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منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

Message from Ms Irina Bokova,

Director-General of UNESCO

**on the occasion of the 55th anniversary of the Peoples' Friendship
University of Russia**

6-7 February 2015

Dear Academician Vladimir Filippov Rector of the Peoples' Friendship University of Russia,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am pleased to express my heartfelt greetings to the Peoples' Friendship University of Russia on the occasion of its 55th anniversary.

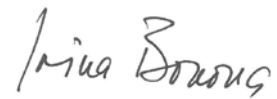
The University is well-known around the world as a leader in training highly qualified specialists in technical sciences and the humanities. Its experience is unique and provides a basis for theoretical reflection as well as practical implementation.

Moreover, through its educational programs your University successfully promotes intercultural dialogue and plays a major role in putting its basic principles into practice.

Intercultural skills are key factors in civil society and education, in particular in the field of human rights. Such skills provide students with a global outlook and prepare them for life in a multicultural community. Civic education is not only a right but also a duty, and therefore, these skills should promote and maintain a culture of peace and tolerance. They should also give students tools to make the most of diversity, to develop values and behaviours of solidarity and responsibility, to harness the energy of young people for the benefit of all.

In this regard, the training of highly qualified specialists from more than 150 countries and educating them in the spirit of respect for cultural diversity are striking examples of activities promoted by the Peoples' Friendship University of Russia to foster a peace education and to develop a culture of tolerance and open-mindedness.

I wish you further success in the development of friendly relations and international cooperation in the crucial areas of education, science and culture.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Irina Bokova', written in a cursive style.

Irina Bokova