



## Press release

### **10 years DRJUG e. V. - The alumni association of the German-Russian Youth Parliament celebrates its anniversary in Berlin, under its new name: 'German-Russian Youth Initiative'.**

Berlin. On Saturday, 17 July 2021, DRJUG e.V. will celebrate its anniversary in Berlin. Exactly ten years to the day after the founding of the association, founding and association members, former exchange participants and partners of the association will meet with high-ranking guests from German-Russian relations in the Wappensaal of the Rotes Rathaus in Berlin. Among others, the Head of the Political Department of the German Embassy in Moscow, Counsellor Stefan Kordasch, and the Counsellor of the Russian Federation in Berlin, Alexander Milyutin, have announced their participation in the ceremony in Berlin. In addition, long-time companions of the association such as the former Minister of Economics of the Russian Federation, Dr. Andrej A. Nechaev, as well as the former German Ambassador, Dr. Hans Friederich von Ploetz, will be digital guests.

The two-hour program will be streamed live from Berlin so that numerous other guests can participate in the ceremony online. The Stiftung Deutsch-Russischer Jugendaustausch gGmbH (German-Russian Youth Exchange Foundation) and Dr. Dirk Wiese, former Russia Commissioner, will address the participants with video messages. In addition, they will look back on the ten-year history of the association and dare a look into the future: Where do the roots of DRJUG e.V. lie and how has the association developed since its foundation? What has happened in German-Russian relations during this time? What projects do we carry out today and what do we expect from the next ten years?

In addition, a discussion in fishbowl format is planned, where DRJUG members will engage in discussion with Nele Quecke, Russia Officer in the Planning Staff of the Federal Foreign Office and Alexander Milyutin, Counsellor of the Embassy of the Russian Federation in Berlin. Together, they will answer the question of what roles civil society and youth exchange in particular play in the German-Russian context and what challenges need to be overcome. Afterwards, the participants will network interactively both in Berlin and online to get to know each other better and to share personal experiences with and about DRJUG e.V.

DRJUG e.V. thanks all sponsors who have supported this anniversary:

