

**Проектная работа
по английскому языку
на тему:
"Volunteering in Russia as a form
of civic engagement"**

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CONTENTS

Introduction.....	3
1. The history of volunteering.....	4
2. The activities of volunteers in Russia.....	6
3. Youth volunteer organizations.....	8
4. The most numerous volunteer campaign.....	9
Conclusion.....	10
Bibliography.....	10

Introduction

2018 is the year of The Civic Engagement. What is it? It can be defined as a conscious, creative participation in socio-political and labour activities. The Civil human activity is very important for the fulfillment and harmonious development of the personality.

Volunteer is translated from French as volontaire. It means a helper working without payment for his work and other gratitude. Volunteers work in orphanages, shelters, nursing homes and boarding schools. They care for sick people, help the elderly with the housework, teach children, help with fundraising and more.

Volunteering is especially important for Russia, and it fact can't but overestimated, because the support is not excessive, especially if it comes from the heart.



1. The history of volunteering

Volunteering as a social movement, originated in the West. And the Samaritans are considered to be the first volunteers. They were the ethnic group living in Ancient Israel, helping anyone who needed it. "Good Samaritan" is a phrase from the Bible (the Parable of the good Samaritan). The parable tells the story of a Samaritan who helped the man in distress. That man was robbed and beaten by robbers.

Surely the volunteering phenomenon manifested itself in the mid-nineteenth century. Officially, the origin of the volunteer movement has been developed since 1859. In that year a Frenchman, Jean Henri Dunant initiated the Red Cross organization to help the wounded people and the prisoners, on a voluntary basis. The principles of volunteering, which were formulated by Jean-Henri, are relevant nowadays.

In Russia various charitable organizations appeared in the XIX century. They became widely distributed and existed on donations, which worked on a Pro Bono basis.

The Imperial philanthropic society was one of the largest. It was established in 1802 on the initiative of Alexander I to help those in need "without distinction of sex, age and religion, with all manifestations of their needs from infancy to old age" In the twentieth century, the volunteer movement has matured finally.

The first full-fledged volunteer organization was established in the postwar period, when Europe actively promoted selfless assistance to the victims of the First World War.

Volunteering in the Soviet period of Russian history was associated with large all-Union actions. It was actively supported by the Soviet government. The practice included "voluntarily forced" action: massive cleanup, gathering waste paper and scrap metal, obligatory membership dues in all-Russian Society of Nature Protection (VOOP) and Voluntary society of assistance to army, aviation and fleet (DOSAAF). However, there were examples of volunteer activity.

One of them was the volunteer movement guided by Peter Baranovsky . It was originated in 60-e years of the XX century to help restorers. It operated under the auspices of the Society of protection of monuments of history and culture. On weekends, the volunteers went to clear the rubble to drag the bricks, to stir the solution. Thus, the unique constructions of a Museum-ensemble in Tsaritsino was recovered.

Since the early 70s Brigade for nature protection (DOP) appeared, when natural science faculties of various universities were engaged in the fight against poachers, illegal felling of forests, forest fires.

The concept, the content and the form of voluntary labour in modern Russia was formed in the 1990-ies, together with nonprofit, public and charitable organizations. In December 2017 there were more than 600 thousand non-profit organizations in the Russian Federation. In 2017 public associations and non-profit organizations were used by about 30 million customers. Annual budget for such organizations amounted to approximately 500 million U.S. dollars.

In the world ranking of private charity for the 2017 British charity Foundation CAF Russia has moved two lines up from 126 designated at 124. 10% of Russians said that they made donations in the past year. Russia ranks 8th in the world by the number of volunteers. Leaders in the number of volunteers in the world are Norway (57% of the population), Luxembourg (55% of the population) and Cameroon (53%).

The international day of volunteering is celebrated on 5th December since 1985. An open palm hand up is considered to be the "Trademark", or the sign of a volunteering.

