

Book results of the year

By Larisa Rublevskaya

National Library sums up book results of the year with large-scale exhibition

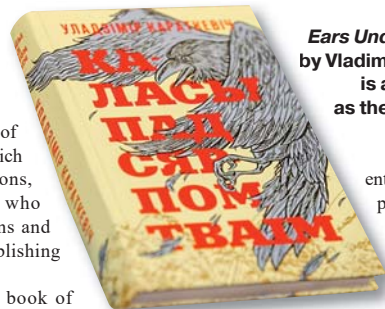
A new joint project of the Information Ministry, the National Book Chamber and the National Library of Belarus was inaugurated in the 'diamond of knowledge'. The *Books of Belarus. The Year of 2019* campaign gathered book publishers, representatives of bookselling organisations, libraries and the media. The focus of attention was the exhibition, which — for the first time — presents the entire spectrum of book production released during the year. The diversity was impressive since over 500 business entities are engaged in book publishing in Belarus, thanks to which about 9,000 titles of books with a total circulation of more than 20m copies have been released.

At the exhibition, representatives of book publishing, as well as all those involved in book promotion, were

given an opportunity to evaluate the books of 2019 and get to know the Belarusian books which won national and international competitions, as well as to communicate with those who contribute to the preservation of traditions and development of modern national book publishing in an informal atmosphere.

The main event — the most popular book of the year, as determined by the booksellers — was unveiled by Belarus' Deputy Information Minister, Igor Buzovsky. The chosen book was *Ears Under Your Sickle* by Vladimir Korotkevich, released by the Popurri Publishing House. "It's a very symbolic choice," Mr. Buzovsky said, adding, "Next year, we are celebrating Vladimir Korotkevich's anniversary and this testifies to the fact that the writer enjoys genuine interest from readers — from a wide-ranging audience."

The exhibition has for the first time presented the



Ears Under Your Sickle by Vladimir Korotkevich is acknowledged as the most popular book in 2019

entire range of book products from the year and publishers and organisations promoting

the development of publishing, popularisation and distribution of Belarusian books were rewarded. Pleasingly, the SB. Belarus Segodnya Publishing House was among the winners in the 'For Active Promotion of Books and Reading in 2019' category.

The Director of the National Library of Belarus, Roman Motulsky, believes the project is yet another excellent tradition of the book culture of Belarus. He invited all to visit the 2019 book fair which is running until February 2020.