

The Address of the Presidential Council for Human Rights on the occasion of the International Human Rights Day

Today, on International Human Rights Day, the Council under the President of the Russian Federation for Civil Society Development and Human Rights considers it their duty to declare a major priority to human rights to the world. Thirty years ago, 12 November 1984, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution No 39/11 on the right of peoples to peace, but today the violence, in many parts of the world is the main way in which domestic and foreign policy issues are dealt with. As world practice shows, violence can take a variety of forms, ranging from propaganda "brainwashing" and destruction, to buying up independent sources of alternative views and information for the use of the indiscriminate bombing weapons.

Propaganda for war, the cultivation of xenophobia, suspicion and search enemies are not much different from the non-lethal weapons of mass destruction. However, it is directed, usually at ones own people –creating a concurrent virtual in which the discussion of the pressing problems, such as poverty, corruption, discrimination, etc. is replaced by a reproach to the enemy.

It is necessary to break the vicious circle of war propaganda and use social activity for the civil mobilization aimed at solving real problems in peacetime. War is known to originate in the minds of the people, therefore, the main goal today, should be the demilitarization of public consciousness. Only moving from information warfare to a constructive dialogue may gradually restore mutual understanding and, therefore, to ensure peace and stability in our troubled planet.

The replacement of stereotypes, suspicion and hostility must return the trust, openness and willingness to cooperate. Only in this way, focusing on universal values, can we finally come to an agreement on all contentious issues, put an end to the arms race, and to restore the authority of international law.

Events that take place today in dozens of "hot spots" around the world, encourage the Council to appeal to the citizens and the leaders of all nations, all of the religious, political and social movements, to respect the human right, peace by any means, to avoid violence and to resolve disputes no matter how important the subject of controversy was or is.

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