

FRANCO-KYRGYZ FOUNDATION OF
ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE

CLUB FRANCE



Magazine №8, January 2016

*French Association "Earth in Motion" :
"In a world plagued by war and looting of natural
resources; we believe that we have to contribute to try to
strengthen ties, not only between people but also
between people and the earth"*



BISHKEK

EDITORIAL

The year 2016 came and we can start new business or continue what we haven't finish in the old one. "Club France" Foundation in its turn, continues to familiarize with cultural and economic relationship between France and Kyrgyzstan.

In this issue, we would like to present to you changes in the Kyrgyz legislation that will come into force in January 2016, also we will tell you about development and types of insurance in Kyrgyzstan.

In the column "Economy", the Prime Minister of Kyrgyzstan shares plans on 2016 which are indicated on holding anti-crisis measures, entering new enterprises, and production raise of existing one. Also the Prime Minister mentioned about tenderson deposits and transport infrastructure development in Kyrgyzstan.

In this issue, we want to present to your attention a man, who without charge, gives people who desire a chance to learn French language and culture in remote areas of Kyrgyzstan. Alexis, our hero, will give his impression about his living in Kyrgyzstan; he will tell us how Kyrgyz families accepted him, and also about difficulties he faced with.

Have you ever questioned about existence of bound between the earth and a human being. A French association «The Earth in motion», in tandem of Sabina and Jerome Bergami, try to find an answer to this question. You can follow their route and philosophy about interaction between a man and Earth. Also you will learn their interesting tradition of exchange world's ground.

And we will return to 2015, precisely speaking we return to holidays of the previous year. What is holiday without presents? "Club France" foundation created festive mood for children from families in need and orphanages of Kara-Balta city, gifting sweets to 150 children. If each of us give a particle of warmth and kindness, together we will be able to make the whole world more kind. Have a good and productive new year!

Sincerely, Ramilia SHAIKHMETOVA,
Editor in chief of "Club France" magazine.

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CLUB FRANCE



*FONDATION FRANCO-KIRGHIZE
d'échanges culturels et économiques*

Top 10 laws come into force in Kyrgyzstan on 1 January 2016



11 January 2016 14:01
– Nataliya Timirbaeva

From January 1, 2016 the new legislation started to operate in Kyrgyzstan. There are some very important

innovations that can significantly change the lives of ordinary Kyrgyz citizens and entrepreneurs.

Most of them have been discussed quite a long time by lawmakers, and experts. However, according to many experts, a number of legislative acts remains raw and undocumented, providing liability for their violation. Several legislative initiatives connected with the entry of Kyrgyzstan in the EEU.

01 Growth of tariffs for garbage removal in Bishkek

The Bishkek city government in June of last year adopted a decree, according to which increased the tariff for garbage removal. The increase has occurred on demand of EBRD, which allocates \$ 22 million to the disposal of Metropolitan waste. From 1 January, population for the garbage disposal will pay 22.5 som and 225 som for business entities and budget organizations. For pensioners, the rate will be 6 som.

02 Ban right-hand drive taxis

From January 2016, de jure, in Kyrgyzstan there is a ban on the use of right hand drive vehicles for commercial purposes. However, de facto the country has not yet developed a mechanism for violators.

Thus, the interior Ministry advocated the imposition of a fine on the driver of the RHD car, if it is used for commercial purposes, and the first time the would have to pay 2,000 som and the second time – 3,000 som. However, the document does not indicate how the Ministry of internal Affairs intends to distinguish the driver of the RHD car that just goes about his business, and who works as a taxi driver.

As a result, this year at the meeting of Parliament, a proposal was made to ban the use of right-hand drive cars as taxis in Kyrgyzstan not in 2016, but in 2018 or even 2020.

03 The tariffs growth for the car clearance

Tariffs on the Car clearance in Kyrgyzstan has grown since 1st January 2016.

A single rate of duties has been approved in accordance with temporary instruction on the movement of vehicles across the customs border of the Eurasian Economic Union in the Kyrgyz Republic by individuals for personal use.

