



**RUSSIAN
ASSOCIATION of
STATISTICIANS**

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Russian professional community: why are we interested in cooperating with our colleagues from the BRICS countries?

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**ВСТРЕЧА ГЛАВ
СТАТИСТИЧЕСКИХ ВЕДОМСТВ БРИКС**

**MEETING OF THE HEADS
OF NATIONAL STATISTICAL AGENCIES**



Russian Association of Statisticians

The professional associations of statisticians do not collect or publish statistical data, do not conduct research or teach statistics to students. But, nevertheless, associations play significant role in building statistical capacity.

In short, professional associations work to strengthen the statistical community in their countries.

The Russian Association of Statisticians was established in 2014. **This year we are celebrating the 10th anniversary of our association.**

Currently, several hundred professional statisticians, university professors, researchers and journalists in more than 40 regions of Russia are members of the RAS.

The association cooperates closely with Rosstat on some projects, but is completely independent legally, organizationally and financially.



Why is RAS interested in cooperation with professional associations of the BRICS countries?

1. Institutional reasons.

- ✓ All BRICS countries have strong professional associations, because otherwise these countries would not be able to host the World Statistical Congresses of the ISI. RAS would be interested in studying the organization of these associations, their interaction with official statistics, government agencies, etc. Perhaps, Russian experience would also be interesting for our partners. We are ready to share it.
- ✓ RAS organizes many scientific events, such as Open Russian Statistical Congresses. We have already held two such congresses, and we are now discussing the possibility of organizing a third one. We usually invite colleagues from CIS countries to our events. We would be happy to invite delegations from the BRICS countries as well. We will easily find a reason for a scientific discussion. For our part, we would be interested in participating in scientific events that are held in the BRICS countries.
- ✓ Perhaps universities or research centers in the BRICS countries are looking for Russian partners for joint statistical research. RAS could help to find potential partners among Russian universities and research centers.
- ✓ Potentially, the idea of creating an alliance of BRICS statistical associations in one form or another can be discussed. The Federation of European National Statistical Societies (FENStats) could be used as a model.

The first step to be done: please provide us with contacts of professional statistical associations in your countries. We will post them on the RAS website and it will become available to Russian partners.

Why is RASt interested in cooperation with professional associations of the BRICS countries?

2. Statistical education and statistical literacy.

- ✓ Statistics have been introduced as a compulsory subject in all Russian schools since 2023. All Russian schoolchildren in grades 7-11 have weekly one compulsory lesson on statistics. There are approximately 6 million schoolchildren studying statistics. This is a great achievement which must lead to a rise of popularity of statistics among university students in few following years, but problems remain. In particular, there is no experience of mass teaching of statistics in schools. RASt is involved in the implementation of statistics in Russian schools. Since 2017, we have been holding a statistics competition named “TREND” for schoolchildren. This competition is not aimed at testing the knowledge gained, but at developing statistical thinking in children. In 2021, the ISI recognized the TREND competition as the best corporate event on statistical literacy. To develop statistical knowledge of pupils, it is first necessary to teach statistics to teachers. There is a very strong mathematical school in Russia, but teachers are not always ready to teach statistics and work with data. Since 2024, RASt has held a competition among teachers for the best lesson in statistics. We have started to create a library of the best statistics lessons for children. We will translate these lessons into English to make them available to teachers in other countries. We could invite teachers from the BRICS countries to take part in a teacher competition, and if they win, the description of their lessons will also be included in the library and will be available to Russian teachers.

The first step to be done: please provide us with contacts of potential partners to make Russian competition for school teachers in statistics available for the BRICS countries.

Why is RASt interested in cooperation with professional associations of the BRICS countries?

3. Statistical publications.

- ✓ Many statisticians are interested in publishing their results. Of course, there are flagship statistical journals such as the ISI journals, the journal of the American Statistical Association, or the Royal Statistical Society. But it is quite difficult to publish your work in these journals, and their topics are not always consistent with the problems faced by the statisticians of the BRICS countries. We are always glad to see articles by colleagues from the BRICS countries in our magazines. This is not only the journal "Questions of Statistics," but also the journals of many universities.

The first step to be done: We invite BRICS statisticians to make presentations on our association's website. We invite representatives of official statistics and members of statistical associations or universities. Please use the rostrum of our website and tell Russian statisticians about the achievements of statistics in your countries.

Thank you for your attention!

Please visit our Web-site <https://www.rusasstat.ru/>

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