

# Marking anniversary with new goals

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Editor-in-Chief

Fifteen years have passed since the publication of the first issue of the Russian-language IRS-Heritage magazine. The success of any printed publication is measured by the way stories of interest are presented, reader inquiries are addressed and minor topics are avoided. The last of the above-mentioned is unlikely to ever affect our magazine because our goal is to promote the history, material and spiritual heritage of the Azerbaijani people. These are truly inexhaustible topics. This, as they say, is enough to last for our lifetime. Our regular readers are accustomed to seeing articles on entirely new topics in almost every issue. Today, IRS is published in 16 languages – in fact, languages representing all continents! Thousands of readers have the opportunity to get acquainted with our materials not only by leafing through the hard copy of the magazine, but also on our web-site and on social networks.

Over the one and a half decades of the existence of our magazine, Azerbaijan has made a truly enormous step forward in all spheres of life – political, socio-economic, cultural. But the key and fundamental task facing the country, the restoration of our territorial integrity, still remains unresolved, as the upper and much of the lower parts of Karabakh are still occupied by the neighboring Armenia. The geopolitical game of the great powers in the Caucasus region, which began with the large-scale resettlement of the Armenians to the originally Azerbaijani lands annexed by the Russian empire in the first decades of the 19th century, claimed the lives of thousands of innocent people in the 20th century, the overwhelming majority of whom were Azerbaijanis driven out of the lands of their ancestors by force. The Karabakh conflict is the key topic in modern Azerbaijani journalism, including IRS-Heritage.

Along with this, we consistently inform foreign readers about the long-standing traditions of tolerance in Azerbaijan, about the peacefulness and talents of the Azerbaijani people. In this context, it is worth mentioning a project our magazine has carried out involving the publication at a high polygraphic level of eight trilingual photo albums.

There are new topics and projects ahead of us. The main objective for us is not to lose our readers whose interest and sympathy serve as a source of inspiration in our work. In connection with the anniversary, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed to the creation of the IRS magazine and has been with us on this exciting journey. I express my gratitude to our entire editorial team who have invested an incredible amount of hard work and talent in this magazine. And, of course, I want to thank our readers – for reading us, for expressing their feedback and suggestions, and helping us to improve the publication. And, of course, also for spreading information about Azerbaijan in the world.