04 The emergence of the state insurance company

From January 2016 the state insurance company started to operate In Kyrgyzstan. At the same time began to act the law on



compulsory insurance of property and vehicles. This is done to ensure that in the event of a natural disaster compensation will be paid by the insurance company, not the government.

05 Airport tax increased to \$15

From 1 January 2016 the airport tax has increased from \$10 to \$15. "In 2000 the national aviation company, "Kyrgyzstan Aba Joldoru" , predecessor of the "International Manas Airport" took a loan from Japan in amount of \$50 billion. There was introduced an airport tax of \$10 to cover duties on this loan. All this money went to repayment of this loan. The tax increased to \$15. From these resources we are going not only to repay, but also to develop the infrastructure of the five international airports as network of "International Manas Airport," - Chairman of JSC "International Airport 'Manas'", Emir Chukuev, explained of the innovation.



Président de « L'aéroport international « Manas », Emir Chukuev



06 New taxes for business

From January 1, 2016, taxing from sales of exports of goods, works, services and their implementation outside the territory of the Kyrgyz Republic cancelled. The registration threshold for VAT increased 2 times (from 4 million to 8 million som).

From 1 July 2016, sales tax rates will be set in realization of goods, works, services taxed with VAT and/or

- a) in cash at a rate of 1% - for trading activities and 2% - for other activities;
- b) in cashless form - 0%.

Sale tax rates are provided at the rate of 2% for the banks and 5% for activities in the field of mobile communication.

The law twice lowered rates of the single tax under the simplified system of taxation in the sale of goods, works and services paid in non-cash form.

Along with this, until September 1, 2018 the existing exemptions for income tax and VAT for enterprises of food and processing industry engaged in the processing of agricultural products are retained.

The law comes into force on 1 January 2016 with the exception of certain of its provisions, which will enter into force on 1 July 2016.

07 A single market of pharmaceuticals within the EAEU

From the beginning of 2016, in the EEU a single market for medicines and medical devices will be created. Now for all medicines on the territory of the Union will operate a single registry, a single set of registration regulations and examination, labeling, etc.



The basis of common rules were taken as principles and approaches of the European Union. The unified register will give free access to medicines in all countries of the EEU, in each bubble there will be no need to obtain several registration certificates according to the rules of each country.

Costs will be reduced, to bring medicine to the market, to adjust its delivery and production will be easier - it will have a positive impact on prices. On the territory of the EAEU member-countries only medical preparations in compliance with internationally accepted standards GMP will be implemented.

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08 Poverty and hunger eradication

Through participation in the Anniversary session of the UN General Assembly and the UN Summit on sustainable development in September 2015 in New York (USA), Kyrgyzstan supported the adoption of the 17 new global sustainable development Goals to 2030. Thus, Kyrgyzstan has committed itself to start from 1 January 2016 implementation of such an important set of goals of eradicating poverty and hunger, economic development, access to quality education, access to affordable energy, etc.

09 Pension EEU member countries

From January 1, the agreement on pension provision entered into force within the Eurasian economic Union, according to which citizens of countries of the Union will receive a guarantee pension and seniority in the case that work in one country of the EEU, and are citizens of another country of the Union.

After the entry into force of the international Treaty of the Kyrgyz citizens will be able to work in any country of the EEU without loss of seniority and pension during employment in another country of the Union. For example, if the Kyrgyz citizen after 2016 worked for several years in Belarus the pension for this period will pay the Belarusian side, a few years in Russia – Russian and etc. All earned will be transferred to our social fund and paid out upon reaching retirement age.

Such a measure is necessary for the preservation of the main functions of the pension - old-age provision, while the one-time payment usually spent just once, as it got.

10 Mortgage loans

At the end of last year, the government represented by Prime Minister Temir Sariyev has promised to begin implementation of the state mortgage programme from January 2016.

It is planned to allocate 10 billion som on share capital from the budget and add funds from the Russian-Kyrgyz development Fund.

" There are 7 billion som now. It is provided for the construction of 1-, 2-, 3-room apartments. Mortgage loans will be given in the regions also. Credit will be issued for 15 years, the down payment is 10-30%.

http://zanoza.kg/doc/331060_top_10_zakonov_kotorye_n_achali_de_tml



In Kyrgyzstan, there are four types of compulsory insurance. We propose to take the point on this subject with a specialist, Enver Havazov. In the explanations on the functioning of this system in Kyrgyzstan, he tells us what, from his point of view, should be done by insurance companies, government commitment to the improvement and development of this sector.

