

BARENTS EU CENTRE

NEWSLETTER №3

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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 officials of regional and municipal administrations and civil society institutions

The training programme presupposes satisfaction of needs of a group of officials of regional and municipal administrations and representatives of civil society institutions in sufficient knowledge on the European Union and organization of cooperation with the European structures, funds, organizations and institutions. Partner universities invited and



formed a group of municipal and regional officials and representatives of CSIs, including business organizations, NGOs, friendship societies and mass media, who would like to advance their professional skills through this training programme.

The experts outline that specialists who are to work and cooperate with the EU suffer from the lack of knowledge on the EU. That is why the first part of the training programme was devoted to development and presentation of the interdisciplinary course on the EU.

On 13-14 March 2013 the course was arranged by PetrSU for the municipal and regional authorities, regional institutions of the civil society of the Republic of Karelia. 28 people participated in the course. They represented ministries, municipal

administrations and budgetary institutions, business incubator and other structures of Petrozavodsk, Medvezh'egorsk and Suojarvsky, Kaleval'sky, Sortaval'sky, Myezersky and Segezhsky districts. The course was delivered by a senior lecturer of the International Relations Department of the Faculty of Political and Social Sciences Anton Lapshin.



The course included such topics as history of European integration, the EU institutions, the process of decision-

making in the EU, spheres of policy and relations between Russia and the EU. The participants demonstrated great interest in the topic and emphasized that the course had special significance and was useful as for their professional activity as for the personal enhancement.

On 28-29 March 2013 “Integrated course on the European Union” by Anton Lapshin



was hold on the base of Murmansk State Technical University. Approximately 30 representatives of administrations of Monchegorsk, closed administrative territorial union of Severomorsk, municipal body of Pechengsky district, urban-type village Nikel, research institutes of Kolar Research Centre of Russian

Academy of Science in Apatity, Murmansk Naval Biology Institute, Polar Research Institute of Marine Fisheries and Oceanography, Murmansk Regional Agency for Small and Medium-sized Business Support, etc. participated in the seminar. All in all, the course received a positive response from participants. During the lectures they asked a lot of additional questions.

On 4-5 April 2013 the centre “Arctic Partnership” arranged the integrated course on the European Union in NArFU. The course was attended by the representatives of different NArFU structures including Institute of social-humanitarian and political sciences, Law institute, Institute of Economics and Management, Institute of Forest Engineering, Institute of Theoretical and Applied Chemistry, common use centre “ArktikMed” and centre “Arctic Partnership”, representatives of business structures and administration and Deputies’ Council of Naryan-Mar.

On 11- 12 April 2013 the first out of three trainings devoted to the cooperation with the European Union was organized on the base of Syktyvkar State University.

Representatives of authorities, regional institutions of the civil society, business associations, national autonomous territories, mass media and educational institutions of the Komi Republic took part in the training. Participants gave high assessment to the information provided during the training and pointed out that the acquired



knowledge could be used in the professional activity and for personal development.

Aside from this course the training programme also includes the course devoted to the principles and basis of international cooperation and one-day seminar on European donor organizations which should be arranged throughout this year. Many participants who participated in the first stage of the training programme already registered for the further events. After completion of each course certificates are awarded to participants.

New courses on the EU in the Barents universities

The knowledge that lecturers of partner universities obtained within the framework of training programme and study visit in 2012 were used practically to improve the courses that were elaborated earlier and that should be reconsidered in accordance with the EU best practices. 15 lecturers of PetrSU, 4 lecturers of IIBE, 8 lecturers of MSTU, 7 lecturers of NArFU and 6 lecturers of SyktSU reviewed the courses that they taught earlier taking into account knowledge on the modern pedagogical technologies and experience of CEU and developed new courses on the EU issues in the English language. As a result 40 new courses on various EU aspects were elaborated.

The courses developed within the Barents EU Centre will not only allow to increase the quality of education connected with the EU topics but also to improve the knowledge of the English language.

The usage of the courses in Bachelor's and Master's degree programs will ensure the successful and sustainable continuation of the project implementation after its completion and also will assist in the development of the educational programs in foreign languages in PetrSU, IIBE, MSTU, SyktSU and NArFU.

