



BARENTS EU CENTRE

NEWSLETTER №10

July - December 2016



About Barents EU Centre

The EU Centre in Barents Region was founded on the basis of the EU Information Centre of Petrozavodsk State University in December 2011.

Overall Objective: to improve overall awareness and knowledge on EU related issues (structure, policies, economy, law, the European integration, the EU-Russia relations, etc.) among lecturers, students, officials, CSIs and general public in the Republic of Karelia and the Barents area of Russia.



Specific Objectives:

- to upgrade skills and knowledge of lecturers of the institutions of higher education;
- to improve the existing courses on the EU issues and to develop new courses on the EU issues;
- to improve knowledge of students and schoolchildren on EU related matters;
- to promote better knowledge of the EU and cooperation between the EU and Russian regional officials and CSIs;
- to provide information and consulting services and events on the EU issues;
- to stimulate the EU research;
- to develop functioning of the informing and training structure.

Main Activities:

- Gathering, exchanging and spreading information on the EU;
- Organization of conferences and seminars;
- Support of the research and educational cooperation on the study of the EU;
- Creation of educational programmes, study courses on the EU issues;
- Training of lecturers and staff members of organizations that cooperate with the EU;
- Assistance in the implementation of students' and lecturers' exchanges;
- Provision of consulting services on the opportunities of academic mobility and project activity.

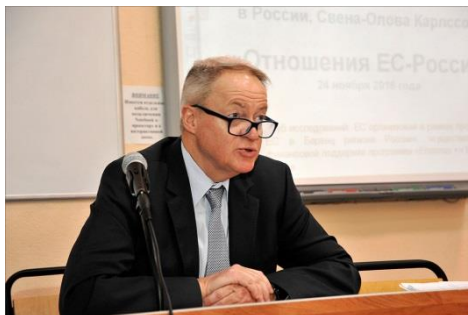
Target groups:

- Group of schoolchildren and students of the Barents area of Russia
- Group of lecturers of the Barents area of Russia
- Group of officials and CSIs of the Barents area of Russia

The EU Research Club

The Club is the platform for development of the EU research. It is established for all people who are interested in the development of research activities on the EU and who want to gain new knowledge and exchange opinions with specialists, experts, researchers and just interested people. It presupposes regular meetings

about topical issues of the EU in such forms as round-table discussions, presentations, lectures, seminars, etc. The club is oriented, first of all, on graduate and postgraduate students who develop research on the EU issues, but it is open for all representatives of the general public. It provides the possibility to get consultations of lecturers and experts, to discuss scientific topics, urgent news and the issues of the EU and to communicate with each other. It assures scientific, professional and personal development of the EU Research Club participants. The club will develop the EU research in the Barents area of Russia and provide its profound, interdisciplinary and multi-approach nature.



On November 24, 2016, Deputy Head of the EU Delegation to the Russian Federation Sven-Olov Carlsson gave a lecture on



EU-Russia relations to Petrozavodsk State University students. In his presentation he showed economic, cultural, historical connections using actual examples, pointing out that the strongest connections are those between people and nations.

S.O. Carlsson's presentation aroused

genuine interest among students. Their questions referred to such political events as Brexit and US elections, EU development process etc.

The lecture was held within the framework of the EU Research Club, organized by the “EU Center in the Barents Region of Russia” project, implemented with the financial support of the Erasmus+ program of the European Union.

Exhibition “The EU Today”

Exhibition “The EU Today” took place from October 19 to November 2 within the project “EU Center in the Barents Region of Russia”, implemented with the financial support of the Erasmus+ program of the European Union.



It was organized by the Barents EU Center together with PetrSU library. The exhibition was aimed at acquiring new knowledge about Europe and the European Union and was located in the library’s reading hall for all wishing to attend it. Literature and information materials on Europe, European countries, European integration, history of foundation and development of the EU, as well as on the EU Center activity was presented at the exhibition. It gave an opportunity to expand the knowledge about the European Union, learn more about this organization and cooperation opportunities, which people might use in their personal, educational or professional purposes.

Visit of Deputy Head of the EU Delegation to the Russian Federation to PetrSU



On November 23, 2016 Deputy Head of the Delegation of the EU to the Russian Federation Sven-Olov Carlsson and Specialist of the Service for Foreign Policy Instruments Vadim Deleu visited Petrozavodsk State University, where they met the Vice-Rector for International Affairs M. S. Gvozdeva and Director of the

European Union Information Center A. A. Kuznetsova.

