



# BARENTS EU CENTRE

## NEWSLETTER №12

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## About Barents EU Centre

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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
- General public of the Barents area of Russia

## PetrSU Hosted Presentation of the EU Academic Mobility Programs

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### PetrSU Hosted Presentation of the EU Academic Mobility Programs

The employees of the Department of International Projects and Programs of PetrSU in cooperation with the International Agency “SLOVO” held an information event dedicated to the academic mobility programs of the

European Union for 2018-2019.

At the meeting, those present were introduced to two groups of programs: student exchange and academic mobility. The students received extensive information about the programs Erasmus+, Stipendium Hungaricum, North2North. Special attention was paid to the preparation of the documents, specifics of application rounds and deadlines.

The presentation of the programs was complemented with the report of Yulia Kozina, the teacher of the Department of German Philology and Scandinavian Studies, who shared her experience of participating in an academic mobility program in Sweden. She told about the stages of adaptation in a foreign country, her impressions, potential problems one faces when studying abroad and solutions to them.

Application rounds for all the programs are already open, students can submit their applications until February 2018.

The meeting was held in the framework of the EU Center in the Barents Region of Russia project, implemented with the financial support of the Erasmus+ program of the European Union.



## PetrSU Welcomed the Representatives of the Stipendium Hungaricum Program (Hungary)

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The Hungarian delegation included Attila Farkas, the Stipendium Hungaricum program officer at the Tempus Public Foundation; Maria Hoffman, international coordinator of the Ministry of Human Resources of Hungary; Borisz Vegvari, instructor of the University of Pecs (Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Education and Regional Development, Department of Human Resources Development).



During the visit, the representatives of the Stipendium Hungaricum program held an official meeting with the employees of the Department of International Projects and Programs of PetrSU and discussed the particulars of preparation and processing of scholarship applications, project activities of PetrSU, academic mobility, and activities of the University as a member of the Association of Finno-Ugric Universities.

The members of the delegation held a presentation of the academic mobility program Stipendium Hungaricum for students. The Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs Konstantin Tarasov opened the presentation and gave the floor to the Hungarian colleagues. At the meeting, PetrSU students could learn firsthand about the most up-to-date information, as well as ask their questions.

## Study course “The concept of the Europe’s Union in the European socio-political thought in the modern and contemporary times”

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The Associate Professor of the Department of World History, Political Studies and International Relations Natalia Smirnova read the course “The concept of the Europe’s Union in the European socio-political thought in the modern and contemporary times” for the 5<sup>th</sup> year Master Degree students of the “History” program specializing in “United Europe: from the idea of ancient empire to the European Union”.



The aim of the course was to enrich the knowledge of the concepts behind the European integration, history of the EU development, analysis of the practical implementation of the European idea in the 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The goals of the course: study the treatises of thinkers from the Renaissance

era to the points of view of Eurosceptics and Eurooptimists in the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century; analysis of the evolution of the European idea in history: humanistic and pacifist movements in Europeanism; Eurocentrism and universalism.

The prime objective of the supporters of the European idea is to establish a proper united Europe, which will include all the peoples residing in the region in a single political, cultural, social and economic area. Modern European integration process is an attempt to translate the ideas of thinkers and politicians into action. The European integration architecture reflects the institutional ideas of Duke of Sully, William Penn, and Richard Coudenhove-Kalergi: the humanitarians' vision of peace as the supreme value that unites all the peoples. The Enlightenment era enriched modern integrated Europe with the ideas of universalism, tolerance, and state of law, while the ideas of Emeric Cruce on the role of trade and crafts were successfully tested during the establishment of the Economic and Monetary Union. On the other hand, the history of the European idea showed that excessive focus on the cultural unity of the European peoples can turn into Eurocentrism, creation of the "Europe Castle" and, as it has happened before in the European history, lead to the rise of race and ethnic intolerance of those peoples who do not match the selected criteria of "Europeanness". Attempts to forcefully unify Europe have always foundered. The cases of Napoleon and the Nazi project of the "New Europe" stand as evidence to the impossibility of uniting Europe under the reign of one hegemon.



The topics of the course: secular European projects of the united Europe in the Middle Ages and Modern Times; colonial empires and concepts of European exceptionalism; “European idea” and European projects of Modern Times; the Renaissance era; European projects of the 19<sup>th</sup> century: Napoleon’s vision of united Europe; at the threshold of integration process: European projects of the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century; founding fathers of the EU; European social and political thought on the experience and future of the integration in the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> – the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

## Study course “The European Union and the Russian Federation”



The Associate Professor of the Department of World History, Political Studies and International Relations Varvara Inozemtseva read the course “The European Union and the Russian Federation” for the 4<sup>th</sup> year Bachelor Degree students.

The aim of the course was to provide the students with

comprehensive insight into the historical background, trends, current status, and prospects for the development of the relations between Russia and the European Union.

The goals of the course were to provide the students with the information on the institutional, legal and political framework of the EU-Russian relations; determine the place and role of the EU in the context of the national interests of Russia and Russian priorities in the foreign policy; analyze the development of the relations between Russia and the EU and the main stages of the relations; determine the strategy of Russia, the member states of the EU and the European Union in



general in the context of the EU-Russia relations; consider the principal areas for the cooperation between Russia and the EU and the issues of the modern dynamics of the relations between Russia and the EU.

The course included such topics as the collapse of the USSR and the establishment of relations between the EU and the Russian Federation, TACIS, PCA; the EU-Russia relations at the turn of the 21<sup>st</sup> century; European neighborhood policy as a factor in the Russian-European relations; Strategic Partnership of the EU and Russia; success and issues of the cooperation between the EU and Russia within the four Common Spaces; relations between the Russian Federation and the European Union after the Ukrainian crisis of 2014.