Course on “The Common Foreign and Security Policy: the EU in World Politics” in Petrozavodsk State University

The course “The Common Foreign and Security Policy: the EU in World Politics” within the framework of the project “Open Module on European Integration” which is implemented under the financial support of the European Union “LLP programme”.

The course included two parts. The first part was devoted to the EU in the context of European integration. The topics were related to the historical and theoretical aspects of foreign policy and international relations of the European Union. This part was linked with the conceptual basics of European integration, international relations of



the EU up to 1993, prerequisites for establishing the EU common foreign and security policy, law and institutional basis of decision making process in these spheres of policy, national interests of EU member states and appearance of the EU common foreign and security policy.

The second part was devoted to the examination of the EU as the factor of international relations in the context of new world order. It touched upon the role of the EU in new world order, the main goals and recourses of common external policy and EU security policy, regional priorities, relations Russia-EU in the context of implementing by the EU the above mentioned policy.

The course made up 108 academic hours of which 58 were contact hours. The course was delivered in English so the participants could improve their knowledge of language and this is very important nowadays.

140 certificates with the indication of credits (3 ECTS) were awarded to participants. The training was arranged for all comers, so the group included PetrSU Bachelor's students, Master's students and also some ordinary people who don't study at the university.

The course received positive responses, the participants acquired useful information for the personal and professional development. Besides that, they obtained and improved the skills which will be useful for their study and job.

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 20 May 2013 one more meeting of the EU Research Club, which has been already existing for the second year, was arranged in Petrozavodsk State University.

The meeting had the form of an open discussion related to the topic "Visa Free Regime between the EU and Russia: To Be or Not To Be?". Students and lecturers of the Faculty of History, Philology and Law of PetrSU took part in it. The moderators of the meeting were A. Kuznetsova, head of the EU Information Centre/project

coordinator, and doctor of historical sciences, prof. Yu.Kilin, head of the Department of World History, director of PetrSU Institute of Northern European Research, director of the regional division of the European Research Association.



All participants could discuss such issues as the history of the question related to visa free regime, current situation, pros and cons of introduction of such regime for the EU and Russia, problems which should be solved and also propose variants of possible terms. They had the opportunity to demonstrate their views and arguments. Thus, that was a productive dialog. Participants expressed their positive impressions about the meeting and pointed out that they have acquired plenty of new theoretical and practical knowledge.

Schoolchildren and the EU research



The quiz devoted to the history of the European Union was arranged for schoolchildren of Murmansk and Murmansk region in the International Institute of Business Education. By the decision of the commission first place diploma was awarded to Ksenia Grebelkina,

second place diploma was awarded to Savely Kulakov, third place diploma was awarded to Alexey Kliuchnikov and Alexandra Pyshkina. The awarding of the winners was arranged on 29 April 2013 within the framework of the final conference of Student Science Days in the International Institute of Business Education.

On 10 June 2013 the winners of the competition “What Do I Know about the European Union?” were awarded memorable prizes and diplomas. The competition was arranged in April-May 2013.



It had the form of online quiz where the schoolchildren from Petrozavodsk and the Republic of Karelia responded to the questions connected with the history of European integration, the EU institutions, its nowadays state, symbols and the EU-Russia relations. Besides that, there was a creative question: “What new symbol would you

suggest for the EU? Describe it and give arguments”.

The first place was given to Alexander Antonov, the 7th grade “B”, school 42, the second place – Elizaveta Barkalova, the 4th grade “B”, Finnish and Ugric school named after Elias Lönnrot, the third place – Karen Kosyan, the 7th grade “B”, Louhi comprehensive secondary school. However, 6 works were selected including Christina Peniugalova (the 8th grade “A”, school 42), Valeria Osipenko (the 10th grade “A”, school 14) and Nikita Volkov (the 10th grade “B”, school 14).

The schoolchildren astonished us by their knowledge of the EU and by their creative approach. They emphasized that while they were preparing the answers to the questions they learnt a lot of new information about the European Union. Therefore, the competition encouraged interest in European research and development of knowledge about the EU among young people.

