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EU program "Learning throughout Life"

This project has been funded with support the European Commission.

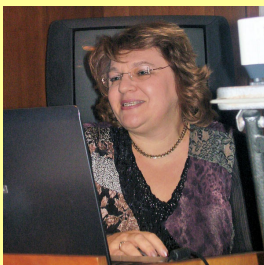
# Newsletter №1

► **European project LIGHT was launched on 1st of December, 2007 in the network of EU program "Learning throughout Life". Its aim is to create a universal model of bilingual kindergarten which will help to make new workplaces for jobless teachers and to open bilingual educational institutions in five countries of European Union: Austria, Germany, Finland, France and Cyprus.**

● **The abbreviation LIGHT** means Language for Integration and Global Human Tolerance (Language as a precondition for integration and general tolerance). The project is timed for 2 years. It intends for supporting of bilingual children and unites 10 partners form the EU countries mentioned above. All participants of the project work in the field of integration Russian speaking migrants and of support the bilingual education.

● **There is an experience** of available bilingual kindergartens in Finland and Germany in the base of the European model. When creating new pre-school institutions in European countries which are participants of the project specific conditions of the member states would be revealed and accounted in practice. The leading partner and the coordinator of the project LIGHT is Intercultural educational society of Berlin MITRA.

## PARTICIPANTS OF THE PROJECT



### GERMANY

#### Intercultural educational society of Berlin MITRA

It was founded in 1993 by the Group of mutual aid of parents. The aim of the Society is to help Russian speaking families and to assist their integration. MITRA is a founder of four German-Russian kindergartens in Berlin and of a private German-Russian school named after Lomonosov. Since 1995 projects of MITRA has been sponsored by the Senate of Land Berlin. MITRA is an inter-regional organizer of a whole range of activities for children and youth as well as a member of the German Union of Social Welfare. There are 60 German- and Russian-speaking employees including teachers, educators and psychologists. They share their knowledge with more then 300 children. In the nearest future MITRA is going to open bilingual kindergartens in various areas of Berlin as well as in Leipzig and Potsdam.

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E-mail: mitra@light-europe.eu

Web-page: www.mitra-ev.de

Head of the project and its coordinator in Germany — Marina Burd

## **Publishing House "Partner"**

The publishing house "Partner" was founded by immigrants of the last wave in 1997. Now it publishes a full colour magazine with 124 pages. The circulation of it is 20 000 copies. "Partner" is one of the most popular publications in Russian language in Germany. The magazine "Partner" is in the middle of the problems faced by the Russian-speaking community in Germany. This publication aims at the consolidation of Russian-speaking community, transferring of European values to immigrants from USSR, encouraging of development of economic and cultural relations with Russia, settling the questions of education of bilingual children. The domain [www.partner-inform.de](http://www.partner-inform.de) is one of the most popular among Russian-speaking Internet-sites in Europe. In particular it has a complete catalogue of Russian-speaking companies in Germany. The publishing house issues magazines "Partner-Nord" and "Foreign Notes" as well as books and leaflets in Russian language.

Address: Märkische Str. 115, 44145 Dortmund, Germany

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E-mail: [partner@light-europe.eu](mailto:partner@light-europe.eu)

WEB: [www.partner-inform.de](http://www.partner-inform.de)

Director — Michael Vajsband



## **FINLAND**

### **Family Joint-stock Association**

#### **KidsOn Oy**

The association was established in 2001. It consists of three kindergartens in Helsinki for 165 children. Under the conditions of bilingualism three basic problems are solved: the conservation of native language, the second language acquisition at native level, the integration of children into the Finnish society. Educational work is based on the principles of sequence (from the simple to the complex), systematization (from the general to the quotient), reviewing and using of visual methods. There are musical and sport lessons, lessons of clay modelling, the lessons with the speech therapist, drama lessons, hikes and excursions, children parties. The association plans to open an orphanage and school of additional education in the nearest future.

Address: Naulakalliontie 1, 00970 Helsinki, Finland

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E-mail: [kidson@light-europe.eu](mailto:kidson@light-europe.eu)

Coordinator in Finland and director of Association — Victoria Koppanen

## **AUSTRIA**

### **Cultural and integration centre "Compatriots"**

The center was established in Vienna in October, 2005 as a non-profit association which helps Russian-speaking migrants to integrate into local society, to keep authentic culture and traditions of migrants from USSR, to promote Russian language among their children. In March, 2007 the Center took the management over the school of additional education "The first Russian Lyceum" and over its group of pre-school education. In the nearest future the Center is going to create daily groups of nursery and kindergarten with their subsequent development into the bilingual Russian-German pre-school institutions.

