





## **5th Russian Congress**

In the heart of Russia, where Europe and Asia, West and East meet, lies the multicultural, multinational and multi-confessional Republic of Tatarstan. Despite the fact that Islam is the predominant religion and the majority of the population is Tatar, it is here that you can really see how people have lived together for many generations, respecting the traditions and beliefs of other nationalities. Today there are 173 ethnic groups in Tatarstan.



In today's world, when we see the separation of people all over the world, it was decided to hold the 5th Russian Congress for Persons with Disabilities in Kazan, Tatarstan. Kazan is the third capital of Russia, "the biggest of the old and the oldest of the big cities of Russia". The power of this place lies in unity, in meeting, in acceptance. So it was decided to name the theme of the Congress "Acceptance". The Congress was held from 3 to 5 November and more than 100 variously impaired participants came from all over Russia and beyond, such as Moscow, St. Petersburg, Kazan, Ekaterinburg, Tyumen, Samara, Ryazan, Ufa and others. Initiator of Worldwide Congresses for Persons with Disabilities since 1999 and idea inspirer Thomas Kraus came from Germany at these difficult times to renew and fortify bridges between countries!