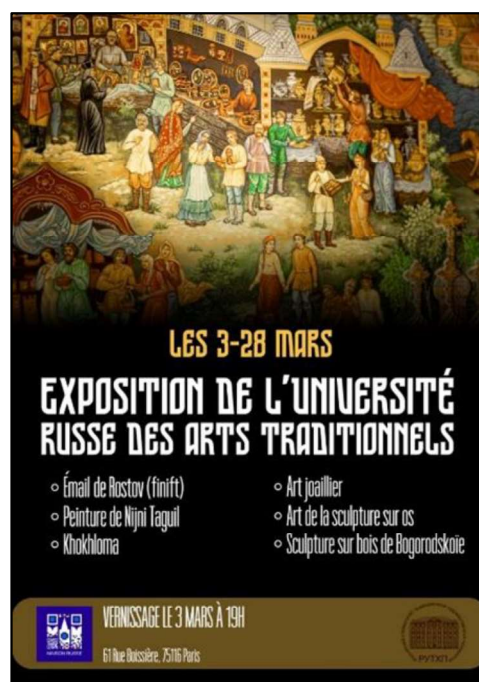
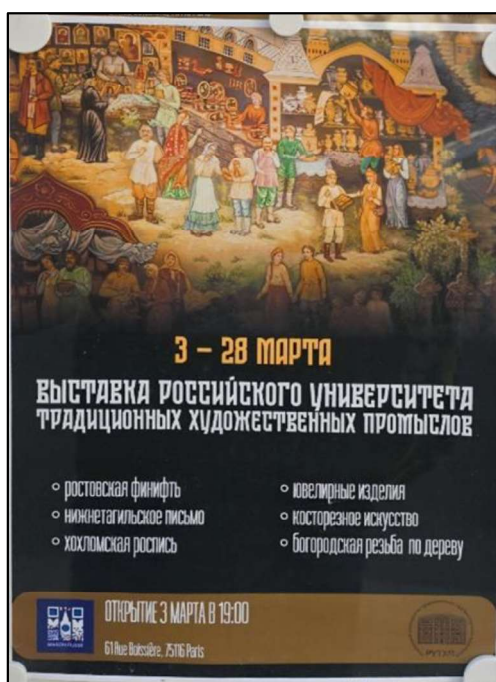


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**Exhibition of the Russian university of traditional art crafts “Triumph of traditions: masterpieces of artistic crafts from various regions of Russia”
at the Russian house of science and culture in Paris**

The ceremonial opening of an exhibition showcasing the richness of Russia’s traditional art crafts took place at the Russian house of science and culture in Paris (Figs. 1⁴, 2). The exposition, organized by the Russian university of traditional art crafts and its branches, immerses visitors in the world of unique art.



Figs. 1, 2. Posters “Triumph of traditions: masterpieces of artistic crafts from various regions of Russia”. Russian house of science and culture in Paris. 2026

The opening ceremony featured welcoming remarks by distinguished guests. K.V. Rynza, deputy permanent representative of the Russian Federation to UNESCO, emphasized the significance of cultural interaction: “Such exhibitions bring peoples and states closer together. They reveal Russia from a new, unexpected perspective – as a creative force. The Russian people create beauty, spreading their talent and kindness throughout the world”.

⁴ Figs. 1-13. Photo by the author of the article.

S.V. Zhilina, acting director of the Russian house of science and culture in Paris, thanked the university for organizing the event and for the unique exhibits, specially brought from Russia for the exhibition.

V.F. Maksimovich, president of the Russian university of traditional art crafts, addressed the guests with a speech about the history of the university and the diversity of traditional applied arts represented. In her remarks, she noted that “art unites and erases borders with its beauty” and expressed gratitude to the administration of the Russian house for the warm reception (Fig. 3).

