

## **Free trade from Lisbon to Vladivostok**

### ***The members of the Board of the Business Initiative discussed with the Member of the Board (Minister) for Trade of the EEC the prospects for developing cooperation within the framework of creation of a common economic space***

April 19, 2021. Moscow. The delegation of the Board of the Lisbon-Vladivostok Initiative (hereinafter – the «**Initiative**») consisting of Ulf Schneider, SCHNEIDER GROUP President and Founder, the Chairman of the Board of the Initiative, as well as members of the Board of the Initiative : Ernesto Ferlenghi, Executive Vice-President, Confindustria Russia, Michael Harms, CEO, German Eastern Business Association, OA, Emmanuel Quidet, President, Franco-Russian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, CCIFR, Matthias Schepp, Chairman of the Board, German-Russian Chamber of Commerce, AHK, Johan Vanderplaetse, President, Association of European Business in Russia, AEB, Vice-President, Schneider Electric and Vice-President of RSPP Sergey Krasilnikov (a representative of a board member, President of RSPP, Alexander Shokhin) took part in the meeting with a Member of the board (Minister) of Trade EEC Andrey Slepnev. The development of European and Russian business in the Eurasian Economic Union, as well as the prospects for improving the business climate between the economic entities of the European Union and the Eurasian Economic Union were discussed at the meeting.

Ulf Schneider reported on the growing support for the Initiative driven by the business community: “More than 100 companies from 12 countries have already supported our Initiative and signed a corresponding memorandum, 40 international experts work in 6 Task Forces focused on such issues as visa liberalization, Customs and Transport, Certification, Green Deal, Common pharmaceutical market, Taxation issues. This June, we will submit business proposals on each of the topics to the EU and EAEU authorities”. For his part, Mr. Slepnev expressed hope for fruitful cooperation and tight trade ties in common space from Lisbon to Vladivostok. He also invited the participants of the Initiative to closer cooperation with the Eurasian Economic Commission.

### **About the Lisbon-Vladivostok Initiative:**

In 2015, an initiative was born in European business circles to promote the idea of creating a single economic space on the territory of the European Union (EU) and the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) - the Lisbon-Vladivostok business initiative. The foundation of the Initiative is the need of the business community for economic integration and expansion of economic interaction in the Eurasian space. The initiative already brings together more than 100 companies, as well as major business associations from 12 EU and EAEU member states. In 2020, the initiative received its organizational design in the shape of working bodies: the board and a number of expert working groups in specific areas. Events dedicated to the promotion and further promotion of the initiative are held on a regular basis. The participants in the events held within the framework of the Initiative are business leaders and owners, officials, and authoritative members of the expert community.

More information can be found on the website and social media:

<https://lisbon-vladivostok.pro>

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/9015642/>

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