



# Добро пожаловать

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER  
EMBASSY OF MALAYSIA IN MOSCOW

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## 2017 / 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY MALAYSIA-RUSSIA DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

### MESSAGE FROM THE CHARGE D' AFFAIRES AD-INTERIM

Greetings to all Malaysians!

“Selamat Hari Raya, Maaf Zahir & Batin” to all Malaysians residing in the Russian Federation. We have a joyful Raya celebration on 25 June 2017 at the Embassy Hall and we hope to meet more Malaysians in gatherings of such nature in the future.

The first six-months of 2017, saw many of our friends and colleagues at the Embassy ended their tour of duty in Moscow. We wish them all the best in their next assignments and undertakings.

H.E. Ambassador Dato' Hayati Ismail;  
Mr. Hafezin Khaderi (Deputy Tourism Attaché);  
Mr. Sahrulazsemi Suandi (Third Secretary);  
Mr. Azanhan Mamajan Khan (Security Assistant); and  
Mrs. Khairunissa Hamdan (Administrative Assistant)

We also welcome Mr. Ahmad Salman Mansor (Third Secretary), who arrived Moscow in late June 2017.

To all students, who have since graduated from their studies and returned to Malaysia in June, we also wish them the best in their next career adventures. To returning students, we hope that you have had a good summer holiday and wish you all the best in continuing your studies. Please keep in touch with the Embassy and most importantly, please take great care of yourself.

We also hope that this Newsletter will be as informative to all.

Salam Hormat !

Francisco Munis

### Inform your Russian Friends !

#### VISIT PAHANG YEAR 2017

This year the Pahang state government has launched Visit Pahang Year 2017 and has lined up events and festivals galore. As the largest state in the Peninsular of Malaysia, the state offers some of the more 'touristy' spots in Malaysia. Domestic and foreign tourists are welcomed to visit Pahang and for more information regarding travel info, destination, things to do and calendar of events, go to [www.visitpahang.com](http://www.visitpahang.com) or [www.pahangtourism.org.my](http://www.pahangtourism.org.my).

### SPECIAL

TRIBUTE TO  
H.E.  
AMBASSADOR  
DATO'  
HAYATI ISMAIL



H.E. Ambassador Dato' Hayati Ismail ended her tour of duty in Moscow and simultaneously retired from the Malaysian Diplomatic Service on 9 June 2017.

To express their utmost thanks and appreciation, Officials and Staff of the Embassy held a Farewell Gathering on 26 May 2017 for Dato' Hayati Ismail. To pay tribute to her, here is a brief recap her diplomatic career journey:

Dato' Hayati entered the Malaysian Foreign Service on 9 January 1984.

She has served for 33 years, at the various Divisions and Departments of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and at Malaysian Missions in Bonn Germany, Wellington New Zealand and as Ambassador in Windhoek Namibia, Ottawa Canada and Moscow Russia.

Her two years in Moscow have seen steady development of relations between Malaysia and the Russian Federation, which was clearly marked by the meeting between the Russian President and the Malaysian Premier in 2016 in Sochi.



**THE YEAR 2017 MARKED THE 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF MALAYSIA-RUSSIA DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS**

The year 2017, marked the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our diplomatic relations. This milestone is of importance, in reminding us of our mutually beneficial achievement since 1967. Over the span of five decades, bilateral relationships expanded greatly and have seen gradual accomplishment in the many areas, from the level initially envisioned 50 years ago. Today, we are happy to note the increasing and visible cooperation, initiated both by our governments and the private sectors. Over the span of 50 years, Malaysia and Russia have also signed long list of agreements. Exchanges with Russia in the economic and social areas that are beneficial to Malaysia will continue to be pursued with renewed focus. Malaysia-Russia understanding and relations does not stop at the bilateral level but also expanded to the multilateral and the regional levels, where both countries shares common aspirations towards the benefit of the international community.

Photo:  
Bilateral Meeting between Prime Minister Dato' Seri Mohd. Najib Tun Razak and President Vladimir Putin on 19 May 2016 at the sidelines of the Commemorative Summit and 20th Anniversary of the ASEAN-Russia Dialogue Partnership from 19-20 May 2016, Sochi, Russia.



**MALAYSIA CHAIRS THE ASEAN MOSCOW COMMITTEE (AMC) SUCCESSFULLY!**

Under its six-monthly term of rotational Chair from November 2016 - April 2017, the Embassy of Malaysia has successfully steered the direction of the ASEAN Moscow Committee (AMC). Two AMC Meetings were held respectively on 20 February 2017 and 19 April 2017 to coordinate the various activities, especially the preparation to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ASEAN this year. We take this opportunity to convey our best wishes to the Philippines as the next AMC Chair.