Today in Kyrgyzstan, 17 insurance companies have a license, but only about six actually work. This is because they operate in a narrow segment. For example, in FEZ organizations engaged in insurance only operate in these areas. There are captive companies, owned by banks or holding companies. They operate on insurance, mortgage property, life and health of borrowers to banks or private businesses. All companies are commercial organizations, there is no state-owned insurance company in the country. Regarding the need for state-owned insurance companies, it is believed that the market should be competitive. In addition, already had a sad experience, when there is



allegedly state structure "Kyrgyz reinsurance company." The meaning of its appearance was the fact that the insurers had the opportunity to reinsure part of the risks in the Kyrgyz

Republic. But it belonged to persons close to the leadership of the country, eliminated the good undertakings. It is clear that some major projects had to "share" in the voluntary-compulsory order. However, five years ago because of the revolution of state structure had ceased to exist.

Today, insurance companies can offer all the same thing as their foreign colleagues: the insurance of life and health against accidents, property, vehicles, construction risks, cargo, aviation risks, civil liability, medical insurance, etc. Recently, we have the possibility to provide insurance coverage in cases of civil unrest and riots for a fee. But it is not always welcomed by our foreign partners, knowing about the situation in our country. No one wants to take on more responsibility.

Individual insurance is still not popular. For example, in the US it is a prerequisite for the life of the citizen. In the Kyrgyz Republic there is no compulsory insurance that would cover the individuals. But for businesses, it is not working. In the absence of the popularity of insurance among the civilian population, there are several reasons.

The first is due to the fact that local insurers - is the management of the insurance company, and agent organizations are poorly developed. This is due to the fact that the first kind of companies do not need to keep a large staff, because for the most part we are engaged in the insurance of large risks — factories, industries, big business, representative offices and branches of international organizations. Large customers, large legal entities, provide great performance. And another thing, this activity has led to the fact that all corporate market is already insured. Now we just do what is luring customers from each other, not paying much attention to the civil sector.



The second reason is related to the feature of providing services. To offer not a product but a service, which is insurance, when the person does not know what it is, is very difficult. The insurance policy or insurance contract limited to one year. When the insured event occurs the insurer is obliged to pay damages. But it so happens to that the client, nothing happens. In such cases, the amount paid for an insurance policy is not refundable.

Agent same insurance companies whose activities are carried out through the work of a large number of agents, without the introduction of compulsory insurance of natural persons in our country have nothing to do. The reason for the unpopularity of compulsory insurance of legal entities one: if there are laws on compulsory insurance there is no sanction for non-compliance. With the adoption of these laws in 2010 appropriate amendments were not adopted to the Administrative code of the Kyrgyz Republic. The law on compulsory insurance of civil liability will enter into force on 7 February this year. Its average tariff will make 2,210 som per a year.

The main purpose of the introduction of MTPL is to protect the rights and legitimate interests of victims in motor vehicles and property interests of car owners.

The Republic joined the EAEU and the government will have to seriously engage in the development of insurance in the country. In Russia, Kazakhstan and Belarus obligatory insurance has been practiced long ago, and we have to adapt to the overall system. From post-Soviet republics only in KR there is no MTPL (compulsory third party liability insurance). We have a growing number of accidents, and we are faced with this problem, when a party



to the accident cannot receive from the perpetrator of the amount of compensation of the caused damage. The courts in this respect do not

help, because they can award to pay 200 som per month for damages of several thousand dollars. In the case of MTPL the loss will be covered by the insurance company, do without the assistance of the courts, law enforcement agencies and hassle. If we get to introduce compulsory insurance, it will be a step forward to the development of the insurance market. While the increase in the quantity and quality of insurance companies and their reserves can have a beneficial effect on the economy. In General, in developed countries insurance companies are significant players in the economy, addressing major investors in various projects.

If a foreign national intends a long time to stay in the territory of the Republic and to use the car, then it is better to purchase a policy. This system will be used up until the insurance policy becomes the same for all countries of the EAEU.

