 and 23.05. *Circus! Circus! Circus!*

### THEATRES

#### NATIONAL ACADEMIC BOLSHOI OPERA AND BALLET THEATRE

1 Parizhskoy Kommuny Street  
17.05. *Aida* 18.05. *Sonnets*. Small Death. Six Dances 20.05. *Tosca* 21.05. *Little Prince* 22.05. *Figaro's Wedding* 23.05. *Corsair*

#### BELARUSIAN STATE ACADEMIC MUSICAL THEATRE

44 Myasnikov Street  
17.05. *Cleopatra* 18.05. *Merry Widow* 19.05. *The Bat* 20.05. *Flying Ship; Women's Revolt* 21.05. *Casanova* 22.05. *Ball in Savoy* 23.05. *Wedding in Malinovka* 24.05. *Swan Lake*

#### MAXIM GORKY NATIONAL ACADEMIC DRAMA THEATRE

5 Volodarsky Street  
17.05. *Zoika's Flat* 18.05. *Lady for a Day* 19.05. *As If by Magic; The Twelfth Night* 20.05. *Pane Kokhanku* 22.05. *Circle of Love*

#### THEATRE-STUDIO OF FILM ACTORS

13 Pobediteley Avenue  
17.05. *Night of A.P. Chekhov's Miniatures* 18.05. *The Makropoulos Case* 19.05. *Even a Wise Man Stumbles* 20.05. *An Unnamed Star* 21.05. *The Same Place Next Year* 22.05. *A Very Simple Story* 23.05. *Abduction of Yelena* 24.05. *Who Laughs Last*

#### YANKA KUPALA NATIONAL ACADEMIC THEATRE

7 Engels Street  
17.05. *Radio Prudok* 18.05. *Jeweller's Jubilee; Radio Prudok* 19.05. *The Black Lady of Nesvizh* 20.05. *The Black Lady of Nesvizh; Biography; Art* 21.05. *WANTED HAMLET* 22.05. *Seagull* 23.05. *Pinsk Gentry; Elza's Land* 24.05. *Pan Tadeusz*

#### REPUBLICAN THEATRE OF BELARUSIAN DRAMA

44 Kropotkin Street  
17.05. *Circles of Paradise* 18.05. *UBYU* 19.05. *An Uninvited Guest* 20.05. *From Insects' Life* 21.05. *Blue-Blue* 22.05. *Lunar Pierrot* 24.05. *Three Giselles*

#### YOUTH THEATRE

17 Kozlov Street  
17.05. *A Man from Podolsk; Bigamist* 18.05. *The Fool* 19.05. *Tailor (Israel)* 20.05. *He Said* 23.05. *Sasha, Take Garbage Away; Synopsis* 24.05. *Goat's Island*

#### BELARUSIAN STATE PUPPET THEATRE

20 Engels Street  
19.05. *Umka; Graya Sisters* 20.05. *I, Sizif* 21.05. *Plikh and Plyukh; Belvedere* 24.05. *Silk*