



BARENTS EU CENTRE

NEWSLETTER №2

July - December 2012



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. The Centre unites 5 leading universities of Barents Region of Russia, namely Petrozavodsk State University, Murmansk State Technical University, International Institute of Business Education, Syktyvkar State University, as well as North (Arctic) Federal University.



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

Main Activities:

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

Target groups:

- Undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate students of the Barents area;
- Lecturers of the Barents area;
- Officials of regional and municipal administrations and civil society institutions of the Barents area dealing with the EU cooperation;
- General public of the Barents area interested in information on the EU, the EU studies, research, education and project activities.

Training of BEAR universities lecturers

In each partner university a group of lecturers is organized. Their teaching practice is expected to be connected with such EU related issues as law, history, economics, international relations and culture. The final aim of each member of the group is to improve their existing courses on the EU issues and develop a new course on the EU issues based on their new knowledge that they will get within the Centre activities. Thus, the training programme is provided for them.



Foreign language knowledge is a very important aspect of the educational process since Russian universities are actively engaged in the internationalization of education, which provides the possibility to make the Russian educational system and practices more compatible with European educational standards. Students are interested in being able to speak about EU issues in English and that is why they are interested to get this knowledge in English. Lecturers also need to be mobile and knowledge of the English language enables them to share their knowledge in English on a larger geographical territory. Thus, the English language course was the first part of the training programme.

From 03 September till 23 November 4 lecturers took the course at International Institute of Business Education. The English language course was provided by English language trainer of IIBE and made up 72 academic hours.



It was devoted to forming of basic academic writing skills, techniques of oral speech and public performances, forming of lexical, grammatical skills, interactive case-studies, analysis of language reviews, listening activities and expanding academic English vocabulary.

On 23 November 2012, lecturers of IIBE who successfully completed the English language course were awarded with language certificates.



On 16 November 2012 8 lecturers of Murmansk State Technical Universities got certificates on the course of the English language that started on 5 March 2012. Representatives of Faculties of Humanities, Economics, Natural and Technical Sciences, as well as of Faculty of World Economics and International Relations underwent 72-hour language training that resulted in an open presentation of the pilot courses on the EU.

The programme of the course included studying and improving use of complex grammar structures, preparation of a self-

presentation and academic resume, designing slides and rules of how to structure a presentation, acquirement of the basics of public speaking, analyzing lectures of professors from leading foreign universities, getting to know the capabilities of applying information technologies in the learning process.

The course “Modern pedagogical technologies and psychology in institutions of higher education” was the second part of the training programme. Nowadays lecturers are to present courses taking into account modern pedagogical technologies and the modern trends of their development. In this regard it is necessary for them to develop their skills and obtain new knowledge on these issues.



From 5 September till 20 November PetrSU trainer, Tatiana Babakova, provided this course for 15 lecturers that underwent training programme within the Action. It was an up-to date high quality course that was elaborated taking into account the best experience of European universities and the analysis of current features of pedagogical technologies and psychology.

The topics covered:

- Higher education in the system of lifelong education
- Areas of innovative development of higher education
- Modern problems of psychology
- Psychology of personality and the issue of upbringing in institutions of higher education
- Psychological features of student age

- Business communication training
- Portfolio
- “Six hats of thinking”
- Lecture and seminar: traditions and innovations
- Technology of group work
- Technology of problem, context education in institutions of higher education
- Technology of positional education
- Technology of module education
- Technology of critical thinking development
- Methods of working with educational content
- Case method
- Technology “Debates”

The course made up 72 academic hours and on its completion participants got certificates. Lecturers will be able to use this knowledge in the development of courses, devoted to the EU, which satisfy the modern requirements of educational quality.



The course “Modern pedagogical technologies and psychology in institutions of higher education” was also presented by PetrSU trainer, Svetlana Karpova, in Murmansk, Syktyvkar and Arkhangelsk for the lecturers of partner universities.

