



Botschaft
der Bundesrepublik Deutschland
Riga



*Vēstnieka Rolfa Šutes uzruna
izstādes „United Buddy Bears“
atklāšanā 2018. gada 12. jūlijā Doma laukumā*

Cienījamā ministres Melbārdes kundze,
Godātais Domes priekšsēdētāja Ušakova kungs,
Ekselences,
Mīļā Herlica kundze, mīļais Herlica kungs,
Mīļie viesi!

Kā Vācijas vēstnieks Latvijā sirsnīgi sveicu Jūs izstādes „United Buddy Bears“ atklāšanā Doma laukumā!

Visiem jubilāriem labi draugi nes dāvanas. Jubilāriem, kas svin lielu un apaļu jubileju, labi draugi nes lielas dāvanas. Latvija šogad svin lielu un apaļu jubileju – savu simtgadi. Vācijas vārdā sirsnīgi sveicu Latvijas iedzīvotājus savas valsts lielajā un apaļajā jubilejā! Vācija negrib ierasties svinībās ar tukšām rokām. Kā ciešs partneris un draugs mēs gribam Latvijai pasniegt īpašu dāvanu, respektīvi, dāvanas. Mūzikas draugi no Latvijas šogad var priecāties par trīs nozīmīgu Vācijas orķestru koncertiem. Bet mēs gribējam pasniegt dāvanu arī visiem Latvijas iedzīvotājiem. Dāvanu, kas iepriecina vecus un jaunus un visiem pieejama bez maksas. Tā arī radās ideja atvest uz Rīgu izstādi „United Buddy Bears“. Lāči jau ir bijuši daudzās pasaules valstīs visos kontinentos. Šodien viņi pirmo reizi ir kādā no Baltijas valstīm.

Lāči simbolizē toleranci un saprašanos starp tautām. Tās ir vērtības, kas mums vajadzīgas visā pasaulē. Vairāk par lāčiem pastāstīs Herlicas kundze. Jo viņa ar savu vīru ir, tā sakot, lāču vecāki. Tagad vēl pateikšu dažus vārdus angļiski.

The United Buddy Bears exhibition here in Riga required a lot of planning and a great deal of effort. It would not have been possible without the active support of the City of Riga and the Ministry of Culture. So I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mayor Usakovs and Minister Melbarde for their support and for their willingness to be joint patrons of the exhibition together with myself. In particular, I would like to thank the Latvian and German workers who set up the exhibition in the past two days. They did a marvelous job. Of course, such a big project also requires a considerable amount of financing. We were lucky in convincing the German Foreign Office to shoulder a substantial part of the cost. But without the additional support by a number of German and Latvian companies it would have been impossible to make

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this dream come true. Therefore, let me express my sincere gratitude to the following companies and request their representatives to come forward and receive a small token of our gratitude: Schaeffler, represented by Mr. Pavels Nazarovs, Specialist of Surface Technology, Conexus, represented by Ms Dace Baltābola, Head of Communication Department, RIX, represented by Mr. Andris Lovnieks, owner of the company. I would also like to add that it was RIX that transported the bears from Berlin to Riga. Smiltene Impex, represented by Mr. Voldemars Ciršs, Chairman of the Board, Lameko Impex, represented by Mrs. Evelyn Göbel, co-owner, ERGO, represented by Mr. Oskars Matisons, Director of Marketing Department.

Children all over the world love bears – and these Buddy Bears love children. That's why here in Latvia they have decided to support Riga's Children's Hospital – which means all funds raised for charity during the exhibition will go to the Hospital Fund. A large part of these charitable donations will come from a number of foreign embassies that have decided to sponsor the bears from their respective countries. Let me therefore also thank my colleagues from the embassies of Belarus, France, Georgia, Israel, Russia, Spain, Switzerland and the United Arab Emirates for their input.

As a token of the bears' and children's gratitude they will also receive a mini Buddy Bear. On that note, I would like to inform you that you can also buy a mini bear from the souvenir stand. As an ambassador I cannot recommend commercial businesses. In this case, I can make an exception as a percentage of the sales of the Bears merchandise will go to charity and benefit Riga Children's Hospital.

Thank you for your attention! Enjoy the exhibition and tell all your friends about it!

Vielen Dank für Ihre Aufmerksamkeit