

«The most beautiful country»

«The most beautiful country» - is the first own photo contest of the Russian Geographical Society. It is aimed at the wild nature conservation in Russia and education of caring attitude to the environment through the art of photography. The contest started in June of 2015, and has become annual from the year of 2016. The main terms of this large-scale media project – that the photos of the participants must be made only on the territory of our country. More than 25 thousand people took part in the first photo contest, who sent about 200 thousand works for the first three months. Many experts note that it is unprecedented number for the project dedicated to the wild nature. There are no restrictions on age and place of residence of the participants according to the rules of this creative contest. That is why the photos were coming from all over the world. The representatives of Russia, Armenia, Belarus, Belgium, Great Britain, Germany, Greece, Denmark, Israel, Italy, Lithuania, Moldova, Pakistan, Poland, Republic of Abkhazia, Serbia, USA, Ukraine, Finland, France, Czech Republic, Estonia, Japan and other countries took part in the contest. The contest had been held in 12 nominations: «Landscape», «Animals», «Birds», «Macro», «Underwater World», «The peoples of Russia» and the other. The winners were determined by the jury chaired by the President of the Russian Geographical Society Sergey Shoygu and world famous photographer of the wild nature Sergey Gorshkov. It was planned in the beginning that the experts will determine the owner of the main prize who will get the title of «The photographer of the world according to the Russian Geographical Society». But at the final meeting of the jury there was taken an unprecedented decision – instead of the one winner there were chosen eleven! That is to say, the laureates of the photo contest «The most beautiful country» became the authors of the best pictures of each nomination. Memorable diplomas and certificates for 500 thousand rubles were handed in to the winners of the contest by the first persons in the country and well-known public figures. The photo exhibition, where the best contest pictures were presented, had been held in the Central House of Artists in Moscow from the 30th of October to the 8th of November of 2015 within the frames of the Second Festival of the Russian Geographical Society. In 2016 the collection of wonderful works will be exhibited in the regions of Russia and abroad.