On 19-20 November 2012 IIBE and MSTU arranged the course for their 12 lecturers. In Arkhangelsk the course for 8 lecturers of Northern

Arctic Federal University took place on 21-22 November 2012. On 23 and 24 November 2012 in the Institution of Further Vocational Education of Syktyvkar State University 6 lecturers of SyktSU completed it.

The first day of the course was devoted to the theoretical and practical aspects of interaction between lecturer and students, characteristics of communication with different categories of the youth and development of pedagogical skills. The lecturers took an active part in the discussions and shared their pedagogical experience with colleagues.

The second day of the course was dedicated to the research and practical basics of creation of interactive classes when a lecturer is able to involve the



maximum number of students in the process of active learning and to develop their competencies. The participants of the course had the opportunity to take part in the training connected with organization of interactive class which develops the skills of argumentation technique and discussion technique.

Thus, the lecturers renewed and acquired new knowledge about pedagogical technologies and psychological characteristics of the youth. The participants of the course expressed a high opinion of theoretical and practical information provided by S. Karpova and told about introduction of these technologies to their disciplines and courses which they develop within the framework of the project. At the end of the course certificates were awarded to the lecturers.

Study visit of BEAR universities lecturers to Central European University

From 5 till 9 November 2012 lecturers of PetrSU and partner universities (MSTU, IIBE, NArFU and SyktSU) participated in the training program at the Central European University (Budapest, Hungary).

The training program was devoted to the development of courses which are dedicated to the EU. The program involved: attendance of courses devoted to the EU issues

(the EU integration; enlargement of the EU; comparative regionalism; the EU and human rights; political economy of the EU, social and economic management in the EU; migration and refugees' rights; ethnic conflicts), the work at the library and with CEU databases, curriculum development trainings, and individual consultations given by professionals.

The lecturers had the opportunity to visit the classes at CEU in order to get acquainted with the educational process at this university, with its peculiarities and differences from the Russian practices. The methods of development of courses, devoted to the EU issues, were also introduced to them: applicable methods of education, allocation of teaching hours, system of knowledge evaluation and control. They also had the opportunity to get acquainted with the curricula prepared by CEU lecturers. Individual consultations afforded ground for asking high qualified specialists about the issues concerning the courses which the lecturers should develop within the framework of the project. The lecturers also collected plenty of



material from CEU databases and libraries. This material will stimulate the quality of developing courses.

All in all, the lecturers pointed out that this training program helped them to acquire new skills, experience and knowledge which they can use extensively in their further professional activity.

The EU experts in Petrozavodsk State University



The lectures presented by senior research assistant of the University of Turku, Ph.D. Tapani Paavonen were conducted at the Faculty of History from 1 till 3 October 2012.

The target groups were the students and Master's Degree students of the Faculty of History.

The title of the course was "The Road to the EU-27. The main achievements

of West European integration after World War II till the present time". The purpose of the course was to demonstrate the main stages of the West European integration and its key achievements. The course was also devoted to the establishment of the European Union, its development after World War II till the present time.

The course was conducted in English. Therefore, it gave the opportunity to students of the Faculty of History to increase their professional level.

At the end of each lecture students made comments and asked questions. It is noteworthy that the lectures were accompanied by an interesting presentation. Students also got printed materials which were specially prepared by Tapani Paavonen for this course. These materials will be very useful in their further educational activity.

The meeting between the Dean of the Faculty of History, Sergey Verigin, PetrSU lecturers and the University of Turku senior research assistant, Ph.D. Tapani Paavonen was also organized in Petrozavodsk State University.

Sergey Verigin pointed out that lectures presented by the invited lecturers should become an integral part of the Bachelor's and Master's degree programs.



Colleagues discussed the questions of European studies in Europe and Russia, pedagogical practices, prospects for further cooperation and development of international cooperation between PetrSU and the University of Turku.

Tapani Paavonen expressed the hope for further cooperation and wished success in international, scientific and educational activity.