Sputnik Кыргызстан:

<http://ru.sputnik.kg/opinion/20150327/1014852037.html#ixzz3x7A>

[wh.tif](#)

<http://ru.sputnik.kg/society/20151202/1020579808.html>

Compulsory types of insurance in Kyrgyzstan

Compulsory Employer's Liability Insurance for Injury to Life and Health of Employees in the Performance of Labor (Service) Duties

The object of insurance is the property interest of the Insured, associated with its obligation to compensate injury caused to the life and health of employees in the performance of labor (service) duties.

Insured event recognizes injury to life and (or) health workers of the Insured in the performance of their work duties in the interest of the Insured.

Under the harm to life and (or) health worker Insured means:

- temporary total or partial loss of ability to work due to the Insured workers employment injury;
- permanent total or partial loss of ability to work due to the Insured workers employment injury;
- the death of an employee of the Insured, which was the result of an employment injury.

The sum insured is set at not less than the annual payroll.

Insurance rates are differentiated according to the type of economic activity, depending on the class of professional risks and categories of staff: production, administration and management and support staff

Compulsory Liability Insurance of Organizations Operating Hazardous Production Facilities

The object of insurance is the property interest of the organization operating hazardous production facilities associated with the obligation established by the civil legislation of Kyrgyz Republic, indemnify injuries caused to life, health and (or) property of third parties, as well as the environment as a result of accidents at hazardous production facilities.

Compulsory Liability Insurance of the Carrier of Dangerous Goods

The object of insurance is the property interests of the Insured related to its obligation established by the civil legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic, indemnify caused injuries / damages to life, health, property of third parties and the environment in the process of transport of dangerous goods.

Compulsory Liability Insurance of the Carrier to Passengers

The object of insurance is the property interests of the Insured (Carrier) associated with the obligation of compensation for harm caused to life, health and / or damage to property of passengers, ie passengers' luggage at their every transportation by automobile, air, rail and water transport.



<http://www.jubileeininsurance.kg/en/for-corporate-customers/compulsory-types-of-insurance/>

Kyrgyz Government's plan for 2016 aimed at minimizing external risk factors

The Kyrgyz Government's plan in 2016 aimed at minimizing external risk factors. Prime Minister Temir Sariev said at a government meeting.

According to him, the situation on the world markets is changing rapidly. And we have to adopt the government's plan for 2016. The new plan will be aimed at minimizing the external factors, mainly related to lower economic growth in the world and in the EEU space," said Sariev.

The Prime Minister also noted that except for anti-crisis measures the plan includes of specific measures to implement the program of the government "Stability, confidence and new opportunities", which was approved in November, by the new Parliament. The key among 11 priority programs should be:

- Maintaining macroeconomic stability;
- Achieving high level of investments;
- Export promotion and support of import substitution;
- Regional development;
- Measures on social support of vulnerable layers of population.

"The government's plan for 2016 includes a large amount of work, aimed primarily at carrying out anti-crisis measures, the introduction of new and increasing existing production capacities, holding an open competition for deposits, the development of transport infrastructure," said Sariev.

In the anti-crisis plan of the government envisaged de-dollarization, export development and ensuring energy independence. This year, the Cabinet of Ministers is expected to increase and reach its production capacity of deposits "Taldy-Bulak Levoberezhny", "Bozymchak", "Katie", "Jeruy", "Ishtamberdy" and Tokmok, Kara-Balta oil refinery and launch of the refinery in the town of Tash-Komur.

In addition, this year it is planned to hold competitions on the field, "Aksay", "Sulukta", "Akart" and "Kara-Keche".

The development of transport infrastructure will be continued the works on construction and rehabilitation alternative road North-South, Issyk-Kul ring road, the runway of airport "Osh" and the railway China-Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan.

Source: <http://www.knews.kg/econom/74206/>



In Kyrgyzstan appears railway connecting the Northern and southern regions of the country

For the first time in Kyrgyzstan there will be a railroad that will connect the northern and southern regions of the country. Prime minister Temir Sariev discussed the details of the project at a government meeting.

