

9 November 2017

Dear Jan,

On behalf of MSIF, I would like to wish you a very happy anniversary.

Having played a key leadership role in the development of the Russian MS Society (RuMSS) since it was established in 2001, I know how hard you have worked to ensure that the Society has a positive impact on the quality of life for as many people as possible in Russia.

Over the past 16 years the RuMSS has increased awareness of MS amongst both the public and local and national decision-makers, highlighting the significant economic and social cost of the disease, and even has made its voice heard internationally. It has contributed to changes in the approach to and provision of treatment as well as changes to the law. The Society certainly listens to the voice of those affected by MS and ensures that it remains central to its ongoing work.

As a founder of and now Co-Chair of the All-Russian Patients Union, you have ensured that the RuMSS is able to share its experience with and learn from the wider patient community in the country. I hope that the Union can continue to strengthen the patient movement and ensure its interaction with the relevant authorities, health professionals and other partners.

I appreciate that challenges remain but I know that you and your team in Russia, as part of the global MS movement, will endeavour to keep building the capacity, reach and influence of the Society to attain your goals and improve the quality of life of all those affected by MS. We all wish you much success with this!

With kindest regards

Peer Baneke Chief Executive Many congrate lations!

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