Course on “The European Law” in Petrozavodsk State University

On 28 December 2012 the course “The European Law” was completed at PetrSU. This course was delivered from 3 September 2012 within the framework of the project “The Open Module on the European Integration” implemented under the financial support of the European Union “LLP programme”.

The course comprised such topics as the meaning of the EU, its formation and development including investigation of documents which are the basis of the EU law, interaction between European and national law, and also interrelation of European and international law, European institutes, the decision making procedure in the EU and “The Constitution” of the EU. It also gave the material concerning the legal basis of relations between the EU and Russia and analysis of their tendencies.

The course made up 108 hours, 58 hours of which were contact hours.

The course was delivered in English so the participants could practice and improve their knowledge of language. At the end of the course 143 certificates of course completion with the indication of the amount of credits were awarded (3 ECTS). The course was arranged for all comers, so the group consisted of Bachelor’s and Master’s Degrees students and ordinary people who do not study at the university.

The opinions of the course participants were positive, they pointed out that the course gave them the opportunity not only to acquire the new knowledge about the EU but also to practice their language. All in all, they outlined that this course significantly expanded their opportunities in their further educational and professional activity.

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

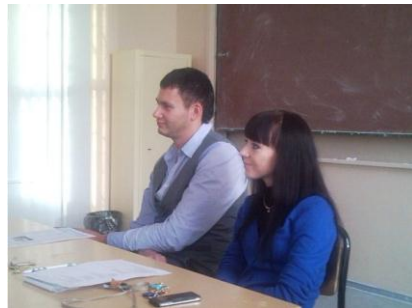
profound, interdisciplinary and multi-approach nature.

On 12 October 2012 the regular meeting of the EU Research Club was arranged in Petrozavodsk State University.

“Groundhog Day: Lack of Motivation among Young People in the EU? What are the ways and sources for sparking the interest among young people?” – that was the topic of the meeting which was arranged in the form of discussion.

Students and lecturers of the Faculty of History, Philology, Economics, Law and Faculty of Political and Social Sciences, students from Finland, Great Britain, Czech Republic, Thailand and the USA and representatives of the Directorate for International Cooperation took part in the meeting. The moderators of the meeting were Anastasia Kuznetsova, the Head of the EU Information Centre/project coordinator and Vice Dean for Educational Work (the Faculty of Political and Social Sciences), senior lecturer, Ph.D. in Political Sciences Mikhail Bezbodov.

Within the framework of the roundtable participants discussed the problems devoted to young people's lack of interest in getting education, achieving professional and personal development, compared situations in different countries and supposed what can encourage the interest of young people. In this respect, they emphasized the importance of not only state policy but also the importance of education in the family, personal strength, ideal example, organization which would help young people to define their life stance and to acquire development.



All in all, the meeting was held in a friendly atmosphere, the participants demonstrated their opinions, shared their experience and expressed a wish to continue arranging such meetings devoted to the actual themes concerning the EU development.

Schoolchildren and the EU research



On 22 October 2012 in Syktyvkar State University the quiz “The European Union: History and Modernity” was arranged for the pupils of Syktyvkar institutions of secondary education.

The bright presentation of the European Union and the tasks for the quiz were created by the Department of Linguistics and Intercultural Communication under the supervision of senior lecturer E. Danilova.

Pupils of the 9th-11th grades of Technical Lyceum, Technological Lyceum, Women's Gymnasium, Komi National Gymnasium, Gymnasium of Art, and Schools # 21 and 35 took part in the quiz. The quiz was opened by the welcome speech of SyktSU Vice-rector for development and further education I. Zimina who emphasized the importance of knowledge about our European neighbors, told pupils about current social and economic relations between Russia and the EU and also wished success in the further quiz.

The presentation of the EU, which included the general information about the EU, description of symbols and the EU institutes, history of their establishment and information about current activity of the EU institutions and countries, was introduced to the inspired pupils. Thus, Ekaterina Danilova in the fascinating and informative form deepened the knowledge of the pupils about the EU and created favorable and friendly atmosphere.