According to him, this year the construction of the China-Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan railway will begin.. Along with this, the Government intends to hold an open tender for the integrated development of coal deposit Kara-Keche, which includes the construction of the railway Balykchy-Kochkor Karakeche. Sariyev noted that the railroad from Kochkor can connect with the road China-Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan.

"The construction of the railway from Balykchi to the field will allow to deliver coal from Kara-Keche to Bishkek TPP. After the reconstruction of the capital's TPP, it will be fully translated into Kara Kachinski coal. Every year, energy Central will consume up to 1.7 million tons of coal," - said the head of government.

Source: <http://www.knews.kg/society/74225/>

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In this issue of the magazine "Club France", we would like to tell our readers about the project carried out by the "Francévasion" Institution, a non-profit organization based in Bishkek, which specializes in teaching French language.

Stéphane ERRAUD, Director of Francévasion, specialized in teaching French as a foreign language through online lessons.

"After a certain time of teaching French classical method in our structure, we thought that there was no need to continue. The lack of coherence between "different actors of the French language" and a progressive abandonment of that language in the capital, persuaded us to change our path," says Stéphane, raising the issue of language teaching.

"However, knowing that French is the most widely used and studied language in the world, we find it necessary to consciously use this privilege. So we had the idea to invite a native French speaker who would be able to travel in Kyrgyzstan and to give online lessons. It is not quite several hours a day, but it allows volunteers to earn needed pocket money and to pay the expenses for accommodation and food in the different surroundings of Kyrgyzstan, as well as to move," continues the Director of Francévasion.

Also, volunteers are to be involved in various affairs of rural life or cities, depending where they live. Mostly, they help local teachers of French in rare public school where French is still taught.

If you are interested in the project or you have questions, you can contact the following email address:

contact@francevasion.org

In this issue, we would like to introduce you to ALEXIS SANTRAINE, French volunteer, who shares all his experience in teaching the French language in remote regions of Kyrgyzstan, as for example, Karakol and Toktogul in his blog. He arrived in our country in October 2015.

- Could you introduce yourself and tell us how you came to Kyrgyzstan?

I came from the Eastern part of France, located near the town of Angers, where I grew up and studied in various areas : light, sound, and commerce. But the desire to discover other regions of the world, other cultures and ways of life was much stronger than my will to continue my studies.

Quiet by nature and open to everything, I went on a trip to Japan, more precisely to the North of the country. (Prefecture Aomori/Hokkaido)

To be able to live a certain time in a world that differs from ours (East), but especially while living among the population is an unforgettable experience. After this great positive adventure, I started looking for a new epic. I was looking through the various options on the Internet. I came across the site, Club Teli, which I was signed a few months earlier.

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One ad caught my attention. It was written by Francévasion, about the project of teaching the French language on Kyrgyz land. Structure Francévasion offered a very interesting proposal with a successful organization. Lessons online with students from all over the world, but also rare French courses in schools throughout Kyrgyzstan. But not forgetting about voluntary care in foster families, I contacted someone who was a source of such opportunities. His name was Stefan, the Creator of Francévasion. After our first conversation, I immediately recognized that I could be a needed teacher. Simple in communication, but a very good teacher and lovely views.

INTERVIEW

- **Tell us about your life in the towns and villages of the Kyrgyz Republic?**

My journey as a teacher began from Toktogul. A small, charming city that has a small artificial lake around the mountains. I immediately joined in the rhythm of life of its inhabitants. My days consisted of teaching lessons online and also in high school. My free time was devoted to help the person who had arranged for my reception in the family, or building relationships with the school or University.



- **What was the reception for you in the regions of the country?**

The reception, which I was lucky enough to have at my hosts, was outstanding. I am often considered a guest, and despite my wish to help to do something around the house, was regarded as an insult and, the owners refused my participation. As a guest, I was constantly using it and if the desire took me want help for a specific task, they were unhappy and refused participation on my part. Of course, the hospitality of the Kyrgyz is just simply incredible, even amazing! I spent nice moments in



reception family. Not being able to speak neither Russian, nor Kyrgyz languages. My exchanges were heartfelt with real desire to learn both. The

desire to discover the Kyrgyz culture and people, who accepted me, which gave birth to such good relations, to the extent that I could be a part of this family.

