

KEY TOPICS

- President of South Korea Moon Jae-in confirms he will attend EEF 2017
- Eastern Economic Forum will feature education and youth day
- Yuzhniy Kurili ASEZ to be set up in Far East

EASTERN ECONOMIC FORUM NEWS DIGEST

26 July 2017, FederalPress

Representatives from Canada Eurasia Russia Business Association (CERBA) to take part in EEF

The delegation will consist of approximately ten Canadian companies, including representatives from world renowned corporations such as Kinross Gold, Bombardier, Pratt & Whitney Canada, and SNC-Lavalin.

As part of the strategic partnership between CERBA and the Roscongress Foundation, representatives of companies from the mining and metallurgy, air and space, agriculture, and finance sectors will present their own experiences of doing business in Russia and make recommendations for further improvements to the business and investment climate for foreign businesses.

<http://fedpress.ru/news/77/economy/1826390>

26 July 2017, EastRussia

Foreign participants in 3rd Eastern Economic Forum do not need visa to travel to Russia

In accordance with a directive from the Government of the Russian Federation, entitled 'On the procedure for foreign citizens and individuals without citizenship entering and exiting the Russian Federation in connection with the Eastern Economic Forum', foreign

participants in EEF 2017 will be able to visit Vladivostok from 3 to 9 September without obtaining a visa.

<https://www.eastrussia.ru/news/inostrannykh-uchastnikov-vef-vpustyat-v-rossiyu-bez-viz>

24 July 2017, TASS

Education and youth day at EEF 2017

Events to take place on 5 September, the day before the formal start of the Forum, will involve university students and young scientists and entrepreneurs from all over the Russian Federation, as well as members of foreign delegations.

This day will also feature the panel discussion ‘Young people in the digital economy’ and several sessions which will discuss mechanisms to enable young people to realize their social and economic potential, the role of young people in shaping the economy of the future, prospects for developing young entrepreneurship in the Russian Far East, and demographic and education issues in the region.

<http://tass.ru/novosti-partnerov/4436262>

23 July 2017, TASS

Eastern Economic Forum to feature first business dialogue between Russian and Indian entrepreneurs

India’s Minister of Commerce and Industry, Nirmala Sitharaman, will lead the Indian delegation. According to Pankaj Saran, India’s Ambassador to the Russian Federation, the delegation is currently being selected to ensure that the visit to Vladivostok will be as productive as possible for both sides.

<http://tass.ru/ekonomika/4429898>

21 July 2017, Komsomolskaya Pravda

17 ASEZs to be represented at EEF

Regions in the Far Eastern Federal District will talk about the newly established advanced special economic zones (ASEZs) at their stands in the Far East Street exhibition, which will take place in Vladivostok from 5 to 10 September. Visitors to the exhibition will be able to see the results of Russia’s new economic policy: products being made by ASEZ residents, new tourist routes, and different ways to make use of a ‘Far Eastern hectare’.

<https://www.kp.ru/daily/26707/3732782>

10 July 2017, Lenta.ru

South Korean President Moon Jae-in confirms attendance at third Eastern Economic Forum

In the margins of the G20 summit in Hamburg on 7 July, Vladimir Putin met Moon Jae-in, and the two heads of state discussed bilateral cooperation. During their conversation the President of South Korea indicated that he intends to visit Vladivostok to attend EEF 2017.

<https://lenta.ru/pressrelease/2017/07/10/vostecforum>

OPERATOR OF THE EASTERN ECONOMIC FORUM:

 **ROSCONGRESS**

STATE POLICY IN THE RUSSIAN FAR EAST

30 July 2017, RIA Novosti

Russian President confirms amendments to 'Far Eastern Hectare' law

The amendments being introduced expand the number of territories available for free use and clarify the conditions under which an applicant might be refused a plot of land. The law will also give citizens the ability to draw up documents for land use via multiservice centres throughout Russia.

<https://ria.ru/society/20170730/1499427071.html>

26 July 2017, Komsomolskaya Pravda

Far Eastern Hectare competition receives more than 600 entries

The period for submitting entries for the Far Eastern Hectare idea competition has now closed. A majority of the land use project ideas received concern low-rise buildings and agriculture. Winners will receive valuable prizes and a trip to the Eastern Economic Forum.

