

## **Mayors of Italian cities visited Russia at the invitation of Sergey Kolesnikov**

A rich cultural program and friendly football matches with the MIPT alumni team helped create a great impression of the Russian Federation.

In early July, 12 mayors from various cities of Italy: Piacenza (province of Piacenza), Costa Volpino (province of Bergamo), Novendrate (province of Como), Stano Lombardo (province of Cremona), Campodarsego (province of Genoa), Giano del Umbria ( province of Perugia) and others for the first time visited the Russian Federation at the invitation of the famous Russian industrialist, co-owner of TECHNONICOL Sergey Kolesnikov.

In addition to a rich cultural program, guests took part in football matches with a team of graduates of the Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology, which includes famous Russian businessmen. Match participants were greeted by a three-time Olympic champion, ten-time world champion in figure skating, State Duma deputy Irina Rodnina and acting head of the Dolgoprudny city district Alexandra Kochetinina, who noted the importance of establishing friendly and economic ties between the cities of Italy and Russia.

“I am glad to come to Russia and grateful to the Russian side for the hospitality. I really liked Moscow. It is a modern, clean and interesting city, perfectly organized,” said the mayor of Novendrate Serafino Grassi.

This is the first time the team of Italian mayors is visiting the Russian Federation. The national team of mayors of Italy was founded in 2002 to conduct socially-oriented events both in Italian cities and abroad, with the aim of promoting ideas of mutual understanding and support among residents of different countries. The first football match between the national team of mayors of Italy and representatives of the Russian side was held in 2011 with the goal of raising funds to provide medical support to citizens of West African states.

“We are pleased that the Italian side managed to visit our country. It is extremely important to establish not only economic, but also friendly relations. This will allow us to develop cooperation in all areas,” said Sergey Kolesnikov, co-owner of TECHNONICOL.