- **Tell us, what relationship was with the schools, the teachers or with the people. How did you find contact with people, if you do not speak neither Russian, nor Kyrgyz?**

My arrival in school was always welcomed. Teachers enthusiastically wanted to meet a French volunteer within their walls. Nazgul, Deputy Director of the school, without hesitation gave me free classes to help unload her schedule. All the people who trusted me, at first it surprised me, but then the desire appeared to do everything better and presence at the school became my priority. The pupils were curious at my presence, and from my slightest movement.

The news flew through the institution in record time. The students themselves tried to be more serious, and did everything possible to progress in learning French. I had friendly relationship more than as teacher-students, allowance of some fun, caused a light atmosphere in class.

Regarding my communication with the population, in total, it was positive. Our communication has always ended in smiles. Body language, facial expression, signs and knowledge of several important words were sufficient for me to understand and to explain, why I'm here, in Kyrgyzstan. I was kind of representation for all. The children especially were very curious. But one smile was enough to break the ice. Once again, I note that it is possible not to speak the language to spend many hours with children, playing with them. Often it's a very surprised woman and made her smile.



INTERVIEW

- **Let's talk about Kyrgyz society. What surprised you in Kyrgyz traditions and what you liked?**

If I had to choose one Kyrgyz tradition, it would be a celebration of the new year, which I was fortunate enough to meet with a Kyrgyz family in Karakol. In addition, in the holiday hustle and bustle of the busy city, we went to visit all the families, from one door to another in order to feel the atmosphere of new year holiday. The table is filled with all sorts of goodies, different colors. The main dishes consisted of lamb.

For me, ordinary Europeans, the meat was too much. But I'm happy to accept every dish that I was offered to try and I valued every meal! Now I will talk about a little delicate part. Tradition to divide into the pieces lamb's meat. By tradition, it is necessary that every guest got a piece. Particular attention was paid to have someone who was engaged in serving (who cut the meat). Of course, my friend Akay cut me very first piece. That was the eye, so I always kept contacts and relationships. Okay, 3 liters of juice, I closed my eyes and swallowed all by itself! After that we went to the parents of Akai in the neighboring village. A short trip on a horse and another slaughtering of a sheep. Once again I was in a position of weakness. But I rolled up my sleeves and began to roast a sheep's head and legs following the Kyrgyz tradition.

- **How long do you plan to spend more in Kyrgyzstan, and what are your future plans?**

I think I will stay a few months in Kyrgyzstan. I would also like to visit the south of the country, to go to Osh, Batken and Naryn. To complete the project begun with Francevision, but especially my meetings with people I met! After that I do not yet have a specific project. There are several options. Back to Japan to work or learn to dive in Thailand in the form of internships. I go by the will of the wind, by selecting the project that I like. And who knows, maybe I'll stay here in Kyrgyzstan!

- **What are your conclusions on the teaching of French in our country. What needs to be improved, what should be paid attention to?**

After a few months, my conclusions on the teaching of French, may be too hasty. However, I can state the fact that I noticed in the villages and towns, is that teachers are mainly on their own, without the program, and some are deprived of various furniture. However, the positive fact we can assume that a lot of young people want to study French, especially the female half. Some teachers are very motivated and would like to open more classes in the villages! In my opinion, if you create a phased program for each year of study, creating a group of teachers of French and Francophone stakeholders, improving communication and providing mutual support, it would be a good way to improve the situation in teaching.



- **Your wishes for Francophones in Kyrgyzstan**

First of all I would like to thank the "Club France", in particular Angelina Mokh, for giving me this opportunity to do this interview. I got a real pleasure from it. In conclusion, I wish all French speaking people, living in this fantastic country has a lot of happiness! Not to run after him, like a butterfly that constantly flies. Enjoy these moments and let the happiness come to you.

Alexis Santraine, for «Club France»

French association “The Earth in motion” is in Kyrgyzstan

“Club France” Foundation, touched by the story of the French association “The Earth in motion”, led by its creators, Sabina and Jerome Bergami, would like to present them to you. We are talking about two travelers, who were united their destinies 10 years ago to devote themselves to a noble human adventure.