M. S. Gvozdeva told the guests about the university's history, its current state, structure, scientific centers and schools, international cooperation, exchange programs, as well as defined priority areas for development and tasks, one of which is to become the resource center in the European North.



“Having the EU Center in the Barents region of Russia is a unique opportunity for the university. We are very proud to have it. It is a great discussion platform, as well as an opportunity to enrich oneself by taking part in various events. Thanks to the Center students, lecturers and school children have an opportunity to be involved in educational activity on studying the EU, which is very important in today's world since it can promote the development of cross-region cooperation in Europe” – the Vice-Rector told.

A. A. Kuznetsova spoke about the experience and history of the EU Center in the Barents region of Russia, the main purpose of which is to develop cooperation between Petrozavodsk State University and EU Institutions.

“Your university is able to meet competition and has established vast cooperation in



Russia and abroad. The information that was presented to us and what we have learned and seen today has made a positive impression. We have noticed that there is a big and growing interest toward the European Union in Russia. Currently there are 6 EU Centers in Russia, and one of them is in Petrozavodsk State

University. It works actively and it is a pleasure to point out that it is also a big part of the university. Experience accumulated during our cooperation opens very good

perspectives for further interaction. We are happy to have such cooperation and are ready to develop it” – Sven-Olov Carlsson noted.

The guests also visited the Museum of PetrSU History, took part in the international conference “EU Role in the Barents Euro-Arctic Region”.

The EU Days have already started

On November 23, 2016 PetrSU hosted the international conference “EU Role in the Barents Region of Russia” as a part of the EU Days. At the opening of the conference the Vice-Rector for International Affairs Marina Stanislavovna Gvozdeva welcomed participants on behalf of the Rector A. V. Voronin and on her



own behalf. She gave special thanks to the colleagues that came from afar: from the Northern (Arctic) Federal University and the University of Turku (Finland). “There are only 6 EU Centers in Russia, and one of them is in PetrSU. We are surely proud to have it. Center’s activity allows us to improve the training of our students, helps lecturers in developing new innovational courses, as well as to build a participatory dialog with representatives of public organizations and authorities” –Marina Stanislavovna noted.

Sven-Olov Carlsson, Deputy Head of the EU Delegation to the Russian Federation, also became a meeting participant. He expressed his appreciation for having an opportunity to take part in the conference and visit Karelia and Petrozavodsk.

“European Union and the Republic of Karelia have a long and successful history of cooperation. The development of international relations between the republic and various regions of Russia has begun in the 90-s. Your active participation in dissemination of the knowledge about the EU has naturally led to the creation of the EU Center in the Barents region. I am happy to welcome its representatives today. Center’s activity is aimed



not only at academia, but also at communicating with local communities. At this moment we managed to establish a truly close and mutually beneficial cooperation between regions and people. Such cooperation will definitely continue and develop in the future”.



The conference moderator was Yury Kilin, the Head of the Karelian branch office of Association of European Research, Head of the Chair of Foreign History, Political Science and International Relations of the Institute of History, Political and Social Sciences, Director of the Institute of Northern European Research, Petrozavodsk State University. He also participated in the conference with the report “Finland in



the European Union, 1995-2015, outcomes and perspectives”. The other reports covered the interests and priorities of the European Union in the Arctic region, public diplomacy institute and its place in transborder space of the EU and Russia, correlation of the concepts “peace” and “neutrality” in the foreign

policy of Sweden and the phases of EC/EU-Russia Relation.

The second part of the conference was the round table discussion “EU-Russia Cooperation: Past, Present and Future”.

The event was organized within the “EU Center in the Barents Region of Russia” project, implemented with the financial support of the Erasmus+ program of the European Union.

International Summer School with DAAD

From 15 August to 3 September PetrSU hosted the International Summer School “European Union and Russia: cross-border cooperation”. DAAD fellows from Germany and a students from Austria, as well as PetrSU students from the Institute

of History, Political and Social Sciences and the Institute of Foreign Languages participated in the school.

Within the school framework Anton Lapshin, senior lecturer of the Institute of History, Political and Social Sciences, gave lectures on theoretical basis and history of European integration, institutional structure of the EU, EU relations with other actors of the international arena, as well as history and current state of relations



between Russia and the EU, current Russian policy and its cooperation with Nordic countries. Associate professor of the Institute of History, Political and Social Sciences, PhD, Ilya Solomeshch gave lectures on Russian and Karelian history. Research associate of the Karelian Research Center of the Institute of Economics of the Russian Academy of Sciences Ekaterina Shlapeko told about the theoretical basis, institutes and cross-border cooperation programs and such experience in Karelia and other regions of Russia. Anastasia Kuznetsova, head of the EU Centre in the Barents Region in Russia, gave lectures on project management.