<https://www.kp.ru/daily/26709/3734333>

26 July 2017, Interfax

Russian Government confirms plan to develop Svobodny

Implementing the comprehensive socio-economic development plan for the Amur Region city, scheduled for the period 2017 to 2025, will cost around RUB 48.8 billion. The plan provides for constructing new social infrastructure facilities, and repairing roads as well as gas, heating, and water supply systems. The plan also sets out a series of measures to establish the Svobodny ASEZ, which will include building an Amur gas refinery and an Amur gas chemicals plant.

<http://www.interfax-russia.ru/FarEast/view.asp?id=853874>

19 July 2017, Rossiiskaya Gazeta

Putin signs law on tax breaks to facilitate development of tourism in Russian Far East

The law will establish a zero corporate tax rate for companies engaged in the tourism industry in the territories and regions of the Far Eastern Federal District. First priority will go to hotels. The tax break will be in effect from 1 January 2018 until 31 December 2022.

<https://rg.ru/2017/07/19/reg-dfo/podpisan-zakon-o-nalogovyh-lgotah-dlia-razvitiia-turizma-v-dfo.html>

12 July 2017, Izvestiia

Experts discuss results from two years of operations at Vladivostok Free Port

On 11 July, as part of the preparations for the third Eastern Economic Forum, an expert roundtable was held on the topic of 'The law on Vladivostok Free Port: results and prospects two years on'. To date, 396 applications for resident status at the free port have been submitted, with a total value of RUB 374 billion. The special status extends to 21 municipalities in five regions of the Russian Far East.

<http://iz.ru/618534/2017-07-12/eksperty-podveli-itogi-dvukh-let-raboty-svobodnogo-porta-vladivostok>

5 July 2017, Interfax

Russia and China sign agreement on Primorye-1 and Primorye-2 international transport corridors

The memorandum states that the two sides plan to assist in creating the infrastructure needed for development of the international transport corridors, including roads and railways, ports, airports, checkpoints, and communications systems. Measures will also be taken to simplify procedures, reduce costs, and shorten the time it takes for cargo in transit to clear customs.

<http://www.interfax-russia.ru/FarEast/news.asp?id=847256&sec=1671>

THE ECONOMY OF THE RUSSIAN FAR EAST

18 July 2017, Regnum

Over 600 projects worth RUB 2.1 trillion being prepared for implementation in Russian Far East

Thirty-five new enterprises have already been built in the region, and by the end of this year another 50 facilities will be ready, according to a statement made by Yury Trutnev at a working meeting with Vladimir Putin. This will attract RUB 115 billion into the economy of the Far East and create 5,500 new jobs.

<https://regnum.ru/news/2302153.html>

NEW DEVELOPMENT TOOLS FOR THE RUSSIAN FAR EAST: SUCCESS STORIES

21 July 2017, News.rambler.ru

ASEZ resident Beringovsky Port begins delivering coal to China

Beringpromugol, a subsidiary of the Australian company Tigers Realm Coal, has dispatched 40,000 tonnes of fuel to the Chinese port of Taicang. This is the first shipment of coal from the Fandyushkinskoye field in Chukotka to a country in the Asia-Pacific region. Total investment in the mining project was AUD 23.3 million.

<https://news.rambler.ru/asia/37453842-rezident-tor-beringovskiy-na-chukotke-nachal-postavki-uglya-v-kitay>

6 July 2017, RBC

Yuzhniy Kurili ASEZ to be established in Russian Far East

The decision to establish an ASEZ in the Kurils was made after an appeal by a new investor, the Ostrovnoy fish processing facility, which proposed building a complex to produce seafood, refrigerated fish products, and canned goods on the island of Shikotan.

Total investment in the project is approximately RUB 5 billion. Products will be shipped to both the domestic Russian market and to Asia-Pacific countries (Japan, China, South Korea, and others). The launch of the new plant on the island will create 1,000 new jobs.

<http://www.rbc.ru/rbcfreenews/595e100d9a79478b17d01c5>

Background information:

The organizer of EEF 2017 is the Roscongress Foundation, Russia's biggest conference and exhibition organizer.

The Roscongress Foundation was founded in 2007 with the aim of facilitating the development of Russia's economic potential and strengthening the country's image by organizing conventions, exhibitions, and public events. The Foundation develops substantive content for such events, providing companies and organizations with advice, information, and expert guidance, and offering comprehensive evaluation, analysis, and coverage of the Russian and global economic agendas.

Today, its annual programme includes events held from Montevideo to Vladivostok, offering an opportunity to bring together global business leaders, experts, the media, and government officials in one place, creating favourable conditions for dialogue and the promotion of new ideas and projects, and assisting in the creation of social enterprise and charity projects.