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Tel.: +43 699 10189414

Email: [kulturzentrum@light-europe.eu](mailto:kulturzentrum@light-europe.eu)

Head — Valentine DeWall



### **Cultural society "The first Russian Lyceum"**

The cultural society "The First Russian Lyceum" was established in February, 2004 by the group of Russian-speaking teachers. Its basic purposes are extending of knowledge of the Russian language, learning of Russian literature, keeping and expansion of Russian traditions among young people and adult population of Austria independent of their nationality, helping the children of emigrants in their learning of German language. A Sunday school was opened in September, 2004 and a kindergarten was established as in December, 2004. Educational program in the lyceum covers the humanitarian course of the secondary school of the Russian Federation in the adapted version. Today in the lyceum there are more than 60 children of different nationalities. The lyceum organizes children's parties, consultations for the parents, lectures and seminars. There is a chess section there.

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Leader and coordinator in Austria — Alice Baumgartner





## **CYPRUS**

### **Russian school and kindergarten** **“Pupils of Pythagoras”**

The kindergarten “Pupils of Pythagoras” is attended by kids from the bilingual families. By age of 6, the children know two languages very well, that gives them a possibility to study successfully at Russian, Greek and English schools. The majority of children from the bilingual families, after entering at Greek or English school, continue their study programmed by the Russian Federation, at “Pupils of Pythagoras” school in the afternoon. The teachers of the school “Pupils of Pythagoras” considers the foundations put by the famous mathematician to be actual nowadays. The school strives to follow the best traditions of Pythagoras` school, adapting them to the modern conditions of socio-economic life. At school there is a school of extra education and a Summer camp with the intensive learning of the foreign languages. In 2007 the students of the school took part in the European competition “Kangaroo”.

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E-mail: pythagoras\_school@light-europe.eu

Director and coordinator in Cyprus — Elena Drozdetskaja-Papadimitriou

### **The weekly newspaper “Europe-Cyprus”**

The newspaper was established on 12th of June, 2004. “Europe-Cyprus” is a leader of Russian-speaking media in Cyprus. The interviews published in the newspaper were given by all leading Cyprus politicians including the president of the country. Almost in every issue of “Europe-Cyprus” there is an interview with the star of Russian or world level. At the moment 60-page newspaper with 10 full-colour pages has circulation of 3000 copies and it is distributed all over Cyprus. It is also distributed free of charge on the boards of planes of Cyprus Airways and Aeroflot.

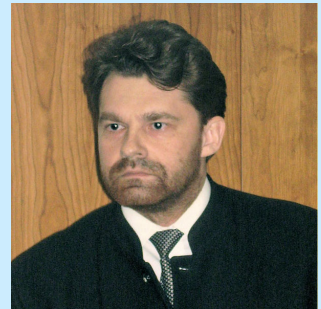
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WEB — www.evropa-kipr.com

Publisher: Andrey Avsitidiyskiy



## **FRANCE**

### **Union of Russian speaking people** **in France**

It was established on 16th of September, 2006. The Union consolidates leaders and activists of public organizations, people prominent in culture and literature, journalists and teachers of the Russian language from different regions of France. The purpose of the union is consolidating of Russian-speaking people and friends of the Russian language in France independently of their citizenship and nationality and the assistance to use (in all possible forms) and to study the Russian language, culture and knowledge which could give this language.

Address: 23 Rue de l'Etang 93220 Gagny, France

Tel.: +33 (0)143 021340

Email: russophones@light-europe.eu

WEB: www.russophonie.org

Coordinator in France and chairman of board of Union: Irina Krivova

### **Association «Nasledie»**

It was established on 20th of October, 2005 in Ruane (Normandy). Its basic purposes include the support of Russian culture in France, the cultural exchange between the countries and assistance to young talents. The Association organizes and carries out festivities, performances, concerts, exhibitions, conferences, meetings with the amateurs of Russian culture and traditions. In September 2006 «Nasledie» established a Children Center of Russian Culture. Nowadays the Association unites more than 200 Russian speaking people which live in Normandy, about 50 French-speaking people who are amateurs of Russian culture and 60 children (26 of whom study in Children Center of Russian Culture).

Address: 2327, Rue de la Haie 76230 Bois Gullaume, France

Tel.: + 33 (0)235605909

E-mail: nasledie@light-europe.eu

President — Natalia Dupont Dutilloy



## **Association "Russian Alliance"**

It was established on 8th of November, 2005. "Russian alliance" invites all people who love Russia and Russian culture, who want to study the Russian language and literature and to contribute to the development of Russian-French relations. The Association organizes Russian holidays and educational trips to Russia. The club "Solnyshko" opened by "Russian Alliance" is the Russian school of additional education for the children aged from two years.

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WEB: [www.alliancerusse.fr](http://www.alliancerusse.fr)

Director of the Association: Olga Solntseva-Kieffer