Their route began from Venice, Marco Polo's city, 19 months ago. Their journey on foot will last almost two years on two ancient commercial ways: “The Via Egnatia” (That links Durres city in Albania with Istanbul with

According to them, the earth in motion is the earth itself, which meets people with the words:

“Don't forget: I'm who feeds you, who you are walking on, and where you will return one day. I'm a primary breadwinner. All you own and share is me, I'm yours common property, both material and spiritual.”

As Sabrina says, “In every country that we visit, we stop at schools, universities, villages, cultural institutions where we organize meetings with children, parents, students. These meetings are held in the form of dialogue, by way of ground exchange ceremony”.

In Bishkek we plan to hold this ceremony with students of French Alliance, as well as in the walls of National University and school №26. **This way Kyrgyz land will be exchanged and mixed with the world's land.**

“It is very simple, but at the same time a strong gesture that reminds us our origin, that shows our identity, that we make by the sign of respect among various cultures and symbol of peace among people: we gift a world's ground and back we get ground of their country, ground that we will carry mixing it with the ground of five continents till the end of our world round journey” Sabina continues to share.

For travelers, this symbolic ground exchange is a good way to spread their values that are closely related to their journey.

- it is essential to us to find *spiritual and physical* bond between a man and Earth, considered as Earth – Mother, that gives life to all creatures, and where we all return eventually;

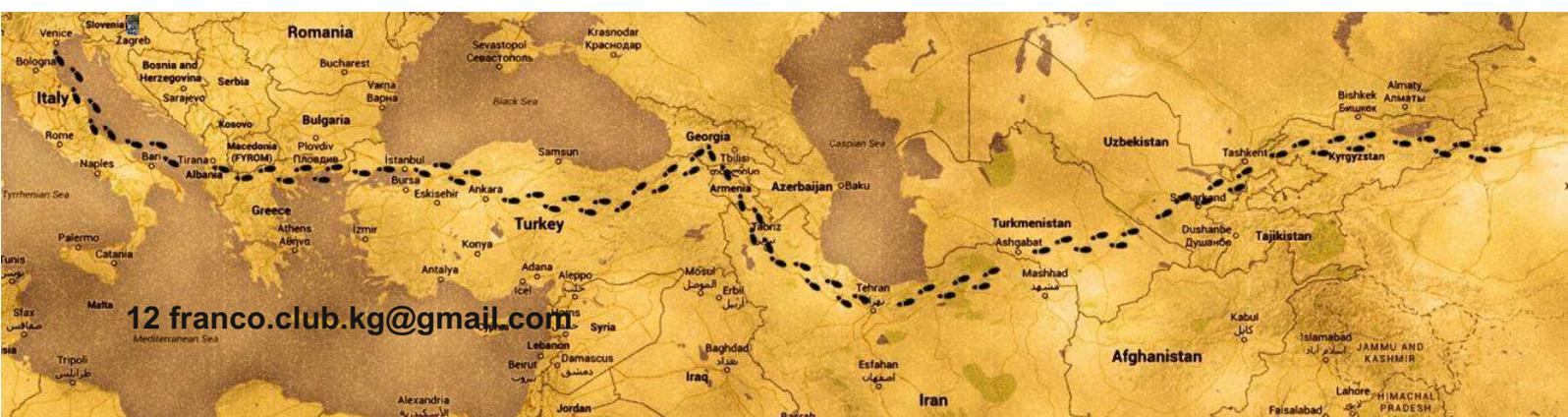
- if we manage to find conception of this bond than we can understand why it is so important and essential to save *our planet*;

China). It is almost 7 thousand kilometers (their final destination is Kashgar city).

After walking 5,250 km from Venice to [Samarkand](#) in Uzbekistan, they reached Kyrgyzstan, from where they will continue their walking tour at the end of March, to walk 1,200 km for 3 months, that separate them from Kashgar to China-their destination.

“Walking this way, our wish is to symbolically transform these commercial ways into an exchange message. That's why we carry two leather pouches attached to our rucksacks, treasure, that unites people - it is ground of the world”, Jerome Bergami explains the meaning of their journey.

