



*Supporting vulnerable people in Eastern Europe, Russia, Central Asia and the Caucasus*

## Monthly Bulletin No. 81

December 2016



*Season's Greetings to all our Friends, partners, supporters and volunteers*

### BEARR News

**New for 2017:** BEARR's Small Grants Scheme seeks bids for projects dealing with mental health issues in our region. **Deadline 1 February 2017.** Details at <http://www.bearr.org/small-grants-scheme-2017/>

In 2016 BEARR celebrated its **25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**. See reports of our three major events:

- Conference on the development of health and welfare NGOs in the BEARR region <http://www.bearr.org/annual-conference-2016-11-november/>
- Lviv conference on the integration of IDPs in Ukraine <http://www.bearr.org/conference-in-lviv/>
- Lecture on the Rule of Law in Russia and the Republics <http://www.bearr.org/the-bearr-trust-annual-lecture-2016/>

See also the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary edition of the BEARR Newsletter, September 2016 [http://www.bearr.org/pdfs/web\\_Bearnews\\_no67\\_2016.pdf](http://www.bearr.org/pdfs/web_Bearnews_no67_2016.pdf)

BEARR is delighted to welcome Bridget Kendall MBE as a new Patron

BEARR is seeking a volunteer to help with research on health and welfare NGOs in the UK. Please contact [info@bearr.org](mailto:info@bearr.org)

### **Grants and Competitions**

UK funds for research in global health issues in low and middle-income countries. Deadline: 26 January <http://www.nets.nihr.ac.uk/funding/global-health>

USAID grants for new businesses for people with special needs in Ukraine. Deadline: 30 December. <http://gurt.org.ua/news/grants/32492/>

### **Events**

2 March "The Soviet Economy, 1917-1991". Lecture by Prof Mark Harrison for GBRS, 7pm, Pushkin House. <http://www.gbrussia.org/lectures.php>

### **News from the Region**

Public Chamber to prepare action plan of measures to develop volunteering <http://www.bearr.org/public-chamber-plan-to-develop-volunteering/>

Russian firms in no hurry to cut charity budgets in times of crisis <http://www.bearr.org/russian-firms-in-no-hurry-to-cut-charity-budgets/>

Putin encourages maximum engagement of NGOs in social services <http://www.bearr.org/putin-encourages-maximum-engagement-of-ngos-in-social-services/>

Federation Council suspends work on 'undesirable organisations' <http://www.bearr.org/federation-council-suspends-work-on-undesirable-organisations/>

Draft law on SONGOs passes first reading in Duma <http://www.bearr.org/draft-law-on-support-for-songos-passes-first-reading-in-duma/>

Presidential Administration to convene meeting about possible changes to 'foreign agents' law <http://www.bearr.org/presidentail-administration-to-convene-meeting-on-foreign-agents-law/>

ECHR pursuing complaints from Russian NGOs about 'foreign agents' law <http://www.bearr.org/echr-considering-complaints-about-foreign-agents-law/>

Amnesty International: Independent NGOs under threat of extinction in Russia <http://www.bearr.org/8126-2/>

Russia: New database of NGO best practice in support of vulnerable families <http://www.bearr.org/new-database-of-ngo-support-for-vulnerable-families/>

Duma committee recommends adoption of law on additional support for SONGOs <http://www.bearr.org/duma-committee-recommends-adoption-of-law-on-songos/>

Russian Min of Labour urges regions to help NGOs to provide social services <http://www.bearr.org/russias-mol-attacks-regional-barriers-to-ngo-supply-of-social-services/>

Community forum discusses need for resource centres for SONGOs  
<http://www.bearr.org/forum-discusses-need-for-resource-centres-for-songos/>

Synod department for charity publishes fund-raising manual for charities  
<http://www.bearr.org/synod-publishes-fund-raising-manual-for-charities/>

Russian government approves list of public services that NGOs can provide  
<http://www.bearr.org/russian-government-lists-services-open-to-ngo-provision/>

**The BEARR Trust: supporting vulnerable people in Eastern Europe,  
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