



## Nursing Now campaign launches in Russia

**Geneva, Switzerland; 13 October 2020** - International Council of Nurses (ICN) President [Annette Kennedy](#) and Chief Executive Officer [Howard Catton](#) are contributing by video link-up to the official launch of Nursing Now Russia, which is being held virtually this week.

The launch, which was postponed from March because of the pandemic, is also being addressed by representatives from the Russian Government, the Russian Nursing Association (RNA) the World Health Organization (WHO), Nursing Now, the European Forum of National Nursing and Midwifery Associations (EFNNMA), the European Midwives Association (EMA), and many nursing leaders from Russia and Europe. ICN Board Members Brigita Skela-Savič and Karen Bjørø are also taking part, along with WHO Chief Nursing Officer, Elizabeth Iro.

Key issues being discussed include advanced scope of practice, transformational education, human resources for health, and issues of equal pay and safe working conditions.

This event opens the global and regional policy agenda on nursing and midwifery to a large audience of Russian speaking participants, and provides Russian nurses and midwives with an opportunity to share their views on the policies and strategies that affect them, as well as their role in the current and future Russian National Health System.

During the event, Annette Kennedy will acknowledge the work of the RNA and Nursing Now: “I would like to put on record our admiration and thanks to the Russian Nurses Association and the Russia Nursing Now group for their commitment to the profession at this especially difficult time”.

Nursing Now Co-Chair Lord Nigel Crisp will talk about the significance of Nursing Now as a global movement: “I know how important it is that there’s global solidarity and that whilst you

are making your case for nursing in Russia, others are making their case all around the world. Thank you for joining Nursing Now, our global movement is stronger for having you as part of it”.

Attending the event are speakers and guests from 15 countries and national nursing associations of the region, with more than 3,000 professionals and leaders representing all parts of Russia and other countries, including Latvia, Lithuania, Armenia, Belarus, Moldova, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan.

The two-day event includes a panel of renowned speakers, including:

- Annette Kennedy, President, International Council of Nurses
- Lord Nigel Crisp, Co-Chair of the Nursing Now campaign and the UK's All-Party Parliamentary Group on Global Health
- Dr Hans Kluge, Director, WHO European Region
- Dr Mikhail Murashko, Minister of Health of Russian Federation
- Dr Tatiana Semenova, Deputy Minister of Health of Russian Federation
- Gabrielle Jacob, Special Advisor – Transformation and Organization Development, Programme Manager/Unit Head, Human Resources for Health Programme, WHO Regional Office for Europe, Copenhagen, Denmark
- Elizabeth Iro, Chief Nursing Officer, WHO, Geneva, Switzerland
- Valentina Sarkisova, President of the Russian Nurses Association and Chair of the European forum of national nursing and midwifery associations
- Howard Catton, CEO, International Council of Nurses
- Brigita Skela-Savič, (PhD, MPhil, BA, RN), Professor in nursing research and EBP, Angela Boškin Faculty of Health Care, ICN Board member
- Dr Karen Bjørø, former Vice-President of Norwegian Nurses Organization, ICN Board member and EFNNMA Steering committee member
- Mervi Jokinen, EMA President and EFNNMA vice-chair
- Prof. Aurelija Blaževičienė, Head of WHO CC for Nursing Education and Practice, Faculty of Nursing, Kaunas University
- David Mlakic, President, European Nursing Students Association (ENSA)
- Yulia Agapova, RNA Head of midwifery network, Chair of St-Petersburg branch of the Russian Nurses Association
- Valeriy Samoilenko, RNA CEO

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