2. The Activity of volunteers in Russia

The volunteering in Russia has its peculiarity. 90% of the voters work with children. Since 1998 in Russia there is an Association World 4U, which deals with student exchange programs, the insurance vitality of young people, students, and teachers.

In Moscow there is a group "**Donors to children**", representing the whole constituency Association. The volunteers organize lessons in the clubs of Hematology Department, children's competitions and theatre visits for children and parents. They raise money for the donor search cos of the brain and medications, and just come to play with children and talk with their parents.

In February 2002, with the support and assistance of the Institute of pediatric Oncology and Hematology, Russian cancer research center RAMS named after N. N. Blokhin, the charity Fund "**Nastya**" was established. Citizens of different countries, united by a desire to help sick children, initiated it. The Fund's aim is to improve the quality of diagnosis and treatment of children with oncological diseases, comprehensive assistance to families of sick children. "Nastya" organizes holidays, entertainment programs, concerts, tours.

In Moscow there is a volunteer group of the children's Department of the Moscow regional oncological dispensary "**the Seventh petal**" for patients who need friends. This can be as a single person and a family, a group of friends, members of various forums and clubs that will be able to take the patronage of a particular child and to help him go all the way to recovery. You can call each other, visit, chat, give gifts, with or without reason. If you have the opportunity you can buy medicines, clothing, food.

There is also an Association of volunteers providing the help to children by the will of fate forced to spend their childhood in the hospital. It is Abandoned.Ru. Each hospital has its own coordinator who is responsible for the organization of the specific medical facility. Refuseniks.Ru collect Essentials for children.. The list of hospitals that need help is constantly updating.. Guys are always waiting for volunteers who want to join the project and to provide assistance to orphans of these hospitals.

The volunteer group "**The World in the palm of your hand**" is a non - profit, non-political, informal, voluntary Association of people providing assistance to social institutions, primarily orphanages. Regional public Foundation assistance for the elderly "Dobroe Delo" was established in Moscow in 2000 to perform the following missions: to help improve the quality of life of elderly and old people, victims of totalitarian regimes through the organization of medical, social, and historic rehabilitation.

Any person living in Moscow or St. Petersburg can become a member of the standing group of Greenpeace volunteers. You can participate in the activities of Greenpeace, via the Internet or by organizing your own practical conservation projects in other cities, too. For example, almost any region is possible to be engaged in educational work in the Movement "Let's Revive our forest". You can organize the cleaning of litter, promote energy-efficient technologies and the separate collection and recycling.

There is volunteerism in charity Fund for abandoned babies "**I without mum**" in Rostov-on-don. w Volunteers are actively working with orphanages and hospitals, helping children in any way they can. This includes the collection of items for children, leisure activities and much more. In addition, volunteers help to large families and families in difficult living conditions. They also help needy people to solve social problems. They take an active part in assistance to people with disabilities.

You can go abroad with the help of volunteer programs. The United Nations gives this opportunity. Volunteers who wish to travel abroad will have to work there for a period of 6 to 12 months.

The organizers will provide them: insurance; funds to cover basic expenses; For volunteers there is a list of specific requirements: age of 25 years; the diploma of higher education; experience more than 2 years; sufficient knowledge of at least one working language of the UN (English, Spanish, French); the desire to become part of a team; desire to work with people; ability to live in difficult conditions; the presence of interpersonal and organizational skills; experience any kind of employment in a developing country travel expenses to and from work; financial support upon arrival; periodic holidays.

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3. Youth volunteer organizations

The main factor which can provoke young people into social activity is their confidence that they can change something dramatically by their actions. That is why more and more young people find their way in public associations.

Nature Protection Guard (NPG) named after V.Tikhomirov in the biology faculty of MSU is a volunteer public youth organization for nature protection, one of the oldest organizations of Nature Protection Guard Movement. The NPG is works in Moscow and the Moscow Region with its main companies (“Zakazniki”, “Crane Motherland”, “Pervotsvet”) and also takes part in solving urgent ecological problems in Russia and the whole world.

