

# International Activities of Organizations to Support Young Compatriots Abroad

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**Abstract.** The article is devoted to the analysis of the international activities of state and non-profit organizations to support young compatriots abroad. Statistical data are analyzed; data on foreign countries are received. The methodology for analyzing documents has been studied by federal regulatory legal acts, which reflect the content of state support of compatriots abroad. Sociological interview was conducted through the experts from the Russian Federation, the Kyrgyz Republic, Poland and the Republic of Armenia. In all countries of the world there are various types of activities, projects that deserve the support of state and public organizations. The article analyzes the content and main directions of support for compatriots living abroad. The activity of public organizations and foundations, youth associations supporting young compatriots living abroad was studied. A survey of experts made it possible to assess the state of interaction with foreign countries. Experts from foreign countries presented foreign experience in the field of youth policy.

## 1. Introduction

According to data of Rossotrudnichestvo, about 30 million Russian compatriots live in the world [1], one fifth of which is young people. This is one of the largest numbers in the world. Most compatriots live in the CIS and Baltic countries: according to the data for 2018, this is 88.6% (the largest diasporas in Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Belarus and Uzbekistan) [2, p. 4]. 11.4% of compatriots live in foreign countries. Large Russian-speaking Diasporas leave the USSR and Russia live in Germany, the USA and Israel [2, p. 4]. Overseas there have been qualitative changes. A part of the Diasporas socially adapted to the new realities has been formed, wishing to maintain spiritual and cultural ties with our country. This part was united in public organizations and associations of compatriots abroad. In the Russian Federation, there are effective tools to ensure the support of compatriots living in foreign countries.

### 1.1. Literature review

Today, more and more scientific studies are emerging on the implementation of the state policy of supporting young compatriots abroad. The study of the situation of compatriots abroad and state policy in this area is devoted to the work of T. Balashova [3], Gerasimova V.A. [4].

The methodological tools of policy management in relation to compatriots abroad, as well as the effectiveness and efficiency of the analyzed policy are considered in the works of S.V. Ryazantseva

[5, p. 84]. The author also studies the algorithms of program-targeted management of the policy in question.

Issues of socio-economic cooperation with compatriots abroad, as well as aspects of financial support for the process of voluntary resettlement of compatriots, were considered in D.V. Petukhova [6, p. 200].

Some researchers examined the experience of regional cooperation, interaction with compatriots at the level of Russian regions. In particular, in the works of R.R. Gimatdinova and Nasyrova [7, p. 95.] explores the interaction with compatriots in Tatarstan.

The problems of implementing state policy in relation to compatriots abroad formed the basis of the scientific works of such authors as V.I. Tarkhanova [8, p. 107], V.I. Filippov [9, p. 46] and others.

The process of consolidation of young compatriots goes in parallel with the global globalization processes. Young Russian compatriots around the world are implementing various initiatives, events, projects. Therefore, the issue of supporting young compatriots abroad is particularly relevant.

### *1.2. Research question*

The purpose of the article is to study the international activities of organizations supporting young Russian compatriots abroad, to identify current trends and topical issues in supporting young compatriots, to study foreign experience in the field of youth policy and support for young compatriots abroad.

### *1.3. Theoretical background*

According to the federal law "On the state policy of the Russian Federation with respect to compatriots abroad", "compatriots are persons born in one state, living or residing in it and having signs of a common language, history, cultural heritage, traditions and customs, as well as descendants of these persons in a straight downward line. Compatriots abroad are citizens of the Russian Federation permanently residing outside the territory of the Russian Federation [10].

The Russian Federation and its regions promote the voluntary resettlement of compatriots in the Russian Federation [11]. To date, 320.5 thousand people have resettled under the Voluntary Resettlement Program. It should be noted that 98% of the migrants are citizens of the CIS member states. The main source countries in 2014-2015 are Ukraine (more than 50%), Kazakhstan (21%), Uzbekistan (13%), Moldova (8%) and Armenia (6%) [12, p. 82].

The youth movement of Russian compatriots abroad is a collection of youth communities, organizations, initiatives, events, projects implemented by young Russian compatriots around the world. The process of consolidation of young compatriots goes in parallel with world globalization processes [13, p. 246].

Various organizations are actively functioning throughout the world, supporting and developing compatriots (including young people) living abroad. They provide informational, legal, financial support to young compatriots abroad. Let us analyze the mechanisms, forms and tools of support for some organizations in more detail.

