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BARENTS EU CENTRE

NEWSLETTER (FINAL)

September 2016 – August 2019
Open module on the EU



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

Study course “History of the European Integration”

Barents EU Centre started lectures on the course “History of European Integration” at PetrSU. Lectures are given in English in the framework of the “Open Module on the European Union” project, carried out with the financial support of the Erasmus + program of the European Union.



The course includes such topics as the historical and theoretical foundations of European integration, the various stages of its development, the current situation in the EU and possible prospects.

Lecturer - Kuznetsova Anastasia Alexandrovna, Director of the EU Info Centre, Head of the Barents Center of the EU PetrSU.

Total amount - 108 academic hours.

Students have an opportunity to practice and improve their knowledge of the language and get information on the subject of the course. The course is using an interactive teaching methodology, classes included games, debates, role-playing game on the EU model. According to the results of training, all students received a course certificate indicating the number of credits (3 ECTS).



Reviews have led to the conclusion that the course has provided useful and new information for both its own and for the professional development of students. Participants praised the new methods of learning. In addition, they have acquired and improved skills that will be useful for their future study and work.

Evolution of the European political identity as a social structure of the EU

The EU Research club meeting: "Evolution of the European political identity as a social structure of the EU"

On February, 21 2017 in the Barents EU Centre the EU research club meeting was organized. The Club was initially based on the project "The EU Centre in the Barents



region of Russia", since then it has been partially sustained and developed within the framework of "Open module on the EU" project co-financed by the Erasmus programme of the European Union.

This time the meeting format was discussion of the topic "Evolution of the European political identity as a social structure of the EU". Representatives of the Institute of international programmes as well as students of the Institute of history, political and social sciences participated in it. At the meeting the participants shared their knowledge of the history of development of relations between the EU and Russia and opinions on the current situation and future. The main discussion was devoted to the development of the social structure of the EU since 1990

The general point of view is that dialogue and partnership are always win-win methods of achievement of mutual understanding and mutually beneficial goals.

Study Course "European Law"

On July 20, 2017 the work on developing and delivering lectures on the course "European Law" was completed at the EU Info Centre of PetrSU.

Lectures were given in English in the framework of the "Open Module on the European Union" project, carried out with the financial support of the Erasmus + program of the European Union.



The course included such topics as the concept of European law, the relationship between European law and the national legislation of EU member states, EU institutions and the decision-making process, the legal basis of relations between Russia and the EU and an analysis of their development.

The teacher was Anastasia A. Kuznetsova, Director of the EU Info Center.

The total volume of the course is 108 academic hours.



The students had the opportunity to practice and improve their knowledge of the language and get information on the subject of the course. The course used an interactive teaching methodology, classes included games and debates.

Reviews have led to the conclusion that the course has provided useful and new information for both its own and for the professional development of students. Participants praised the new methods of learning. In addition, they have acquired and improved skills that will be useful for their future study and work.

European vs public identity: is confirmation existing?

On May 16, 2017 the space bridge “European vs public identity: is confirmation existing?” was arranged in the Barents EU Centre within the framework of EU Research Club.

The Club has existed since 2012 and it was created within the framework of the project “Establishing the EU Centre in the Barents Region of Russia”, implemented under financial support of the European Union.

This time the meeting had the format of space bridge with the representatives from the Faculties of Law, Economics and Philology and public members participated in the meeting. Such variety of participants allowed to discuss the questions of EU



development, public identity and relations between Russian and the EU from different points of view.

The meeting was arranged during the interesting period when some questions related to external policy of the EU and European identity were especially sharp. Thus, the discussion was very active. So, both sides came to

conclusion that such meetings should be conducted more often as they allow to exchange the opinions and be informed about first-hand position of experts.

Study course "The Middle East policy of the European Union at the beginning of the XXI century"



Natalia Vladimirovna Silina, an expert from the International Scientific and Educational Center on the History and Culture of the European North of the Institute of History, Political and Social Sciences of PetrSU, taught the 3rd year undergraduate students of the IIPISN course "Middle Eastern Policy of the European Union at the Beginning of the 21st Century"

The main goal of the course was to provide students with an insight into the current situation in the Middle East and the main policies of the leading European Union member states regarding this region.