In addition, the participants met the former head of the Contact Center of the Nordic Council of Ministers in Petrozavodsk Pavel Petrov and the Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Industry of the Republic of Karelia Dmitry Kislov. They also visited the Barents EU Centre. Taking the Russian

language course was among the school's objectives as well.

Students had a rich cultural programme. They visited museums of Petrozavodsk, the Kizhi Island, Kivach Waterfall, Marcial Spa resort, Sampo Mountain, Botanical Garden and the zoocomplex "Three bears".

The school was a great opportunity for Russian and international students to communicate with each other, gain new knowledge and experience, as well as get acquainted with Karelian culture, traditions and nature. The school was organized by

PetrSU Linguistic Centre and the Barents EU Centre within DAAD programme “Go East”.

PetrSU staff member gets professional training at Jean Monnet seminar



On December 1, 2016 the EU Delegation to the Russian Federation hosted a consultative methodological seminar on the European program - Jean Monnet. The event was organized by the EU Delegation to the Russian Federation together with Erasmus + National Office for the representatives of Russian

universities, who are planning to take part in the program and submit applications. PetrSU was represented by A. A. Rogozin, Head of the Sector of International Projects and Programs.

The meeting was opened by Richard Burger, Research and Innovation Counselor of the EU Delegation to Russia, and Vadim Deleu, Representative of the EU Delegation to Russia.

Two topics were explored during the meeting:

1) Special aspects of preparing applications. The presentation was delivered by N. M. Aksenova, representative of the Erasmus + National Office in Russia. In her presentation she covered the nuances of filling in the application form, pointed out typical mistakes and gave concrete advices and recommendations to the seminar's participants.

2) Second important topic – experience of implementing different types of Jean Monnet grants in Russian universities. Representatives of Russian Humanitarian University, as well as Moscow State University of Civil Engineering, Pichugin I. L. and Ivanova Z. I gave presentations as well.

After all presentations the meeting participants could address their questions to the representatives of the Erasmus + National office in Russia and get detailed answers and recommendations. A. A. Rogozin's participation in the seminar was made possible within the project “EU Centre in the Barents Region of Russia” implemented with the financial support of the Erasmus + program of the European Union. He could gain important knowledge about the program and opportunities to take part in

it, as well as to expand contacts with organizations that are interested in the development of the EU research.

PetrSU staff member gets professional training at Jean Monnet and Capacity Building seminars

Consultative methodological seminars in the area of “Jean Monnet” and “Capacity building in the field of higher education” took place in Moscow on December 6 and in Saint Petersburg on December 12-13. Galina Parikhina, Head of Department of International Projects and Programs, took training in these seminars within the framework of the “EU Centre in the Barents Region of Russia” project, implemented with the financial support of the Erasmus+ program of the European Union.



In Moscow O.N. Olejnik, director of the National Erasmus+ office in Russia, told about the opportunities to participate in the Erasmus+ program for Russian HEIs. Mr. H.A. Llanez Villanueva, Attaché of the Spanish Embassy in Moscow, presented the opportunities for cooperation with Spanish universities. Mrs. Hana Horak, professor of the University of Zagreb, presented the experience of international cooperation of the faculty of economics and business. Report of N.R. Kamynina, Moscow State University of Geodesy and Cartography, was dedicated to such cooperation in Russian HEIs.

Presentation of A.A. Muravjova, deputy director of the National Erasmus+ office in Russia, covered the methodology of preparing project applications, as well as the main principles and requirements. Participants could also practice their skills in drafting logical framework matrix. N.M. Aksenova, administrator of the national Erasmus+ office in Russia, told about the aims and tasks of the program, types of grants and peculiarities of working with them. She also presented information on preparing applications for 2017 call.

This seminar gave an opportunity to gain important knowledge about the program and the opportunities to work in it, as well as to develop skills in project activity and broaden contact network with organizations that are interested in the development of EU study.

Meeting of the EU Information Centres in Moscow



Meeting of the EU Information Centers took place in the Delegation of the EU to the Russian Federation on 17-18 November 2016. PetrSU was represented by the director of the EU InfoCenter and the head of the EU Center in the Barents Region of Russia Anastasia Kuznetsova.

