

## **International Economic Forum "Russia - Islamic World: KazanForum"**

«Russia - Islamic World: KazanForum» is **the main federal platform** for economic interaction between the Russian Federation and the countries of the Islamic world. The International Economic Forum between Russia and the member countries of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) was first held in 2009, creating a leading international platform for discussing cooperation issues and implementing joint projects.

**The main goal** of «Russia - Islamic World: KazanForum» is to strengthen trade and economic, scientific and technical, social and cultural ties between the regions of the Russian Federation and the countries of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, as well as to promote the development of institutions of the Islamic financial system in the Russian Federation.

**The objectives of the forum** are:

- elaboration of recommendations in determining strategic perspectives for the development of international economic, scientific, technical, social and cultural relations between forum participants;
- assistance in strengthening relations between participants in business activities of the Russian Federation, the Commonwealth of Independent States and the countries of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation;
- involvement of the world's leading experts in joint discussions of current economic and political issues;
- development of recommendations and legislative initiatives aimed at solving problems in the field of functioning of institutions of the Islamic financial system and the economy of the Russian Federation;
- organization of experiences exchange and best practices of financial projects implementation;
- attraction of direct foreign investments into the economy of the Republic of Tatarstan.

**The mission** of KazanForum is to maintain established contacts between Russia and the countries of the Islamic world, to carry out activities to strengthen the positive image of Russia in the OIC countries and the OIC countries in Russia, to promote projects at the international level.

Regions of the Russian Federation get an opportunity to show their potential for domestic and foreign investors, companies from all over the world expand the distribution zones of their goods and services, representatives of the authorities gain experience from their foreign colleagues and reach a new level of interaction.

By the Decree of the President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin, the President of the Republic of Tatarstan Rustam Minnikhanov was appointed Chairman of the Russia-

Islamic World Strategic Vision Group. Within the framework of this group, the Investment Development Agency of the Republic of Tatarstan prepares the annual forum.

The First International Summit of Islamic Business and Finance on June 25-26, 2009 was attended by 250 participants from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Morocco, Malaysia, Indonesia, Pakistan, Qatar, Lebanon, Bahrain, Sudan, UK, France, Luxembourg, Turkey, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Azerbaijan, Russia.

During the fourteen-year history of KazanForum, a leading international platform for discussing cooperation and realization of joint projects has been created, as well as a support for presentation of economic opportunities and investment potential of our country.

**Statistics on the number of participants  
«Russia - Islamic World: KazanForum» in different years:**

2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021	2022	2023
250	400	772	1000	700	500	745	1556	2641	3000	5098	4735	6388	16223



**Statistics of participating countries  
«Russia - Islamic World: KazanForum» in different years:**

2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021	2022	2023
18	24	27	30	40	25	46	51	53	53	72	64	64	80

Famous people who visited the forum in different years:



Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov, Chairman of the Khalk Maslakhaty of Milli Gengesh of Turkmenistan;



H.E. Dr. Thani Ahmed Al Zayyoudi, Minister of State for Foreign Trade of the United Arab Emirates. Minister of State for Foreign Trade of the United Arab Emirates;



Abdullah Al Saleh, UAE Deputy Minister of Economy;



H.E. Sheikh Abdulrahman Mohamed Rashed Al Khalifa, Chairman of the Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs of the Kingdom of Bahrain;



Hasan Büyükdede, Deputy Minister of Industry and Technology of the Republic of Turkey, Advisor to the President of the Republic of Turkey;



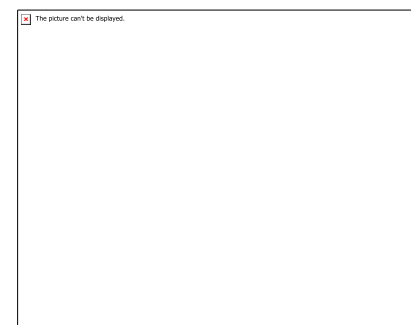
Mücahit Küçükiyilmaz, Chief Advisor to the President of the Republic of Turkey;



H.E. Sheikha Mai Bint Mohammed Alkhalifa, President of the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities;



Mishal Kanoo, Chairman of The Kanoo Group;



Lord Nazir Ahmed, member of the British House of Lords;





Syed Nayyar Hussain Bokhari, Chairman, Senate of Pakistan;



Mahathir Mohamad, former Prime Minister of Malaysia Malaysia and Chairman of the World Alliance for International Development Partnership (GAPID);



Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, former Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC);



Rashid bin Ahmad bin Fahad, UAE Minister of State for Standardization and Metrology;



Mehmet Muş, Minister of Trade of the Republic of Turkey;



Serdar Berdimuhamedov, Chairman of the Legislation and Norms Committee of the Mejlis of Turkmenistan;



Sheikh Ahmed bin Dalmuk Juma Al Maktoum, member of the ruling family of the Emirate of Dubai, UAE;



Maxim Gennadyevich Reshetnikov, Minister of Economic Development of the Russian Federation;



Sergey Katyrin, President of the Russian Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Other guests of the Forum at the link: <https://disk.yandex.ru/d/9cFF31KfMVM8lw>

**The XIII International Economic Summit** «Russia - Islamic World: KazanSummit 2022» was held on May 19-21 at the Kazan Expo International Exhibition Center.