The objectives of the course were to highlight the main aspects of EU foreign policy at the end of the 20th and the beginning of the 21st centuries; to acquaint students with the political situation in the Middle East in the XX - at the beginning of the XXI centuries; analyze the main directions of the policy pursued by the EU towards the countries of the Middle East region; and assess the role of the European Union in the Middle East conflict.



The course consisted of 4 aspen topics:

- Topic 1. EU foreign policy at the end of the 20th - beginning of the 21st centuries.
- Topic 2. The Middle East conflict at the turn of the XX-XXI centuries

Theme 3. The European approach to the peace process in the Middle East
Topic 4. Leading European Union member countries and the political situation in the Middle East region at the beginning of the 21st century

The enlargement of the European Union, the economic and political trends and the convergence process



On the 21st of November 2017 the third meeting of the EU Research Club took place at PetrSU. The Club was founded within the framework of the international project 'Establishing the EU Centre in the Barents area of Russia' and then supported again by another project "Open module on the EU" project co-finnaced by the Erasmus

programme of the EU.

This time the meeting was held as a roundtable on the following topic: 'The enlargement of the European Union, the economic and political trends and the convergence process'. Students and lecturers from faculties of Law, Economics, Political and Social Sciences, as well as the staff of the department of the International project and programs participated in the roundtable.

Within the course of the roundtable the following questions were covered upon: the character and reasons of the crisis; definition of the field, where crisis started; interests and goals of the EU member states; future of the EU and Russia's position on the current situation in the EU. The discussion was held in a form of a debate, and the participants actively exchanged opinions.

Study course "Energy Policy of the European Union"

The deputy director of the Linguistic Center of PetrSU, Smirnova Yulia Alekseevna, taught the course "Energy Policy of the European Union" for students of the 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th years of undergraduate and graduate programs.



The goal of the course is to familiarize students with the history of formation and the prerogatives of the energy policy of the European Union. The objectives of the course were as follows: to provide a detailed explanation of the EU energy policy, highlight the main points of the evolution of the EU energy policy, disclose such a thing as "EU energy diplomacy", analyze the EU-Russia relations on issues related to energy cooperation.



The course included such topics as: the main and minor priorities of the European Union energy policy, the fuel and energy balance in the EU, the liberalization of gas and energy markets in the EU, the EU energy policy and foreign policy, the EU-Russia energy dialogue.

Cultural integration policy: Russia and the CIS in the context of the European Union experience.



The fourth meeting of the EU Research club took place in the European Union Centre in the Barents Region of Russia on May 22, 2018.

The Club was founded within the framework of the international project 'Establishing the EU Centre in the Barents area of Russia' and then supported again

by another project "Open module on the EU" project co-financed by the Erasmus programme of the EU.

This time the meeting took form of a discussion of the topic "Cultural integration policy: Russia and the CIS in the context of the European Union experience".

Staff members from the department of the international project and programs, students of the Institute of History, Political and Social Studies took part in this meeting.

During the discussion participants watched several video films related to the topic, heard the expert opinion, and exchanged their knowledge and evaluations of the situation. Many participants shared their personal experience of communicating with specialists in this sphere and European citizens concerning the relations with Russia and the CIS.



The participants gave positive feedback on the organization of the meeting and expressed the readiness to be a part of the EU Research Center in the future.

Study course “Cross-border cooperation as a factor of EU economic development”



Lectures were given in English in the framework of the “Open Module on the European Union” project, carried out with the financial support of the Erasmus + program of the European Union.

The course included such topics as the concept of cross-border cooperation in the present conditions, effect of cross-border cooperation

on the socio-economic development of the EU ("neighborhood effect"), Euro-region model as a special form of cross-border cooperation, Forms and spheres of cross-border cooperation, Nordic and EU programs. Barents region development, cross-border cooperation between Finland and the Republic of Karelia, Trends in the development of cross-border cooperation in the world.

Lecturer - Oksana Prokhorova, PhD, Associate Professor, Faculty of Economics, Chair of Economic Theory and Management
Total amount - 108 academic hours.

Students had the opportunity to practice and improve their knowledge of the language and get information on the subject of the course. The course used an interactive teaching methodology, classes included games and debates. According to the results of training, all students received a course certificate indicating the number of credits (3 ECTS).



and European Union countries, and coverage of this topic in the international media and the expert community. A comment on the possible impact of the consequences of Brexit for Russia was made by the scientific director of the Institute of Northern European Studies of PetrSU, Doctor of Economics Valery Alexandrovich Shlyamin.

