

Vitaliy Mutko, Minister for Sport for Russian Federation, member of EcXo FIFA

Welcome, dear participants and guests of the 35th Symposium of the Alliance of European coaches associations!

In 2018 Russia will host the FIFA World Cup. This event is a dream of millions people in our country. Upcoming matches of top-rank football national teams will remain in hearts of the Russians and fans all over the world. Especially because of you, coaches!

In our country, which has always been famous for coaching talents, a lot is done for the development of football coach's profession. On behalf of the Ministry of Sport of the Russian Federation i would like to thank FIFA, UEFA and the European Alliance of coaches associations for the development and advancement of the profession.

We are honored to receive the leading football coaches in Sochi - one of the largest sports centers in Russia. In 2014, this city has hosted XXII Olympic Winter Games, the Formula 1 Grand Prix, and in 2017 along with Moscow, Kazan and St. Petersburg will host the (FIFA) Confederations Cup. We are happy to show you all the prosperity and beauty of this gorgeous city.