



Welcome Message to the organizers, participants and visitors of the Russian Construction Week and International Exhibition RosBuild 2023

Dear colleagues,

On behalf of the Public Council under the Russian Ministry of Construction I would like to welcome the exhibitors, organisers and visitors to Russian Construction Week 2023. Russian Construction Week has become a platform for the industry to not only summarise the year's results and discuss painful issues, but, first and foremost, to identify trends for the future and points of growth. This is especially important today, when the time has come to move from an anti-crisis agenda to a long-term development agenda in a new environment. We need to be as efficient as possible - now is the time for action, not reasoning. It is with this mindset that we open Russian Construction Week and enter the year 2023.

Of course, in recent years we have all been working under extreme circumstances, and the issues of economic, information, military and technological security of the country have come to the fore. In these circumstances, the construction industry not only fulfilled the tasks of the national projects, but also restored and returned a decent standard of living in the cities and towns in the liberated territories. In his address to the Federal Assembly on February 21, Russian President Vladimir Putin noted the success of the industry and the record volume of housing commissioned - more than 100 million sq. m.

The President also set serious tasks that in one way or another relate to the construction and housing and utilities sectors: the development of rental housing, environmental welfare, gasification of households and social facilities, and infrastructure development. Separate attention is being paid to the housing and utilities sector, in which 4.5 trillion rubles will be invested over the next 10 years. This is a very important decision, including for the housing construction industry - we cannot build new houses and connect them to outdated, worn-out utility infrastructure. The issue of digital transformation of the construction and housing and utilities sectors, including the development of information modelling technologies, remains extremely relevant in the context of economic and technological sanctions.

The task of developing secondary vocational education has been set: in the next 5 years we need to train about 1 million specialists in working professions, including those for the construction industry. The Public Council under the Russian Ministry of Construction is closely involved in vocational guidance and training, and as part of Russian Construction Week, it is holding a panel discussion 'I am a Builder of the Future' with the Moscow State Construction University and the National Association of Members Performing Engineering Surveys and Design Documentation to discuss the popularisation of construction jobs, and increasing the quality and relevance of the knowledge acquired in universities and colleges. We look forward to seeing our colleagues discussing this topic.

I am sure that the issues of improving the housing and utilities sector, safety in construction, personnel training, digitalisation of the industry and support for the citizens of our country will be among the key topics of Russian Construction Week.

I hope that the Public Council under the Russian Ministry of Construction will receive business proposals for the future development of construction and the housing and utilities sector based on the results of the forum. In our turn, we are ready to include them in the proposals of the Construction, Urbanism and Housing and Utilities Working Group, whose main task is to prepare relevant information and analytical materials for consideration by the Expert Council and submission to the Russian Government.

I wish everyone productive work!

Sergey Stepashin

Chairman
Public Council under
the Russian Ministry
of Construction,
Housing and Utilities