The conference was moderated by Professor, Head of the Department of Foreign History, Political Science and International Relations, Chairman of the Karelian Regional Department of AEVIS Kilin Yuri Mikhailovich.

The round table showed a high level of knowledge of PetrSU students on European issues.

The EU Research Club on Brexit issues

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

A round table discussion on the Brexit problem was organized at the PetrSU Youth Innovation Park, organized jointly by the Karelian branch of the Association for European Studies and the Barents EU Center.

The event was attended by students of the 2nd and 4th courses of the “International Relations” training direction and undergraduates of the “History of Northern European Countries” program.

A wide range of problems related to Brexit was discussed, including the current situation and prospects for its development, the attitude to the problem in the UK and European Union countries, and coverage of this topic in the international media and the expert community. A comment on the possible impact of the consequences of Brexit for Russia was made by the scientific director of the Institute of Northern European Studies of PetrSU, Doctor of Economics Valery Alexandrovich Shlyamin.

The conference was moderated by Professor, Head of the Department of Foreign History, Political Science and International Relations, Chairman of the Karelian Regional Department of AEVIS Kilin Yuri Mikhailovich.

The round table showed a high level of knowledge of PetrSU students on European issues. consultations of lecturers and experts, to discuss scientific topics, urgent news and the issues of the EU and to communicate with each other.

Scientific Conference on the Issues of Modern Europe

May 2019 PetrSU hosted the annual scientific conference of young researchers on the problems of modern Europe, organized jointly by the Karelian branch of the Association for European Studies and the Barents EU Center.



The event was attended by students of the 2nd and 4th year of study in the field of training "International Relations" and the undergraduate program "History of the Nordic countries."

Presentations were made by Ekaterina Serova (5th year, master's program "History of the Nordic countries") - "The specifics of security perception in Finland (using the example of the law on intelligence)", Evgeny Nikolaev (2 year, "International Relations") - "Finnish Media on the Admission of Crimea to Russia," Yana Stepanova (2 year, "International Relations") - "The Arctic Triad: Struggle for Leadership in the Northern Region", Maria Pimenova (4 year, "International Relations") - "The rysskräck phenomenon in the modern Swedish media," Ekaterina Shestakova (4 year, "International Relations") - "Cooperation of Petrozavodsk with twin cities from Northern Europe as an instrument for the development of creative social space."



The moderator of the conference was Professor, Yuri Mikhailovich Kilin, Head of the Department of Foreign History, Political Science and International Relations, Chairman of the Karelian Regional Department of AEVIS.

The round table showed a high level of knowledge of PetrSU students on European issues.

Study course "Internal policy of the European Union: difficulties and ways of their overcoming"

May 31, 2019 Barents EU Center completed the course "Internal policy of the European Union: difficulties and ways of their overcoming". Lectures were delivered in English as part of the Open Module for the European Union project, supported by the Erasmus + program.



The course included topics such as:

- The modern decision-making system in the EU and its criticism
- Dynamics of internal relations between EU countries
- Nationalism and Euroscepticism in the European Union
- European Identity and EU Membership Issues: Impact on Politics
- The past and current state of EU policy
- Current EU policy: problems, difficulties and prospects

Lecturer - Oksana Ermolaeva, candidate of historical sciences, associate professor, Institute of History, Political and Social Sciences, Department of Russian History.



The total amount is 108 academic hours. Students had the opportunity to practice and improve their knowledge of the language and get information on the subject of the course. During the event, an interactive teaching methodology

was used, classes included games and debate. According to the results of training, all students received a certificate of the course indicating the number of credits (3 ECTS).

The reviews led to the conclusion that the course provided useful and new information for both students' own and professional development.

Contact information

<http://beuc.petsu.ru>

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

E-mail: beuc@petsu.ru

Petrozavodsk State University

Head of the project:

Marina Gvozdeva

gvozdeva@petsu.ru

+7(8142)71-10-04

Project manager:

Galina Parikhina

galina.parikhina.petsu@gmail.com

+7(8142)71-96-14



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