



Belarus

Dr. Alexandr Radkov
Minister of Education



Alexandr Radkov has been the Minister of Education since August 2003. He was born in 1951 in village Votnja, Bykhov District, Mogiljov region. He graduated from Mogiljov Pedagogical Institute in 1973 and from 1974 through 1997 served as an Assistant, then as a Professor and Vice Rector of this Institute. From 1997 through 2001 he was Vice-Rector and from 2001 through 2003 Rector of Mogiljov State University..

From the CIS Regional Preparatory Conference in Minsk to the 48th Session of ICE

Belarus in October 2007 hosted the CIS Regional Conference "Inclusive Education: The Way of the Future" as a preparatory activity to the 48th International Conference of Education (ICE). The participants of the conference discussed theoretical and practical approaches to development and implementation of inclusive education in Armenia, Belarus, Finland, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Moldova, Russia, Ukraine and Uzbekistan and worked out the following main directions of inclusive education development in the region:

- recognition and summarizing of the CIS region positive experience in engagement of all students of pre-school and school age in educational process;
- support to UNESCO conventions and resolutions on social inclusion;
- promotion of national legislation closer adherence to inclusive education international norms;
- promotion of public awareness and acceptance of inclusive education ideas through mass-media;
- shift from the educational paradigm focused on students' "defects" to the paradigm focused on support to each child development;
- development of social, pedagogical and economic concepts and methodologies of inclusive education, adequate to the regional context;
- diversification of school curriculum, making it flexible enough to meet diverse educational interests and needs of all students;
- promotion of culture of tolerance in schools and society;
- use of ICT and distance education to broaden access to high quality education for all children;
- development of comprehensive monitoring of all students' development and social inclusion;
- training of teachers to increase their capacity to work in inclusive educational settings.

Belarus and other CIS countries welcome international collaboration on inclusive education development. We believe that the 48th Session of the ICE will provide the participants with an excellent opportunity to share experiences and practices, and to set common vision and strategies for concrete actions on inclusive education development on national and international levels.