

## THE WORLD, RUSSIA AND THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Today, virologists in the world have already accumulated valuable experience in effectively fighting the COVID-19 epidemic. This is especially true for the best developments and practices of the states that have faced this serious challenge on a large scale. In the context of this pandemic, these results are in demand in many countries and must necessarily be widely disseminated and available in the global community.

The Russian state research center for virology and biotechnology “Vector”, which aims to provide scientific and practical support for countering global infectious threats, has already developed and tested prototypes of vaccines against the new COVID-19 coronavirus. Russian scientists expect that the introduction of the vaccine will be possible in the fourth quarter of 2020.

Today international experts are voicing different scenarios of possible development of the situation. However, most of them agree that, judging by the dynamics of the spread of the disease in different countries of the world, the peak of the virus outbreak has not yet passed. This means that we all have to be patient and ready for long-term joint actions.

The global coronavirus pandemic is sobering many more and more. After all, the urgent need for international mutual assistance and solidarity in contrast to sanctions and disunity comes to the fore. In the current circumstances, it is vital to consolidate and concentrate efforts and resources as soon as possible in order to achieve the main goals: saving lives, reducing the rate of infection, and overcoming the negative consequences for the world economy.

For the world community the current crisis is also a good reason to put aside everything that previously prevented us from successfully developing international cooperation, implementing the most important social program of the UN – “The Millennium Development Goals”, and much more.

Aware of the high degree of danger that the COVID-19 pandemic poses to humanity and guided by the principles of humanism and solidarity, Russia is ready to extend a helping hand to all those who need it most. Russian military doctors at the request of the Italian authorities are carrying out a humanitarian mission in the most affected by the coronavirus province of Bergamo in the administrative region of Lombardy in Northern Italy. Russia also provides necessary assistance to the CIS countries, China, Iran, Serbia, Mongolia and other states.

Emergency measures have also been taken within the Russian Federation to counteract the spread of coronavirus:

- the plan of priority actions in connection with the spread of the virus has been developed, and an operational headquarters with emergency powers has been created and is actively working;

- regular and chartered international flights have been discontinued, with the exception of flights involving the export of Russians from countries with widespread coronavirus;

- restricted entry to the territory of Russia of foreign citizens from March 18 to May 1, 2020, with the exception of employees of diplomatic agencies in the Russian Federation, drivers of international road transport and some other categories of citizens;

- additional administrative responsibility has been defined and stricter criminal sanctions have been introduced against persons who violate quarantine and sanitary-epidemiological requirements;

- simplified procedure for deliveries both within the country and from abroad. The customs service has launched a "green corridor" for essential goods purchased by major retail chains;

- airlines and companies working in the tourism sector will be granted a tax deferral. The extension of this measure to other industries is being considered;

- the program of preferential lending to small and medium-sized businesses will be expanded, and access to credit resources will also be provided at "reasonable interest rates";

- a special procedure is being introduced for paying sick leave to Russians who are under quarantine, and other material compensation and social benefits are also provided to citizens, including the "risk group" - over 65 years of age;

- a network of volunteer assistance to older people has been launched;

- doctors are provided with additional incentive payments;

- educational, cultural and sports institutions are closed for quarantine, mass events are canceled;

- limited operation of parks, shopping centers, cafes and restaurants; - there is a free hotline.

- regular informing of the population by mass media with state participation is organized;

- a special Internet resource (stopkoronavirus.RF) has been created and operates to inform about the spread of the virus in Russia. It publishes information about the prevention of coronavirus and refutes rumors and false information.

I just bring from this information resource up-to-date data on the situation with COVID-19 in Russia.

As of April 22, 2020, a total of 57,999 infections have been registered in Russia. Recoveries 4420 and 513 dead.

In the top three administrative regions of Russia, the situation as of April 22, 2020 is as follows:

Moscow - a total of 31981 cases and 261 deaths.

Moscow region - 6590 and 56 respectively

Saint Petersburg - 2267 and 14

Coronavirus does not recognize borders, so the party A Just Russia calls on political parties, as well as the entire world community, to consolidate and solidarity in order to achieve success in the common fight against COVID-19. Today, a constructive dialogue of Nations based on the principles of justice and solidarity is the only correct response to global challenges, especially the coronavirus pandemic.

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