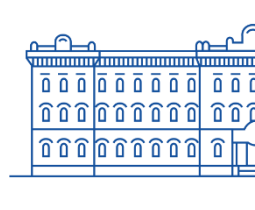




МИНИСТЕРСТВО НАУКИ
И ВЫСШЕГО ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ
РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ



РГУ
имени С.А. Есенина



Фонд Торракова

RUSSIAN-BALKAN YOUTH FORUM

**12 - 17 December 2022 (including arrival and departure days)
Ryazan, Russian Federation**

Application

Deadline:

20 November 2022 for
candidates from the Balkan countries

25 November 2022 for
candidates from Russia

RUSSIA AND THE BALKANS: YOUTH COOPERATION

Russia and the Balkan countries have a long history of relations, the future development of which depends on a combination of mutual interests and the existence of a common agenda. For further successful interaction between Russia and the Balkan countries, it is necessary to identify mutually important topics of work, to initiate and support work in these areas.

Since the beginning of the 19th century, Russian-Balkan diplomatic relations have reached a high level of cooperation, in both quantity and quality dimensions. Energy, ecology, education, tourism, youth cooperation - all these are the spheres of mutual interests of Russia and the Balkan countries, which will let the younger generation to broaden integration horizons.

Youth is a driving force in strengthening international relations. Young people are true multitaskers, striving to solve several problems at once, engage in science and study, travel, and unite with youth from other countries. With the joint efforts of young people from Russia and the Balkan countries, it will be possible not only to contribute to the preservation of a common culture and the development of cooperation between states, but also to develop new attractive areas of interaction.

On September 5, 2022, President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin approved the Concept of Russia's Humanitarian Policy Abroad, which reflects the goals of shaping and strengthening an objective perception of Russia in the world, promoting understanding of its historical path, role and place in world history and culture, expanding contacts between people.

"It is crucial to regularly hold events aimed at further development of international and interregional youth cooperation in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation. Support for the initiatives of active young citizens of Russia in the sphere of international cooperation will help expand the geography of youth projects, strengthen the profile of the Russian youth movement abroad,"¹ the Concept says.

The Balkan youth is no less active in developing cooperation with other countries, particularly with Russia. Hosting joint meetings, forums, conferences – such activities give the future generation an opportunity to comprehensively interact, develop joint projects aimed at strengthening ties and building trusting relationships. The Russian-Balkan Youth Forum and the efforts of young people will allow to establish a fruitful dialogue between Russia and the Balkan countries.

Therefore, the Russian-Balkan Youth Forum will be aimed at strengthening mutual understanding, friendly and professional ties between the youth of Russia and the Balkan countries, which will pave the solid foundation for youth cooperation between the countries. The Forum will allow to step up and diversify cooperation of Russia and the Balkan countries in the youth field, as well as design new mechanisms and formats of mutual work.

¹ Decree of the President of the Russian Federation of September 5, 2022 N 611 " On approval of the concept of humanitarian policy of the Russian Federation abroad" <https://www.garant.ru/products/ipo/prime/doc/405140851/>

AIM OF THE FORUM

Development of Russian-Balkan youth cooperation, strengthening friendly and professional relations between youth leaders of Russia and the Balkan countries.

OBJECTIVES:

- establish friendly and professional ties between youth leaders and youth public associations in Russia and the Balkan countries;
- discuss current state of Russian-Balkan youth cooperation and the role of youth in strengthening bilateral relations between Russia and Balkan countries;
- create conditions for sharing experiences, further cooperation and development of joint projects between youth leaders and youth public associations of Russia and the Balkan countries;
- outline existing opportunities and resources for promoting Russian-Balkan youth cooperation;
- develop proposals and recommendations for the development of youth cooperation and forms of interaction between the youth leaders of Russia and Balkan countries.

THEMATIC TRACKS OF THE FORUM

The Forum will have the following thematic tracks:

- International Cooperation: Status and Prospects;
- Academic Cooperation: Status and Prospects;
- Joint Initiatives in the Field of Culture, Tourism and Media.

ORGANIZERS

The Forum is jointly organized by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation, the National Youth Council of Russia, the Federal State Budgetary Educational Institution of Higher Education "Ryazan State University named for S.A. Yesenin" and the Federal State Budgetary Educational Institution of Higher Education "MIREA - Russian Technological University" with support of the Alexander Gorchakov Public Diplomacy Fund.

PARTICIPANTS PROFILE

The Forum will bring together 50 participants from Russia and the Balkan countries (25 people from each party).

A candidate for the Forum must meet the following criteria:

- be 18-35 years old;
- be a citizen of and live in Russia or one of the Balkan countries;
- be a representative of a youth NGO / youth informal movement / NGO that deals with international youth cooperation / student organization / young scientist / student or postgraduate student in the field of "International Relations" / young journalist / blogger / young entrepreneur or startup founder / young compatriot living abroad;
- be determined to work towards enhancing Russian-Balkan cooperation;
- be motivated and able to organize events, projects and programmes after the Forum in collaboration with other Forum participants;
- be ready to take part in all the programme activities of the Forum;
- be able to speak Russian or English.

FINANCIAL CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION AND TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Dates: the Forum will begin 13 December 2022 at 9:00 a.m. and end 16 December 2022 at 9:00 p.m. Arrival day for all participants is 12 December 2022.

Place: Ryazan, Russian Federation.

Working languages: Russian and English. Simultaneous and consecutive interpretation will be provided.

Financial conditions of participation: the organizers will provide accommodation and meals during the Forum and a cultural programme for all participants.

The organizers will cover travel costs from place of residence to Ryazan and back as well as visa fees for participants from the Balkan countries. Participants from Russia will cover their travel costs to Ryazan and back themselves or at the expense of the sending organization.

The organizers will provide visa application support for participants from the Balkan countries who might require it.

ATTENTION: in case of missing some elements of the Forum programme and frequently being late for the Forum activities, participants will bear the costs of accommodation and meals themselves.

APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCEDURES

All interested candidates from the **Russian Federation** are invited to apply by choosing one most convenient option **by 23:59 Moscow time 25 November 2022:**

- on the website "Youth of Russia" ("Molodezh Rossii") <https://myrosmol.ru/> (to apply you will need to register on the website);
- via an online application form available at: <https://forms.yandex.ru/cloud/636ce51e068ff015b933ed3c/>

All interested candidates from the **Balkan countries** are invited to apply by choosing one most convenient option **by 23:59 Moscow time 20 November 2022:**

- on the website "Youth of Russia" ("Molodezh Rossii") <https://myrosmol.ru/> (to apply you will need to register on the website);
- via an online application form in English available at: <https://forms.gle/tr1KryzNKG2CnxKw9>.

All participants will be selected by the organizers based on the completed application form and the participants unique experience, motivation and balanced diversity within the group. Selected applicants will receive additional information and instructions no later than 28 November 2022.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Valeria Torotenkova, Head of the International Department of the National Youth Council of Russia, v.torotenkova@youthrussia.ru

Daria Piskareva, Specialist of the International Department of the National Youth Council of Russia, d.piskareva@youthrussia.ru

For technical support regarding the application procedure please contact: international@youthrussia.ru, + 7 (495) 249-11-49

OTHER EVENTS

If you are interested in other activities in the field of international youth cooperation, please contact: <https://intermol.su/en/>, <http://youthrussia.ru/en/>.