In the course of the quiz the participants responded to the questions and they got a star (one of the EU symbols) for each correct and complete answer. The pupils were full of energy, tried to recollect all nuances in their answers in order to get their answers counted and vigorously supported the participants from their schools.



3 winners with the greatest number of stars were determined at the end of the quiz: the first place was given to Anastasia Kudryavtseva (Technological lyceum, the 11th grade). The second and the third places were given to Natalia Koneva (Komi National gymnasium, the 11th grade) and Elona Mikhalchenko (Gymnasium of Arts, the 10th grade) respectively. The winners were awarded Diplomas and memorial

prizes. The diplomas of the quiz participants were awarded to all participants. 28 people participated in the event.

From 26 till 30 November, 2012 intellectual games for pupils "The European Union: 20 Years Later" were conducted in Arkhangelsk.

It is no coincidence that the project organizers chose such title for the event: Maastricht Treaty, which created the legal basis for the EU, was signed in 1992.

The topics of the intellectual games included the questions of history and modern international relations between the EU and European countries, their collaboration with Russia. The goal of the games was to extend knowledge about the European Union, to stimulate pupils' interest in self study and broadening of outlook in respect of European neighbors of Russia, to encourage general intellectual development of pupils.

204 pupils of the 9th-11th grades from 4 schools of Arkhangelsk took part in games: gymnasiums № 3 and 6, University Lomonosov gymnasium and secondary school № 45.

The children responded to the questions connected with the history, culture, economy and politics of the European Union. The games had two rounds. Each round consisted of 12 questions.

There was only one minute for each response and then the jury, comprised of students and staff of Institute of Economics and Management and Institute of Social, Humanitarian and Political Sciences, estimated the accuracy and logic of the answers.



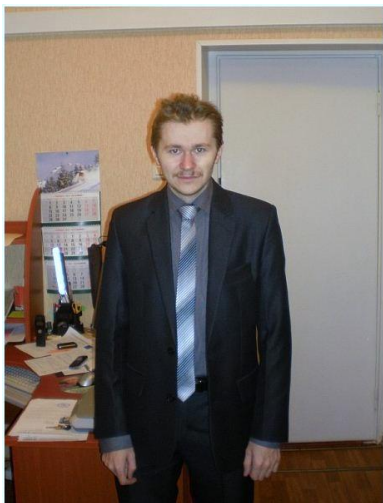
Pupils' knowledge and preparation amazed jury: at average the total number of correct answers, given by teams, amounted to more than 70%. It shows that pupils have motivation and that comprehensive schools have high level of preparation. Certificates were granted to all participants of intellectual games. The winners were awarded diplomas and presents.

Support of the EU Research

Post-graduate student of the Economics and Management Department (Faculty of Economics) Dmitry Tereschenko won the competition which was arranged among PetrSU post-graduate students with the aim of receiving grant to conduct research devoted to the EU. Dmitry used the grant for the development of the research devoted to the EU: the usage of theoretical, methodological and practical groundwork in the sphere of institutional analysis of the sustainable economic growth in the framework of the present-day conditions. Macroeconomic analysis of the EU countries: the assessment of the structure and dynamics of the country economy was conducted with the usage of the state and international statistics data.

The objectives of the research were: institutional analysis of the formal rules and real practices of behavior of the economic entity, analysis of the institutional factors of functioning of the EU countries economy, creation of informative and analytical empirical databases which include data of international, state and departmental statistics, of economic and social investigations of the EU countries, mathematical and statistical analysis (building of mathematical models which reflect the link between institutional factors and economic growth of the EU countries). The grant was paid to buy statistical data and literature. On their basis Dmitry prepared an article on the research topic.

The competition was focused on the stimulation and quality improvement of research works devoted to the European Union among post-graduate students of the Republic of Karelia.



The grant competition was also arranged among post-graduate students of International Institute of Business Education who devote their research works to the problems of the European Union.