**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WINNING MALAYSIANS BOWLERS! - ASEAN FRIENDLY BOWLING COMPETITION**

Officers and Staff of the Embassy of Malaysia participated in the ASEAN Friendly Bowling Competition, which was held in conjunction with the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ASEAN on 19 March 2017 at the Planeta Bowling Centre. The Malaysian participation resulted in medals won in the Super Series and All Star Series Categories. This ASEAN Bowling meet has provided the opportunity for the ASEAN Community in Moscow to strengthen their friendship and meet new friends.

**LUNCHEON HOSTED BY H.E. IGOR MORGULOV, DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

To commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Malaysia-Russia Diplomatic Relations this year, H.E. Igor Morgulov, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation hosted an Official Luncheon on 3 April 2017 at the Grand Mansion of the Russian MFA. The Luncheon was also attended by senior officials from both the Embassy of Malaysia and Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



**MALAYSIAN INTERVARSITY GAMES, 14-16 APRIL 2017**

Teams of Malaysian Students from seven (7) Russian Universities and from the Embassy gathered in Moscow from 14-16 April 2017 for an Interschool Games among them. The Games, which was officiated on 14 April 2017 by HE the Ambassador of Malaysia, Dato' Hayati Ismail, include futsal, table tennis, basketball, netball, volleyball, badminton and rugby. In her officiating speech, the Ambassador commended the efforts by Malaysian students to organise such major event and emphasized on the importance of unity and responsibility amongst Malaysians in Russia.



**MOBILE CONSULAR SERVICES**

The Embassy of Malaysia organised a Consular Outreach Programme on 14 April 2017 at the IM Sechenov First Moscow State Medical University. The Programme which include mobile consular services such as passport renewal, registration of Malaysians, electoral registration also offers consular advisory to Malaysian students. The Embassy hopes to continue organising such programme to reach Malaysians residing outside of Moscow in the future.



**MINISTERIAL WORKING VISIT**

YB Dato' Seri Dr. Shahidan Kassim, Minister in the Prime Minister's Office was in Moscow from 23-25 May 2017 to represent Malaysia for the VIII International Meeting of High Level Officials Responsible for Security Matters. A Bilateral Meeting with Mr. Oleg Khramov, Deputy Secretary of the Russian Security Council was also held on 25 May 2017.



**“GIVING BACK TO THE CHILDREN OF THE FUTURE” - JOURNEY BY BRAVE MALAYSIANS**

A group of five Malaysians bravely journeyed from Kuala Lumpur to Moscow in their classic Volkswagen vehicles. The team arrived in Moscow on 29 May 2017 for a stopover and was cheered and welcomed by the Ambassador and Officials of the Embassy. Their journey dubbed as #Live2Drive Classic Volkswagen Journey from Malaysia to Europe 2017, aims to promote awareness through people-to-people contacts on the future of children. Malaysia Boleh!



**AIDIL FITRI 2017 MOSCOW**

An Aidilfitri gathering was held on 25 June 2017 at the Chancery Hall of the Embassy of Malaysia. The gathering attracted participations of Malaysians from all walks of life including those residing outside of Moscow. This year Raya gathering is also special as many parents were also in attendance due to their visit to Moscow to attend the Graduation Ceremony of their children.



**CONSULAR ADVISORY**

**Travel Documents**

**Russian Visa**

You should thoroughly observe and ensure the details as printed in your Russian visa are correct. It is your own personal responsibility to renew your visa before the expiry date. The Malaysian Embassy is not empowered by the Russian Immigration Authority to renew visa on your behalf, nor do the Embassy given any special privilege to do so. Please keep your travel document safe at all time. Passport lost should be reported immediately to the Embassy’s Consular office.

**Passport Renewal**

We wish to remind all Malaysians to renew their passports nine (9) months prior to its expiration date. Please note that for many countries, passports are only valid for entry six (6) months prior to the expiration date and for students eighteen (18) months. It is your responsibility to renew your passport on time. Documents needed for renewal of passport:

- i) Current Passport and copy of passport;
- ii) Copy of Birth Certificate;
- iii) Copy of Malaysian Identification Card (IC);
- iv) Valid Russian Visa;
- v) Russian Immigration Card;
- vi) Authentication Letter from Employer (if working in Russia) or University (if Studying in Russia); and
- vii) Passport size Photo with White Background (2).

Passport Renewal Application Form should be completed in person at the Embassy. The fee for passport renewal is RM200.00 (chargeable in local currency Ruble). Passport renewal process will take approximately 3 months.