Since 2010 there has been a volunteer organization “**STOPHKAM**”. Its participants look for cars which are parked incorrectly and ask a driver if he is inside a car to change the location according driving rules. If he refuses or if there is no driver inside they put a sticker on the windscreen of the car saying “I don’t care - I park as I wish”. Drivers usually get angry and try to fight with the activists, while they capture the whole process and post the short film on the internet.

Another organization “**PIGS AGAINST**” also has been working since 2010. Its activists carry on sorties in supermarkets and market in order to detect violations, attract public attention and remedy the violations such as: old products, false weight, offensive behavior of shop clerks, illegal actions of security service. The participant put on pink costumes of big pigs with angry noses – that is where the name comes from. The idea is as following: in a manager of a shop treats us like pigs then he should have pigs as his clients.

The organization “**LION AGAINST**” has existed since 2016. It is named after zodiac sign of its founder Mikhail Jemalovich. The participants carry on sorties in the city streets and look for those who drink and smoke in prohibited places. The activists ask people to spot smoking, and try to punt a cigarette or swill people with water. Anti-alcohol sorties are even more severe and followed by mass fights and injuries of those who refuse to give back their drinks.

Youth was also very active in volunteering for the Olympic games-2014. The Organizing Committee “Sochi-2014” gathered the youngest volunteers in the history of the Olympics, average age was 23 years old (41 – in London in 2012, 37 – in Vancouver in 2010).

There are also volunteer projects for school children but only from the age 15. It is the **Hermitage Volunteer Service**. They meet visitors at the entrance, guide those who get lost in the museum. They also systemize and update catalogues in the storages and work with exhibit items (sort them out, etc.). The **Movement Separate Collection** since 2011 has carried on education in the area of ecology and run campaigns of waste sorting. **Children of Saint-Petersburg** is a volunteer organization with cultural and educational events for children and free trainings in Russian and courses for the kids of immigrants.

In Krasnogorsk at school №14 a volunteer movement **“Together+”** was created where children from 7-8-9 grades participated in the revival of patronage over the first-grade pupils, ecological, patriot and sport campaigns.

4. The most numerous volunteer campaign

The most numerous volunteer campaign in 2018 is **the Football World Cup**. It started on June 1, 2016 by the President of Russia Vladimir Putin and the President of FIFA Gianni Infantino. A record number of people (177 thousand) volunteered from 190 countries, mostly from Egypt, Mexico and Columbia.

The most popular option among volunteers is work with the teams. The contest here is 116 people per 1 vacancy (15576 applications). 59% of candidates are women, 41% are men. 77,2% of them are at the age of 16 - 25.

Foreign volunteer programs 2018 include many proposals for young people – projects in medicine, diving, child care and many other.

For example the UN suggests such medical projects, for work experience in hospitals, as Nepal, Argentina, Shri-Lanka, Jamaica, Mexico, Mongolia, etc.

One can help children in foster homes in Cambodia, Nepal, Jamaica, Fiji, Shri-Lanka, Argentina, Belize, Ghana, Tanzania, Ecuador, Vietnam, etc.

Fanimals can participate in such ecological and zoological protection projects as diving and preservation of marine species and plants in Thailand; animal care in Argentina; protection of environment in Madagascar and Belize; sharks protection in Fiji; preservation of pandas in China.

Other interesting volunteer programs for youth are research of civilization on Inks and Wari in Peru; construction in Jamaica, Nepal, South Africa; law and business in China; football in Ghana, journalism in Romania.



Conclusion

Volunteer programs are extremely popular today. *Every 8 from 10 volunteers* affirm that deep compassion to people guided them to this path. Most of them volunteer in order to get a new view on life, job and people surrounding them. As of today more than 150 millions adults of the world have dedicated themselves to this activity.

In Russia the movement is also developing. More than 10% of the population is already involved. The most popular activity is helping children.

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