Release of a new journal is a remarkable event for the scientific community. But the first issue of the Lurian journal is particularly noteworthy, since it springs into existence in the dramatic COVID-19 pandemic context!

We can’t but agree that a certain professional continuity can be observed in it. Likewise, during WW2, psychologists did not stand aside from the common cause. Many of them made an invaluable contribution to the Victory, using psychological research findings to solve urgent applied issues set by wartime. Among them was Alexander Romanovich Luria, who gained...
Greetings

a worldwide recognition as a founder of the Soviet neuropsychological school.

He wrote: “The whole country was seized by a spirit of shared responsibility and common goal. Each of us knew that we had to unite with our compatriots in order to confront the mortal danger. Each of us had to find one’s own place in this struggle — either to defend our country on the battlefield, or work in the defense industry that was evacuated to remote areas of the country, or restore health and working ability of the wounded” (Luria A. R. (1982). The Stages Gone Through: A Scientific Autobiography (p. 129). Moscow: Publ. MSU). In the first months of the war in the Southern Urals, in the settlement of Kisegach near Chelyabinsk, Alexander Romanovich was a head of the home front neurosurgical rehabilitation hospital.

Today, in the current pandemic situation, Lurian neuropsychologists work together with doctors in neurological clinics which are redesigned to provide medical care to patients with COVID-19. Armed with the achievements of the Russian School of Psychology laid by L. S. Vygotsky — A. N. Leontiev — A. R. Luria, they study the negative psychological phenomena caused by the pandemic; develop clinical recommendations for patients, their relatives, medical workers, psychologists themselves, that help to cope with the negative effects of coronavirus infection; provide counselling for all target groups that are most vulnerable to the pandemic.

In this situation, my colleagues and I (A. Sh. Tkhostov, V. V. Drummer, N. A. Varako, A. A. Skvortsov, M. S. Kovyazin) had the opportunity to unite ef-
forts and render assistance to the team of doctors and psychologists of the Federal State Budgetary Institution “Federal Center for Brain and Neurotechnology FMBA”, under the direction of V. V. Belousova and R. T. Tairova. As in those far-off wartime years, doctors again turned to psychologists for help to overcome various difficulties that arose or escalated during the epidemic. It included assistance to medical workers who face the most severe stress resulting from the changing working environment; to their relatives (including children and the older generation), who are in constant suspenseful wait to meet their loved ones working in dangerous conditions and fear for their life and health; to patients who face uncertainty caused by the serious disease; to their relatives who are unable to communicate with their family members and medical staff; to many other categories of people that need psychological assistance.

I am very grateful to the entire staff of the Center for the unique experience that the psychologists of Moscow State University named after M. V. Lomonosov acquired while exercising their professional duty in the adverse and unpredictable situation of the pandemic.

Rapid changes in the living conditions of modern society that include a wide spread of digital technologies, the use of artificial intelligence, increased informatization, virtualization alongside with uncertainty, turbulence and social polyphony create new challenges for psychologists. A scope of these challenges is vast: from the development and implementation of new ethical standards, risk assessment and forecasting of a person’s socialization up to creating unique opportunities for solving одолевать негативные последствия коронавирусной инфекции; осуществляют консультативную работу для всех целевых групп, которые оказались наиболее уязвимыми для последствий пандемии.

В этой ситуации мне и моим коллекгам (А. Ш. Тхостову, В. В. Баранщи-ковой, Н. А. Варако, А. А. Скворцову, М. С. Ковязиной) также довелось помогать коллективу врачей и психологов Федерального центра мозга и нейротехнологий под руководством В. В. Белоусова и Р. Т. Таировой. Как и в далекие военные годы, врачи вновь обратились за помощью к психологам для преодоления различных трудностей, которые возникли или обострились на фоне эпидемии: это и помощь медицинским работникам, испытывающим тяжелейший стресс в результате изменявшихся условий труда, и их родным (в том числе детям и старшему поколению), находящимся в постоянном напряженном ожидании встречи со своими работающими в опасных условиях близкими и страхе за их жизнь и здоровье, и пациентам, оказавшимся в ситуации неопределенности тяжелого заболевания, и родственникам пациентов, не имеющим возможности для обычного человеческого общения с близкими и с медицинским персоналом, и многим другим категориям людей, нуждающимся в психологической помощи.

Я очень признателен всему коллектику Центра за тот уникальный опыт, который приобрели психологи МГУ, осуществляя свой профессиональный долг в непростой и непредсказуемой ситуации пандемии.

Стремительно меняющиеся условия жизни современного общества — активное распространение цифровых техно-
fundamental scientific issues which refer to the functioning of consciousness, developing methodological foundations for new scientific areas (i.e., safety psychology, cyberpsychology). The most topical issues comprise high-tech cognitive research, the use of new methods of data processing, including large database analysis. The pandemic situation has reinforced the relevance of Psychological Science for the development of innovative practical and managerial solutions in the sphere of neuropsychology and psychological assistance in general. In this respect it is important to note that the Lurian Journal aims to determine the development prospects and new directions of modern neuroscience and psychology.

It is remarkable that the journal seeks to respond to the urgent needs of the interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research; plans to publish original theoretical and experimental papers in the fields of cognitive psychology, general, social and educational psychology, psychophysiology and clinical psychology, bio- and neuromedicine, neuroscience; focuses on uniting scientific efforts of the leading researchers and world-class experts in the sphere of psychological sciences and neurotechnologies.

I feel confident that the available scientific potential of the followers of the outstanding Russian neuropsychologist, A. R. Luria, and our unique shared experience of psychological follow-up in COVID-19 pandemic will contribute to enhancing the Journal status as well as opening up new worldwide horizons for the Russian School of Neuropsychology.
исследователей и специалистов мирового уровня в области психологических наук и нейротехнологий.

Уверен, что имеющийся научный потенциал последователей великого отечественного нейропсихолога А.Р. Лурия и наш совместный уникальный опыт психологического сопровождения в условиях пандемии COVID-19 позволят не только повысить статус журнала, но и вывести отечественную нейропсихологическую школу на новый мировой уровень.

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