Interviewed by Evgeny Soloviev TASS. Published on 30 May 2017 / **Unofficial translation**

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), which includes Brunei, Vietnam, Indonesia, Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand and the Philippines, celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. Director of the ASEAN Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia, Mr. Jojie Samuel told TASS in the interview about the most promising areas of cooperation between Southeast Asian countries and Russia, described areas requiring strengthening of interaction, and shared his vision of the role of the Russian Federation in this region.

### **In which areas do Russia and member-states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations have the greatest potential for deepening cooperation?**

ASEAN highly values its relations with all dialogue partners, including Russia. We expect that Moscow, as one of our most important partners, will continue to support and promote the development of the Association. Last year, we celebrated the 20th anniversary of establishment of partnership relations with Russia and successfully held Russia-ASEAN Summit in Sochi, which demonstrated determination of our leaders to bring the partnership to a strategic level. We cooperate in various fields, including political and security, where the development of bilateral relations is mostly successful.

Russia actively participates in various mechanisms under the auspices of ASEAN, such as the East Asian Summit (EAS), the ASEAN Regional Forum, ASEAN Defense Ministers meeting and dialogue partners. Together with Russia, the Association works to ensure and support the status of South-East Asia as a region free of nuclear weapons. We also expect that in the future Russia will be able to sign the protocol of the Bangkok Treaty (the treaty on a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Southeast Asia - TASS Comment).

In addition, ASEAN hopes to further deepen cooperation with Russia in the fight against terrorism. At present, the parties are working to implement the joint Declaration on Cooperation in Combating International Terrorism, signed in Jakarta in 2004. In addition, the Russia-ASEAN Action Plan on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime was adopted, and dialogues of senior officials and expert community meetings are held on a regular basis. Russia is the eighth trading partner for ASEAN. In 2015, the trade turnover amounted to USD 13.4 billion; exports to Russia amounted to 4 billion dollars, and imports - 9.4 billion dollars. We expect that the newly created ASEAN economic community will provide more economic opportunities for Russia's integration into Southeast Asia, while simultaneously expecting that Moscow will take advantage of these prospects. In addition, we welcome the desire of the Russian Federation to expand cooperation between ASEAN and EurAsEC countries. Malaysia, in turn, plans to take a number of initiatives to promote closer economic cooperation. This, for example, increased mutual visits, business seminars, trade fairs, and language courses.

One of the promising areas of cooperation, which I would like to separately note, is energy. An important element for developing cooperation in this area is the adopted ASEAN-Russia Energy Cooperation Plan for the period 2016-2022. The document emphasizes readiness and desire to deepen cooperation, develop alternative and renewable sources of energy, provide an exchange of experience on the creation of energy infrastructure, peaceful use of the atom, as well as oil and gas development. We consider it extremely important to attract young people to the development of such cooperation. The annual ASEAN-RF youth summits provide us with a solid foundation for future cooperation. In Malaysia, it is believed that it is the youth that plays a key role in strengthening interpersonal ties between the ASEAN countries and Russia.

In addition, we highly appreciate Russia's decision announced last year to increase the quota for students from ASEAN states by 10%. This is indeed a positive step in the development of cooperation in the field of education. In general, despite the fact that the level of cooperation deserves positive assessments, in some areas there is still a lot of work to be done. For example, interaction on the liquidation of the consequences of natural disasters, provision of humanitarian assistance, sports, cultural exchanges. I think that one of the main elements for strengthening contacts between the peoples of our countries could be opening of a direct flight between Kuala Lumpur and Moscow. And our task is to bring relations to a strategic level.

### **How do you assess the current situation in the South China Sea (SChS), where many challenges remain for the stability and security? What role, in your opinion, could Russia play in this situation?**

Recent events and the development of the situation in the SChS raise some concerns. Such processes undermine trust between interested parties. At the same time, in order to ensure peace, security and stability, the problem of lack of confidence must be constructively resolved. Compliance with international law, including the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, should become the basis for any activity in the SChS. At the same time, we believe that the Declaration of Conduct in the South China Sea should be fully implemented. We also hope that we will be able to make progress in the early signing of the Code of Conduct.

We highly appreciate Russia's position that all territorial disputes in the SChS shall be resolved through negotiations between the countries involved in the conflict, and all attempts of external intervention are counterproductive. I think that it is necessary to enhance consultations on security and politics. We must develop a more active agenda with clear priorities and strategies in various regional processes under the aegis of ASEAN. I would especially like to note that ASEAN is confident that we will be able to continue to rely on the position of the Russian Federation and its constructive role in ensuring a peaceful, predictable and stable situation in the Asia-Pacific region.



Malaysian Students' Intersivity Games 2017



Group Photo: Farewell Luncheon for HE. Ambassador Dato' Hayati Ismail



Brave Malaysians Journey to Moscow