1. The Foundation for the Support and Protection of the Rights of Compatriots Living Abroad is a non-membership non-profit organization whose purpose is to provide Russian compatriots with comprehensive legal and other necessary support in cases of violation of their rights, freedoms and legitimate interests in accordance with generally recognized principles and norms of international human rights law [14, p. 54].

Targeted legal assistance to individual compatriots and human rights organizations is provided through the allocation of grants and subsidies. Grants (donations) are provided to individuals and legal entities (with the exception of commercial organizations) for the implementation of projects aimed at providing compatriots living abroad (hereinafter compatriots) with methodological, informational, organizational, legal assistance and material support in protecting rights, freedoms and legal interests in the countries of residence [15, p. 1090].

The fund provides support to young compatriots living abroad. Today, the youth direction is becoming a priority area of work of the coordination councils of Russian compatriots in many countries of the world [16, p. 129]. Over the past two years, the Fund, together with other organizations, has implemented more than one hundred and fifty events aimed at supporting young compatriots living abroad.

2. The World Congress of Russian Compatriots Living Abroad carries out coordinating, executive and representative functions on all issues within its competence.

The videoconferencing is the supreme body that ensures, between the world forums of compatriots, in order to implement their decisions, the interaction of associations of compatriots with state institutions of the Russian Federation and its constituent entities.

The videoconferencing acts as a working body for the preparation and organization of world forums of compatriots, including young compatriots.

3. Regional Coordinating Council of compatriots of the countries of Northern Europe and the Baltic Sea. Its main goal is the implementation of legal, educational and other support for compatriots in the Nordic and Baltic countries.

The Council is actively working to support young compatriots living in the countries of Northern Europe and the Baltic Sea. The question of the form of interaction and consolidation of young Russian compatriots is discussed at each conference of the regional Council and meeting.

On April 27-28, 2018 in Oslo (Norway), the IV Regional Conference of Russian compatriots living in the countries of Northern Europe and the Baltic Sea were held. The conference was devoted to discussing the integrity of the rights and legitimate interests of compatriots, promoting the consolidation of the Russian world, preserving and expanding the Russian ethno-cultural space abroad [17].

4. The International Council of Russian Compatriots is the only worldwide association of organizations of Russian compatriots that includes 137 organizations from 52 countries of the world. The main objectives of the ICRC:

- consolidation of the Russian diaspora, coordination of the activities of public associations and organizations of compatriots in the interests of preserving ethnic identity, national and religious identity, spiritual and cultural heritage of indigenous peoples of Russia;

- assistance in the formation of a single Russian cultural, informational and educational space in the interests of strengthening the commonality of the Russian diaspora, strengthening its international position;

- creating the necessary conditions for expanding the cultural, intellectual and business ties of Russian compatriots with their historical homeland and others [18, p. 904].

5. The regional coordination council of Russian compatriots of the neighboring countries was formed in June 2015, during the IV regional conference held in the Republic of Kyrgyzstan (Issyk-Kul, June 19, 2015). The forum was attended by delegates from 12 countries: Abkhazia, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Ukraine, South Ossetia. The country communities of Abkhazia, Azerbaijan, Belarus and Kazakhstan were elected to the RCC of the Near Abroad [19, p. 129].

The purpose of the council is the consolidation of compatriots at the country, regional and world levels, including the protection and preservation of the Russian ethno-cultural space in the states of the region, the strengthening of ties and comprehensive partnerships between communities and Russia [20, p. 73].

6. The Regional Coordinating Council (RCC) of Russian compatriots of the countries of the Asia-Pacific Region (APR) was created in March 2015. In work with youth, the Council pays special attention to interaction with young compatriots, including involving them in the work of the CRR, and develops new forms of work with youth and their organizations.

## 2. Data, methods and results

Support for young compatriots living abroad is an urgent task for government organizations. At the federal level, this problem is actively addressed by the Federal Agency for Youth Affairs (Rosmolodezh) and the federal institution "International Youth Center" subordinate to it. We conducted an expert survey of representatives of these organizations. As experts in the study took part:

Ivanov Dmitry Valentinovich - head of the international activity department of the Office of youth projects and programs of the Federal Agency for Youth Affairs (Rosmolodezh),

Sokolova Dina Aleksandrovna - Deputy Director of the FSBI "International Youth Center" (a subordinate institution of Rosmolodezh).

