

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen!

My name is Yanina Andrushkevich, I am a PhD student from IKBFU, I am also the Youth Ambassador for SDG4 within the special programme of National Youth Council of Russia.

I think that development of Russian-Japanese humanitarian cooperation is impossible without youth participation. These joined events are great opportunities for young people to learn about the culture, traditions and history of a partner-country, to acquire the unbiased idea of it.

Constant youth dialogue - is the basis for strengthening and developing of friendly relations between our countries. Participation in Japanese-Russian forum is an opportunity for me to work and share my ideas within the SDG topic, broaden my horizons and get new friends. I hope that this forum can give a launch for joint youth projects and help us to find new friends.

**“What can we do for peace?”** – is one of the forum’s topic and the problem each of us should think about.

New challenges and threats require cooperation, and the two countries should strive for peace and shared prosperity. How can youth influence the development of peace and cooperation?

First of all, youth voices in peace building are present everywhere, but sometimes not recognized. The creation of platforms for expression of youth opinion to the government and decision-makers of Russia and Japan ensures the opportunity for young people to be heard.

Secondly, young peace makers have to enhance the peace-building knowledge and skills. This means creating educational programs and networks, blogs and social projects that will help other people to understand the necessity of peace between the countries.

Thirdly, we have to set the connection between youth and governments. It’s important to encourage young people to learn about national or regional peace priorities while helping them work toward their own ones.

Fourthly, we should promote intergenerational exchange. By bringing together the vision of young people today, and the experience of older generations we could find a new answer to challenges.

### **Another important topic to be discussed is the Society 5.0**

Digitalization and development of information technologies contribute to the fact that many aspects of human life are constantly moving to cyber space, which greatly simplifies all our routine tasks and activities. In Society 5.0 new technologies are combined to bring about changes in the economy, industry and social sector and cover all areas of life..

However, it is the lack of legal regulation in cyber security that raises the question of its extreme vulnerability and, consequently, the need to develop mechanisms to counter cyber threats.

In order to achieve a high level of cyber security, it is necessary to encourage Russia and Japan to cooperate with each other, as well as to oblige operators and providers of individual digital services to take measures to manage security risks and

report serious incidents to the authorities. Cooperation and sharing of information between states, institutions, the private sector and civil society can foster a common cyber security culture, and raise preparedness for possible cyber disruptions and attacks.

Today we will also discuss the **development of cross-cultural dialogue**.

Within this context the youth exchanges is the most efficient way. Face to face communication with peers in frames of the youth events promotes learning Russian language in Japan as well as Japanese language in Russia, helps overcoming the stereotypes, better understand each other and make a positive image of a partner country.

One of the major topics of international agenda of the last years is **sustainable development**.

On 25<sup>th</sup> of September 2015 UN member countries adopted the Sustainable Development Agenda up to 2030. It contains 17 universal and comprehensive goals, aimed at shaping a better world in the interest of global society.

In order to mobilize Russian youth generation that will efficiently work towards SDG achievement within national Russian agenda, in 2017 the annual program “Youth Ambassadors for SDGs in Russia” was launched. “Youth Ambassadors for SDGs in Russia” is a public non-commercial project managed by The National Youth Council of Russia with support of Russian Ministry for Foreign Affairs, UN Information Centre in Moscow, MGIMO University and Youth Media Association.

As a Youth Ambassador for SDG№4, I consider international cooperation as a crucial part of sustainable development. Together with our Japanese colleagues, we are going to work within SDG section, share our ideas and best practices to make action plans for 2020. It would be great if we could put bring our plans into life. Many thanks to Ihneev Artem and Garbar Julia for their input to this speech.

I would like to invite our Japanese colleagues to visit Kaliningrad region, the most western part of Russia on the Baltic Sea. Since this year we have e-visas that are easy to obtain by the website. I would also like to invite you to visit our international youth summer camp Baltic Artek that takes place every summer.

Arigato!