The winner of the competition was Sergey Solovjev, a post-graduate student of the 3rd year of education. Sergey's area of expertise was the history of Roman law. Sergey used grant for preparation and publication of the results of his dissertation research in a scientific journal, for participation in the research and practice conference "Modern Problems of Humanitarian and Natural Sciences" and purchase of scientific literature.

Exhibition “The EU Today”



The exhibition “The EU Today” was opened in the reading room of the Scientific Library of Petrozavodsk State University from 15 till 19 November 2012.

Information materials about the history of Europe, the European Union, European countries, European integration, history of establishment and development of the European

Union, opportunities of getting education in Europe and also about the EU Centre activity were presented at the exhibition.

The goal of the exhibition was to extend knowledge about the European Union.

Cooperation between the EU Centers



On 13 and 14 September 2012 the Head of the EU Information Centre Anastasia Kuznetsova took part in the workshop meeting of the Russian EU Centres held in Tomsk.

Anastasia Kuznetsova presented the EU Centre in the Barents Region of Russia. In the course of the meeting representatives of six EU Centres demonstrated the results of their work in 2012, shared their

experience, discussed the questions of further cooperation and organization of joint activities in order to achieve goals and objectives stipulated in the project.

At the end of the meeting the possibilities of development, which will be granted during the assembly of the EU centres from all over the world, were introduced to the representatives of the centres.

From 22 till 24 October 2012 the director of the project “Establishing the EU Centre in the Barents Region of Russia” Lyudmila Kulikovskaya and the coordinator of the project Anastasia Kuznetsova took part in the meeting of the EU Centres in Brussels (Belgium).

Representatives of 37 EU Centres, established under the support of the European Union at the universities of Canada, the USA, Australia, New Zealand, South Korea, Taiwan, Singapore, Japan and Russia, participated in the meeting.

All universities, where the EU Centres were established, have passed the strict competitive selection. These universities are famous for their quality of education, versatility and the depth of European research and active international cooperation.

In the course of the meeting the participants got acquainted with the best practice, shared their experience, discussed the opportunities of centres network cooperation, new cultural and educational programs.

The participants also had the opportunity to complete the training programmes devoted to communication with target groups and project management, to get information on the role of the EU Centres in the world, on the arrangement of actions, which encourage their development, on the programmes financing the activity of the Centres.



The meeting with representatives of the College of Europe was arranged for the EU Centres in Russia. The opportunities of education available to Russian students and opportunities of cooperation with universities were discussed during the meeting.