The expert survey was dedicated to the state of interaction with foreign partner countries in the field of youth policy and organizations supporting compatriots abroad. Let's consider the answers of experts to some interview questions.

According to Ivanov DV, *"Rosmolodezh is represented in organizations of the United Nations, there is such a toolkit as the youth forum of the UN International Socio-Economic Council, the annual forum of the UN youth socio-economic council ... We have established, stable partnerships with our colleagues from the Council of Europe, we are represented at the BRICS and SCO platforms ... One of the priorities of international cooperation is our contacts and our interaction with the CIS countries ... We have such a format for cooperation odeystviya as holding the annual forum of the UN - the CIS member states ... with our German partners we have built perhaps some of the systemic links ... We have a co-ordination Bureau for Cooperation with Japan."*

Sokolova D.A. She said the following: *"Since 2012, our center has officially carried out the powers of the Russian Coordination Bureau for Youth Exchanges with Germany. Since 2015, we have also been involved in the development of Russian-Japanese youth cooperation. "* She noted that the interaction with foreign partners *"is influenced by the foreign policy situation in the country. But I can't say that this is a problem, these are the conditions in which we work ..."*

Ivanov D.V. believes that *"... it is important to study the success story of compatriots who live abroad, their relationship with Russia, how they can help Russia, how we can help them."*

To the question "What kind of support do you think our compatriots need, including young people living abroad?" D. Ivanov he answered like this: *"Now the main idea is to create an international network of compatriots. Lavrov once instructed us to develop some kind of mechanism where compatriots can communicate. For example, I live in Germany, a compatriot, but I want to go to China, see what events are taking place, and take some experience. Such a communication network is social. A network and a portal where they can be supported both by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and consulates, passport and visa issues, youth grew up in terms of connecting them to our events. Therefore, the creation of this youth network will be the main project, the result of our Baltic Artek forum."*

Thus, based on expert assessments, it can be concluded that government support for young compatriots abroad has been strengthened in recent years, as well as the intensification of the activities of public organizations and foundations, youth associations that support young compatriots abroad. The most actively developing international cooperation is with the CIS countries, as well as with Germany and Japan.

In addition, during the study, experts from foreign countries were interviewed:

Parkhanov Mirlan Abdivalievich - Deputy Director for Youth Policy of the State Agency for Youth, Physical Culture and Sports under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Pablo Chang Ibarra - Professor, Ph.D., research area - youth policy, law. University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, Poland.

Tamara Torosyan - Head of the Department of Youth Policy of the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs of the Republic of Armenia.

Parkhanov M.A. He pointed out the most urgent issues in the field of youth policy on which international cooperation is necessary: *"the current direction is participation in startups, business projects ... The second direction is the development of the volunteer movement, where young people*

also want to actively participate in large-scale events in the territory republics and abroad ... Well, the third important and promising area of youth policy is the development of oneself, the development of one's potential. ”

To the question “What areas of youth policy, in your opinion, should be prioritized in the field of international cooperation?” The experts answered as follows:

Parkhanov M.A. : “We all now, as you know, live in a market economy, everyone is trying to earn something ... Today's trend is participation in startups, business projects. “A number of large incubators are working in our territory of Kyrgyzstan, which support young people through the allocation of grants and subsidies.”

Tamara Torosyan: “issues of youth participation, youth employment and leisure, organization of youth work ... Strengthening youth participation in decision-making, encouraging youth entrepreneurship”.

Pablo Chang Ibarra: “In the trend of youth politics, I now consider everything related to the Internet: the digital world, Instagram, Facebook, a lot of attention is paid to working with young people in these areas, on these digital platforms, because this is the future.”

Thus, according to foreign experts, the most pressing issues in the field of youth policy on which international cooperation is necessary are youth entrepreneurship, support for start-ups and business projects, development of the volunteer movement, as well as the use of the Internet to organize interaction and promote ideas and projects.

### 3. Conclusion

As a result of the study, the authors of the article analyzed the international activities of state and non-profit organizations to support young compatriots abroad, identified current trends and pressing issues of supporting young compatriots, studied foreign experience in the field of youth policy and supporting young compatriots abroad. In addition, the most pressing issues in the field of youth policy were identified, on which international cooperation is necessary.

To date, Russia has accumulated considerable experience in interacting with young compatriots living abroad. At the same time, much remains to be done to ensure that young Russians living abroad do not lose ties with their homeland and are involved in the life of their people.

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