

UPF Russia: UN IVY 2026, UPF Russia Proposes Family Volunteerism

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Moscow, Russia - The Higher School of Economics (HSE) in Moscow hosted a roundtable titled "Dialogues on the Future of Volunteering" on June 23, 2025, in preparation for the UN-designated International Year of Volunteers for Sustainable Development (IVY 2026).

The event brought together experts, NGO leaders, and civil society actors to discuss the values, challenges, and future of volunteering in Russia and globally.

Mr. Dmitry Samko, representative of UPF-Russia in Moscow, presented an innovative proposal to promote family-based volunteerism - a model rooted in trust, intergenerational learning, and shared values. He emphasized the importance of genuine youth engagement, beyond formal obligations.

Other speakers, including Ms. Galina Bodrenkova of the National Center for Volunteerism and Mr. Vyacheslav Ivanov of HSE, stressed the need to recognize volunteering as a driver of social cohesion and sustainable development. Transparency, motivation, and shared responsibility were highlighted as key priorities.

The roundtable marked an important step in shaping Russia's contribution to IVY 2026, with follow-up sessions planned later this year.