## Study course “Institutional Structure of the European Union”

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PetrSU wrapped up the three courses on the EU developed in the framework of the EU Center in the Barents Region of Russia project implemented with the financial support of the Erasmus+ program of the European Union.

The courses consisted of 72 hours, of which 36 were in-

class and 36 were provided for the independent work of the students.

The Associate Professor of the Department of World History, Political Studies and International Relations Svetlana Rozhneva read the course “Institutional Structure of the European Union” for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year Bachelor Degree students of the “International Relations” program.

The aim of the course was to introduce the students to the history of the establishment of the institutional structure of the European Union, as well as the activities of the principal institutions and bodies of the EU in accordance with the Treaty of Lisbon of October 19, 2007.

In conformity with the stated objective the goals of the course were to provide such knowledge and skills that will allow the students to analyze the history of the establishment of the institutional structure of the European Union, its legal

framework, learn the key concepts, consider the institutional structure of the European Union established by the 2007 Treaty of Lisbon, study the work of the institutions of the European Union in modern times, delve into the history of their establishment, structure, areas of focus, understand the features of the institutional system of the European Union and current political developments in the modern period, analyze key trends.

The course covered such topics as the

history of the establishment of the institutional system of the European Union; institutions and bodies of the European

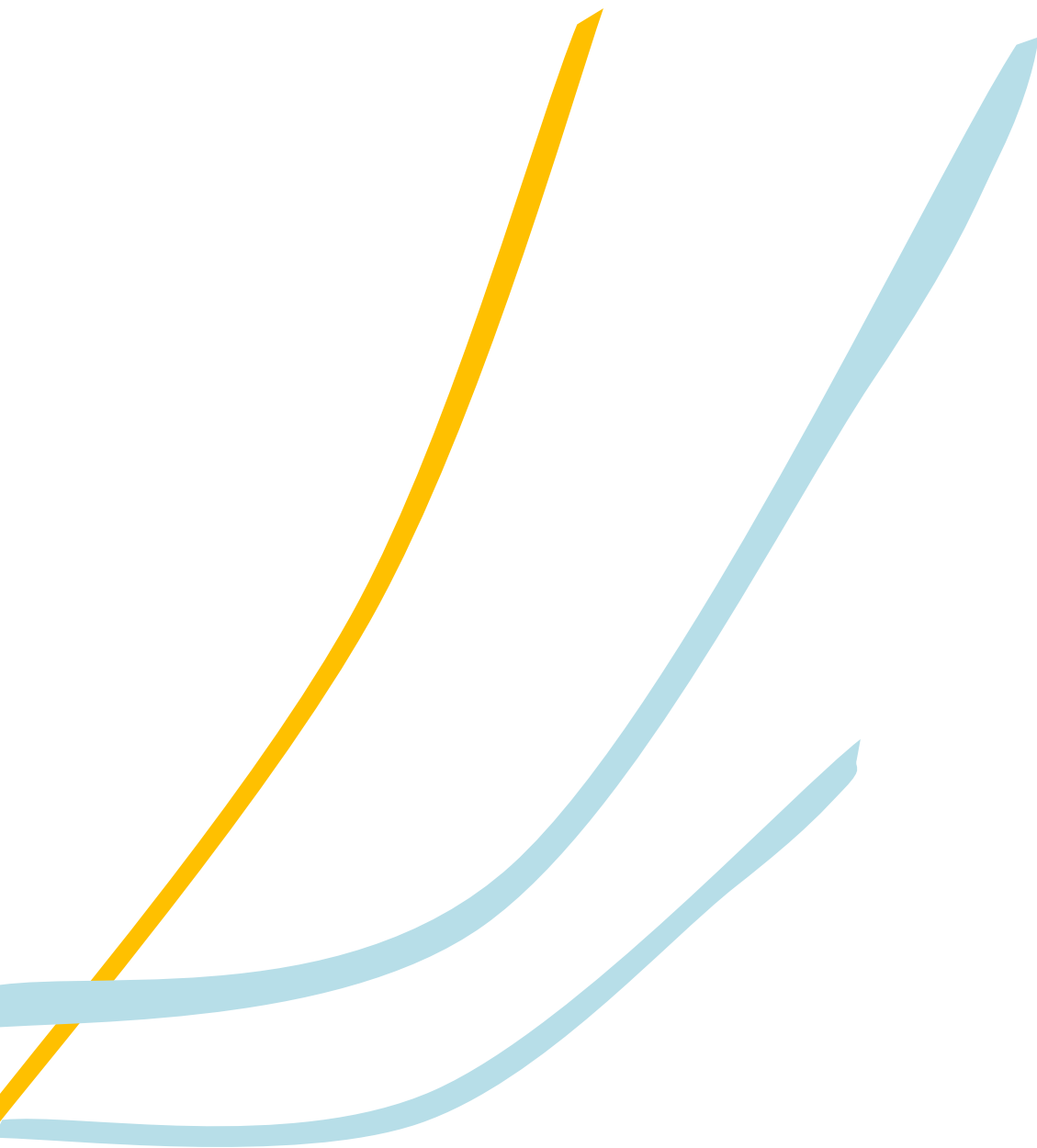
Union in accordance with the Treaty of Lisbon; European Parliament in the EU system; European Council as an institution of the EU; the Council of the European Union; European Commission as the highest body of executive power; Court of Justice of the European Union; European Central Bank as a non-political institution of the EU; Court of Auditors: history, structure, main activities; Institution of European Ombudsman; European authorities for personal data protection – supervisory authority; European Investment Bank as



a non-political institution of the EU; European Investment Fund; European Economic and Social Committee; Committee of the Regions in the structure of the European Union; High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy in the institutional system of the European Union.







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