Contact information

<http://beuc.petsru.ru>

<http://www.petsru.ru/Structure/inter/beuc.html>

E-mail: beuc@petsru.ru

Petrozavodsk State University

Project director

Kulikovskaya Lyudmila

Republic of Karelia, Petrozavodsk,

Anokhin str., 20, office №401

Tel.: +7 814-2 71-10-89

Fax: +7 814-2 78-26-68

E-mail: beuc@petsru.ru

Project coordinator

Kuznetsova Anastasia

Republic of Karelia, Petrozavodsk,

Anokhin str., 20, office №406

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

E-mail: beuc@petsru.ru

International Institute of business education

Project manager

Kuskova Svetlana

Murmansk obl., Murmansk, Oktyabrskaya st. 3-a,

Tel.: + 7 815-2 45-88-32

Fax + 7 815-2 45-52-58

E-mail: kuskova@mginet.ru

Murmansk State Technical University

Project manager

Moiseenko Elena

Murmansk obl., Murmansk, Sportivnaya st., 13

Tel./Fax: +7 821-2 23-31-12

E-mail: moiseenkoea@mstu.edu.ru

Syktvykar State University

Project manager

Filippova Julia

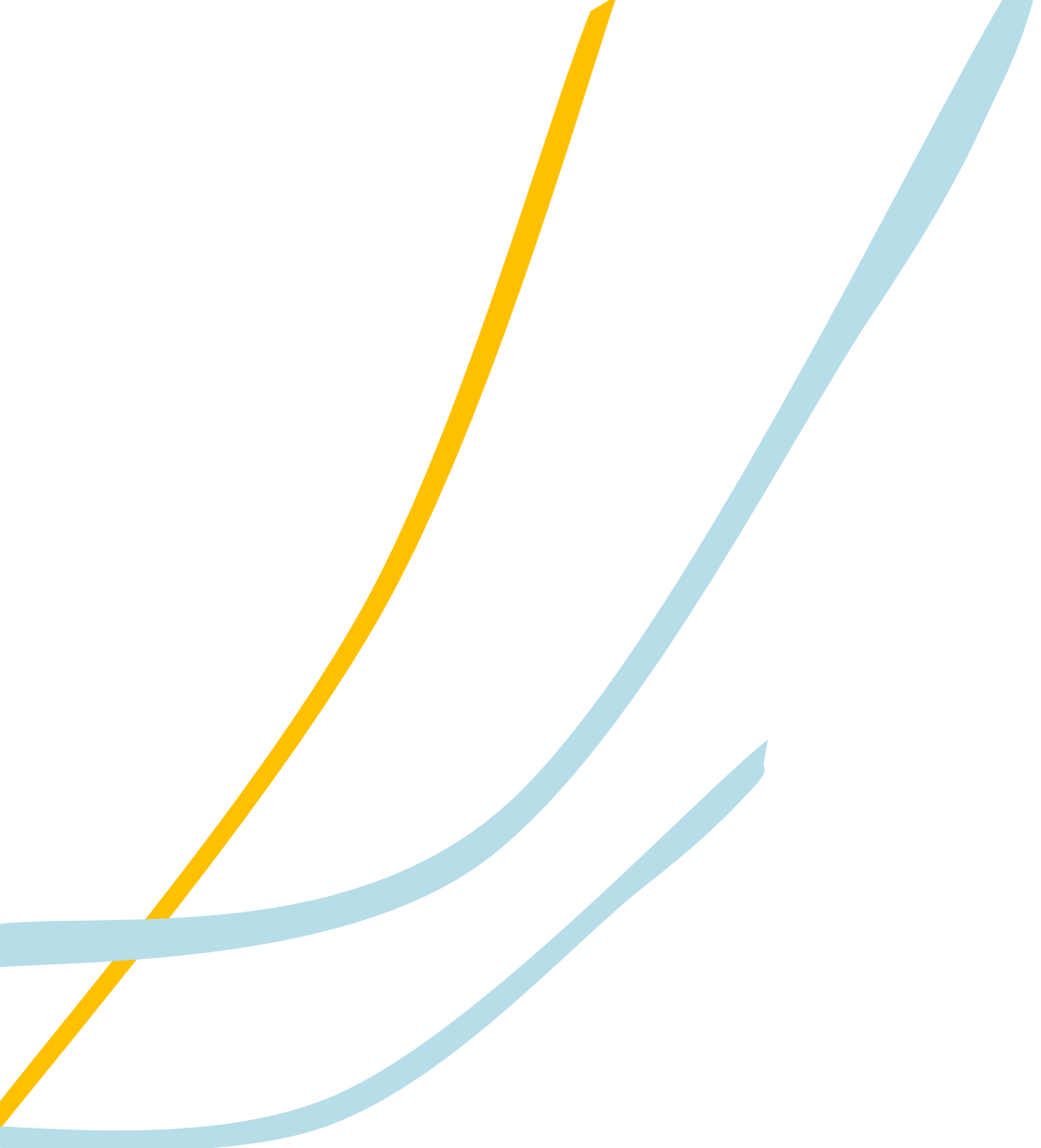
Republic of Komi, Syktvykar,

Oktyabrsky av., 55,

Tel.: +7 821-2 43-72-86

Fax: +7 821-2 43-86-85

E-mail: diasyktsu@gmail.com



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.