Fig. 3. Opening of the exhibition “Triumph of traditions: masterpieces of artistic crafts from various regions of Russia”. Welcoming speech by

V.F. Maksimovich, president of the Russian university of traditional art crafts. Russian house of science and culture in Paris. 2026



The exhibition showcased bone carving and jewelry art, artistic lace and embroidery, fabric painting (batik), Bogorodskoye wood carving, lacquer miniature painting, as well as painting on wood and metal (Figs. 4, 5). For the first time, Zhostovo trays created by the first graduates of the basic Zhostovo artistic painting department were presented. This department was established by the Fedoskino institute of lacquer miniature painting on the basis of the operating enterprise – LLC “Zhostovo factory”.

A series of master classes for the guests of the Russian house was conducted by M.A. Saltanov, director of the Fedoskino institute of lacquer miniature painting, a branch of the Russian university of traditional art crafts. Under his guidance, all interested visitors had the opportunity to learn the secrets of one of the most vibrant types of traditional applied art – Zhostovo decorative painting (Figs. 6, 7).



Figs. 4, 5. Exhibition “Triumph of traditions: masterpieces of artistic crafts from various regions of Russia”. Russian house of science and culture in Paris. 2026



Figs. 6, 7. Masterclass “Zhostovo flower in the 'Alla prima' technique”.
Russian house of science and culture in Paris. 2026

The world of jewelry art was introduced to the visitors by M.V. Churakova, head of the department of jewelry art at the Russian university of traditional art crafts. She informed the participants about the intricacies of working with metal and stones and demonstrated contemporary approaches to the creation of jewelry pieces (Figs. 8, 9).



Figs. 8, 9. Masterclass on jewelry art “Creating rings with decorative patterns using the technique of jewelry stamping”. Russian house of science and culture in Paris. 2026

Thanks to V.N. Kolobov, head of the department of bone carving art, the visitors' introduction to the art of artistic bone carving turned into an exciting immersion into the regional, historical, artistic and technological traditions of the Kholmogory craft (Figs. 10, 11). Engraved and relief plates featuring elements of northern ornamentation, created by the masterclass participants, became not merely souvenirs but genuine testimonies of engagement with this art.



Figs. 10, 11. Masterclass on bone carving art “Color engraving on bone”.
Russian house of science and culture in Paris. 2026

Particular interest was aroused by the masterclasses on Bogorodskoye artistic wood carving, conducted by E.S. Evdokimova, a teacher from the Bogorodskoye institute of artistic wood carving (Figs. 12, 13). Some participants meticulously carved the head of an owl, emphasizing its expressive eyes and neat beak, then moved on to the wings and feathers. Others enthusiastically carved the figure of a bear, striving to convey the animal’s strength by shaping its head, rounded ears and powerful front and hind legs, followed by the soft texture of its fur. Each figurine acquired its own character and every guest left with not just a wooden toy, but a piece of the soul of Bogorodskoye art.



Figs. 12, 13. Masterclass on making flat items from linden wood slices.
Russian house of science and culture in Paris. 2026

The practical value of the masterclasses lies in their ability to engage participants in an active dialogue with Russian culture. By creating their own works under the guidance of artists, participants not only acquire skills but also become inspired by the beauty of traditional applied art. An invaluable advantage of these masterclasses is the creation of a creative environment for children living abroad, addressing the lack of such opportunities.

During the visit of the delegation from the Russian university of traditional art crafts to Paris, over 120 masterclasses were conducted, attended by more than 600 participants. The attendees included both compatriots and representatives of the French public: preschool children, school students, young people and adults. Among the guests were students and teachers from the Alexander Pushkin secondary school (Varna, Bulgaria), students from Grenoble University (Valence, southern France), participants of the international young readers' competition "Living classic", as well as educators from Lyon.

The exhibition "Triumph of traditions: masterpieces of artistic crafts from various regions of Russia" and the masterclasses held at the Russian house of science and culture in Paris serve a dual function: they not only introduce an international audience to the history and techniques of unique Russian crafts but also become an important element of cultural communication. Such events contribute to the formation of a positive image of Russia, highlighting its rich artistic heritage and creative potential.