



ALEXANDER ZAPESOTSKY

President of St. Petersburg University of the Humanities and Social Sciences (*Санкт-Петербургский Гуманитарный университет профсоюзов*), Head of Cultural Studies Chair, Doctor of Science in Cultural Studies, Professor. Academician of the Russian Academy of Education, Scientist Emeritus of the Russian Federation, Artist Emeritus of the Russian Federation.

Alexander Zapesotsky was born in 1954 in Kursk (the Russian Federation). In 1976 he graduated from Leningrad Institute of Mechanics and Optics and in 1986 a postgraduate course in Krupskaya State Institute of Culture (Leningrad).

For several years he worked as a researcher at Vavilov State Institute of Optics. From 1986 to 1991 he worked in Higher Trade Union School of Culture that was reorganized into the University of Humanities and Social Sciences in 1992. Since 1991 Professor Zapesotsky has been its president. He is the author of the culture-centrist conception of education that underlies all the policies of St. Petersburg University of Humanities and Social Sciences.

He is the author of more than 1200 scientific papers, articles and monographs on problems of culture, education, theory of trade-union movement, youth policy. Among his most well-known publications are *The Youth of Today not Properly Understood* (Moscow, 1990); *The Youth in the Modern World: Problems of Individualization and Social Cultural Integration* (St. Petersburg, 1996); *Humanitarian Culture and Humanitarian Education* (St. Petersburg, 1996); *Strategic Marketing in Tourism* (St. Petersburg, 1999); *Education: Philosophy, Culture Studies, Politics* (Moscow, 2002); *Fathers and Sons: Conflict of Generations, Socialization, Youth Subcultures* (St. Petersburg, 2005); *Dmitry Likhachov, a Great Russian Culturologist* (St. Petersburg, 2007); *Dmitry Likhachov's Cultural Studies* (St. Petersburg, 2007); *Education and Mass Media as Factors of Modern Youth Socialization and Position: Selected Journalism. 1985–2008* (St. Petersburg, 2008).

He is a member of an editorial board of the journals: "Pedagogic Studies" of the Russian Academy of Education and "Issues of Cultural Studies".

He is a film director and script writer for more than 30 popular science films and for more than 300 shows on Russian television. He staged a number of public holidays in St. Petersburg. A well-known journalist.

He collaborated with D. S. Likhachov from 1992 and till the Academician's death. In 1995–96 Professor Zapesotsky put together a group of scientists to develop *The Declaration of the Rights of Culture* under the supervision of Academician D.S. Likhachov and in 1999 he implemented D.S. Likhachov's proposal to set up the Congress of St. Petersburg Intelligentsia (co-founders were Zh. I. Alferov, D.A. Granin, A.S. Zapesotsky, K.Yu. Lavrov, D.S. Likhachov, A.P. Petrov, M.B. Piotrovsky). He is Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Congress of St. Petersburg Intelligentsia.

He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Russian Children Foundation.

He has received highest government awards among which are: "The Order of Friendship", "The Medal for Rescuing a Drowning Man", "Ushinsky Medal for Outstanding Pedagogical Achievements" as well as supreme awards of Trade Unions of Russia, Bulgaria, Armenia, Vietnam, etc.

He was awarded the Russian Federal Government Prize in Education for his monograph *Education: Philosophy, Culture Studies, Politics* and Gorky literary award of 2007 for his *Dmitry Likhachov's Cultural Studies*.

He is in tight partnership and cooperation with leading universities and scientific centres of Europe and the USA. He is Doctor *honoris causa* of Lynn University (Florida, the USA), American University in Dublin (Ireland), Paris Academy of Science and Arts (France).