Throughout their journey, Jerome and Sabina share ground of five continents of the planet from country to country, from nation to nation, from culture to culture, from confession to confession with thousands of children, men and women to strengthen the link that connects all people and also the link that connects them with the Earth.



JOURNEY

- importance of human meetings without narrow thoughts of profit and cost efficiency
- walking is a tool of *natural communication and peace movement* among people.
- courage to overcome a sport challenge.

The journey is “*a school of life*”. We would like to tell everybody, especially young people, about wish and sense of journey. “Don't be afraid to meet new people and world”, we are not tired to repeat this message.

This symbolic ground exchange also carries learning purposes: we are talking about creation of a circle on exchange and friendship between all school institutions where travelers stop. They bind teachers and pupils to each other to develop different projects. The idea also consists of opportunity to widen children's perception and understanding of the world where they live.

At this moment, there are 10 school-partners, which are



the part of this exchange circle: France, Romania, Albania, Greece, Turkey, Georgia, Armenia, Iran, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan.

At the destination of their path in China, which is already coming, Jerome and Sabina are not going to stop on their achievements. They plan to continue with enthusiasm, as they believe, “natural continuation of their activity.”

“This continuation connected with the first value that we pointed above – conception that unites a human being with Earth, as Earth-Mother that gives life to everything. To find this connection means to find harmony, as a live foundation of our stability in this world.

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The question is to find out where this connection is traced back in our day? What people, what culture are its messengers? This single connection is kept and adapts between Man and Earth in the modern world? - Philosophical questions the two travelers ask of themselves.”

To answer these questions, they are ready to meet communities, which they think and hope, embody in our time their lifestyle, traditions, and rites.

Sabina and Jerome enthusiastically adds: "the Second part of our journey, which we plan to continue, will be not on foot. But we also keep in our hearts the connection of our journey, where we put a man at the center of our project. On the one hand, we symbolically re-formed walking tour in the way of exchange; on the other hand, we remain closer to human concerns - we pass the Great Silk Road, to reach the first migration path: this path crosses Eastern Siberia, crossing the Bering Strait, passing to Alaska, along the coast of the Pacific ocean, and then descending lower and lower to Tierra del Fuego. This long people's way carried out between 15,000 and 10,000 BC".

Finally, we can say that our journey has a double meaning: it is about the initiation of social and cultural x-ray of the planet, for an overall gathering of information and transfer of experience and spirituality of action," sums up Jerome.

In conclusion, "Club France" foundation wishes the travelers good luck on their journey and their desire to keep the message of the connection of Man with the Earth, sharing with different peoples, countries, cultures and communities.

For financial support of Sabina's and Jerome's journey, you can visit their website, where you can find information about their journey and actions

<http://www.laterreenmarche.com/books.html>



"Club France" Foundation handed gifts to children of needy families in Kara-Balta city

December 28, 2015 in the House of Culture named after Lenin in the city of Kara-Balta, representatives of the "Club France" gave gifts to children of needy families at a concert.

The New Year's concert was held on the initiative of Akim of the district and the mayor of Kara-Balta. The children were shown a concert program and presented new year gifts prepared by "Club France".

The Chairman of the Board "Club France", Yvan Louis Paul Grac, said in his congratulatory speech that in giving gifts to children he would like to bring a little joy into their difficult lives.



"I express solidarity to needy families. It is very important that every child had a sense of holiday and New Year. In this holiday, I wanted to wish the children and their parents that their lives would improve, so everyone would be able to get a good education that provide them dignity lives", - expressed Yvan Grac.

"This year we decided to diversify the show – not dancing around Christmas tree, as it was usual, but put a play with participation of Santa Claus (Ded Moroz), Snow Maiden, and cartoon heroes "Masha and Bear", - told Anarkul Niyazova, the Deputy Akim of social affairs of the Jaiil district.

In total, 200 children from Kara-Balta city and the villiages of Jaiil district were invited to the charity concert. Each child got a New Year present with sweets shaped as a house. The list of invitations has been established together with district administration of social development, education department, heads of village administration and mayoralty.

"Club France" Foundation wishes all children success in their study, believe in Year!





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