The main theme of the business program of the XIII International Economic Summit «Russia - Islamic World: KazanSummit 2022» was the economy of shared consumption and the common good of halal, and the key topics of the event were Islamic finance and partnership banking, halal industry, youth diplomacy, export development, entrepreneurship and investment.

The summit events began with the opening of the halal industry exposition «Russia Halal Expo». The general partner of the summit was Ak Bars Bank PJSC. At the opening ceremony, Kazan received the key to the city hosting World Halal Day, the largest forum that has been held annually since 2014 in different parts of the world. The exhibition brought together 147 exhibitors from 7 countries: Russia, Turkey, Iran, Malaysia, Indonesia, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and 18 regions of Russia. The exhibition area was 10,000 square meters.

On May 18-19, 2023 the business program of the **XIV International Economic Forum** «Russia-Islamic World: KazanForum 2023» was held at the Kazan Expo IEC, and on May 20-21, 2023 the cultural part of the program was held.

The leitmotif of KazanForum 2023 was economic partnership in modern realities, the key topics were Islamic finance, halal industry, investments, industry, logistics, tourism, technology, international cooperation, diplomacy, business opportunities and others. The total plan amounted to 200 events, including 148 sessions of the business program on various topics.

According to the Russian Deputy Prime Minister, one of the key topics of the forum was the construction of the international transport corridor «North-South», as Muslim countries are interested in export of Russian agricultural goods and halal products.

KazanForum hosted 8 bilateral conferences: «Russia – Turkey», «Russia – Egypt», «Russia – Azerbaijan», «Russia – Uzbekistan», «Russia – Malaysia», «Russia – Iran» and others. A total of 130 agreements and memorandums were concluded at the forum.

The Forum of Young Diplomats of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation gathered representatives of 23 countries at KazanForum. The main topic of discussion was international relations in the era of a multipolar world.

These days, a meeting of the Russia-Islamic World Strategic Vision Group was held at the Kazan City Hall, attended by more than 150 representatives from 30 countries. Among the speakers were Talgat Tadzhuddin, Chairman of the Central Department of the Russian Muslim Movement, Ravil Gainutdin, Chairman of the Russian Muslim Movement, and Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia. The main message of the meeting and all the speeches was the commonality of spiritual and moral values, which is supported by representatives of Islam and Christianity.

- Three types of programs were planned for participants and members of delegations:
- overseeing cultural and historical tour of Kazan with a visit to the Kazan Kremlin;
  - island-town Sviyazhsk;
  - the ancient city of Bolgar.

For effective assistance in organizing and holding the Forum, 838 volunteers took part. The 2023 Forum was covered by more than 700 journalists from foreign, federal and regional media from 40 countries, with a total coverage of 1.4 billion views over the 2 days of the event.

«Russia Halal Expo» annual International exhibition of investment and infrastructure projects, which presented a unique space for the promotion and development of business projects, as well as a platform for building a constructive dialog between Forum participants. 23 thousand square meters of the exhibition, including: 3 thousand square meters of outdoor exhibition of large-size export-oriented machinery. 11 countries were represented at the exhibition - Turkey, Uzbekistan, Iran, Malaysia, United Arab Emirates, Indonesia, Azerbaijan, India, Senegal booked stands for participation.

International halal industry fair Russia Halal Market for the population and participants of the Forum presented an area of 14 thousand square meters. The event was attended by: the largest manufacturers of halal products, food, cosmetics, clothing, paraphernalia, accessories and household goods, about 5 thousand items of assortment and 400 representatives were present.

Modest Fashion Day, a festival of decent fashion, is organized, which unites style, culture, traditional values beyond politics, religious affiliation and interracial prejudice. It is an integral part of the fashion industry and the global Islamic economy, which provides Russian and foreign designers and brands to demonstrate their creative and commercial potential on a high-level platform. Fifteen designers at the Korston-Kazan GTRK, presented «decent fashion» collections.

**Anniversary XV International Economic Forum «Russia - Islamic World: KazanForum»** will be held on May 14-19, 2024 in Kazan.

The forum will include the following satellite events: the conference «The Role of UNESCO World Cultural Heritage in Sustainable Regional Development», the meeting of the Strategic Vision Group «Russia - Islamic World», the International Exhibition of Economic and Scientific-Technological Cooperation Russia Halal Expo, the International Trade Fair Kazan Halal Market, the Forum of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the Festival of Decent Fashion Modest Fashion Day.

More detailed information can be found on the official KazanForum website <https://kazanforum.ru/> and in social networks:

- Vkontakte: <https://vk.com/kazanforum23>
- Telegram: <https://t.me/kznforum>
- Vkontakte: <https://vk.com/russiahalalexpo>