The meeting was opened by the EU Ambassador to the Russian Federation Vygaudas Ušackas. New opportunities for supporting EU research were discussed during the event, participants shared information on the accomplished work and put forward proposals on developing further cooperation. EU InfoCenters staff members were given the information on Erasmus+ and Horizon 2020 programs, as well as offered cooperation in EU project on public democracy. Jury Borko, DSc, professor, the founder and the Honorary President of the Association of European Research spoke of EU developing perspectives.

On the whole the meeting gave an opportunity to establish new contacts, fostered interaction between Russian EU Centers and open new possibilities for their development.

PetrSU at International Barents Cooperation Forum

International Barents Cooperation Forum took place in Helsinki, Finland, on December 8, 2016. PetrSU representatives took part in the forum within the framework of the “EU Centre in the Barents Region of Russia” project, implemented with the financial support of the Erasmus+ program of the European Union.



The main aim of the forum was to overcome barriers that are on the way of initiative progress in the area of international cooperation and activation of the biggest possible number of participants within Barents Region.



Over 150 representatives of universities, companies and organizations, public authorities, local administrative authorities and non-commercial organizations from Finland, Russia, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Canada and Belgium took part in the event. PetrSU was represented by M. S. Gvozdeva, Vice-Rector for international affairs, G. G. Parikhina, Head of Department of International Projects and Programs, and A. A. Rogozin, Head of the Sector of International Projects and Programs.

Studies reflecting the current state of affairs in the Barents region, the main EU financing programs within Barents cooperation: Kolarctic CBC and Karelia CBC, Northern Periphery and Arctic, Interreg Nord and Interreg Baltic Sea Region programs, - were presented during the forum. Thematic workshops and personal meetings of forum's participants took place in the afternoon.

PetrSU team held over 15 working meetings with partners and discussed the possibilities of cooperation activation, participation in project activities, student and staff exchange and development of joint education programs.

The event was organized by Kainuu regional union together with Kajaani University of Applied Sciences, which are holding chairmanship in the Barents Regional Council in 2015-2017.

PetrSU at winter school “Modern University facing Global Challenges: what is Internationalization of a university”

On 14-17 December 2016 within the framework of the “EU Centre in the Barents Region of Russia” project, implemented with the financial support of the Erasmus+ program of the European Union,



Natalia Padchina, Head of PetrSU Academic Mobility Department, took a training course at winter school “Modern University Facing Global Challenges: what is Internationalization of a University” in Moscow.



international recruiting, etc.)

The School was organized by National Research Institute “Higher School of Economics”. As part of the school there were plenary presentations of the leading experts in the area of higher education, workshops on various aspects of university’s internationalization (external and internal internationalization, cross-cultural pedagogy, academic mobility, work organization with foreign students,

Apart from that, participants worked on projects connected with cooperation in the area of education. N. V. Padchina focused on cooperation with European HEIs and organizations, since this is of interest to PetrSU.

She gained important skills and knowledge for further development and strengthening of relations, which she will implement in her professional activity. N. V. Padchina obtained the certificate based on the results of her full-time and home studies.

Barents EU Centre EU at “Days of Social Skills” at Petrovskaya school

Anastasia Kuznetsova, director of the EU Information Center and head of the Barents EU Center, made a presentation on the EU Center and answered pupils' questions in Petrovskaya School within the school's “Days of Social Skills” on September 29.



She told about the Center's activity and the events, in which the school children can take part. These are the EU Days, EU research club, “EU today” exhibition, Open Days at the EU Center, and, of course, the annual contest for school children.

Information on such activities and other European programs and events in which the school children of Karelia can take part can be found on PetrSU website, the Barents EU Center website and in social network communities. The school children from the 8th to the 11th grades took part in this event. Questions on university admission, scientific and general interests, as well as what to do in order to be successful were discussed as well.

Contact information

<http://beuc.petsu.ru>

<https://petsu.ru/structure/417/informatsionnyjtsent>

E-mail: beuc@petsu.ru

Petrozavodsk State University

Project coordinator

Kuznetsova Anastasia

Republic of Karelia, Petrozavodsk,

Anokhin str., 20, office №406

Tel./Fax: +7 814-2 71-96-14

E-mail: beuc@petsu.ru



The project is co-financed by the European Union. The content of this newsletter is the sole responsibility of PetrSU and can under no circumstances be regarded as reflecting the position of the European Union.