International Summer School in Karelia

International Summer School in Karelia (ISSK) “Resource geopolitics and energy security in the Barents Euro-Arctic region” was conducted in Petrozavodsk State University from 22 till 28 April 2013.

The School was organized within the framework of the project “Establishing the EU Centre in the Barents Region of Russia”, implemented under the financial support of the European Union, the University of Lapland and the Aleksanteri Institute of the University of Helsinki. More than 70 people participated in the School. Russian

representatives were from Petrozavodsk, St. Petersburg, Apatity and foreign representatives were from Iceland, Canada and Finland.

Students of five PetrSU faculties (the Faculty of History, Philology, Economics and Faculty of Political and Social Sciences) as well as students of Karelian State Pedagogical University actively participated in the work of the School.



The programme of the School included two main kinds of work: lectures before noon and discussions within work groups after noon. While working in the groups, students and lecturers could discuss thoroughly all questions connected with the main topic of the day and which was interesting for the participants. This kind of work allowed to examine the essential questions from

different perspectives, to see different approaches and to share opinions to all participants.

In the framework of the School such issues as resource geopolitics and energetics in international relations, energy resources in the Russian Arctic Policy, energy dialog between the EU and Russia, renewable natural resources in the Barents Region, legal aspects of energy security, were illuminated.

The lecturers of the School were Lassi Heininen, doctor of sciences, professor of Arctic policy, the University of Lapland, Tapani Kaakkuriemi, the head of educational programmes department of the Aleksanteri Institute of the University of Helsinki, Jussi Huotari and Hanna Lempinen, researchers of the University of Lapland, Natalia Loukacheva, firstly invited Nansen professor of Arctic research of the University of Akureyri, Ludmila Ivanova, senior research fellow of Institute of Economic Problems named after G.P. Luzin of Kola Research Centre of Russian Academy of Sciences, Alexander Sergunin, professor of Department of Theory and History of International Relations of the Faculty of International Relations of St. Petersburg State University,



and Gleb Yarovoi, associate professor of International Relations Department of the Faculty of Political and Social Sciences of PetrSU.



On 26 April the participants of the School also had the possibility to visit Karelian Research Centre of the Russian Academy of Sciences where they listened reports “Euroregion Karelia” by Dmitry Kislov, Deputy Minister of Economic Development of the Republic of Karelia, “Energy Security and Modernization of Economy of Remote Border Region” and

“Conception AQUAREL. Cross-Sectoral Approach under Condition of Sustainable Use of Natural Resources” by Igor Shevchuk, leading specialist of General Committee of Karelian Research Centre of the Russian Academy of Sciences, director of the non-commercial partnership “North-Centre”, “Increasing of the Share of Local Renewable Recourses”, “Turf Resources for Biofuel Production in Karelia” by Oleg Kuznetsov, Deputy Head of Swamp Ecosystems Laboratory of the Institute of Biology of Karelian Research Centre of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

On the closing day the participants shared their impressions connected with the School. Their opinions are the evidence that the School was successful. They pointed out significance and relevance of the School topics, high level of organization, the quality of the content of the programme and lecturers, and active discussions of questions. This School confirmed the importance of annual arranging international summer school in Karelia.

The EU Days

In the first semester of 2013 in Syktyvkar State University within the framework of “The EU Days” in the Republic of Komi the cycle of arrangements, which had the aim to show that the European Union is multilanguage, multicultural and tolerant union of European states, were conducted. Cultural and information part was oriented to the wide range of participants: schoolchildren, SyktSU students, representatives of working youth and residents of Syktyvkar. Altogether more then 600 participants took part in the arrangements which were conducted in SyktSU in May 2013. What is the European Union in the cultural sense, how do the nations of Europe keep their identity and how do integration processes influence culture – that is the goal of “The EU Days” in 2013. The cycle of arrangements were organized as “The windows to Europe” when each arrangement showed the culture of a definite region (Scandinavia, the Great Britain, Germany and Italy) and altogether they

created the common impression of the culture of the European Union in the historical plan and its current state.

On 7 May 2013 the event, devoted to Hungarian linguistics, literary studies and cultural studies in terms of Finno-Ugric cooperation, was conducted. The number of participants – 39 people.

The aim was to deepen knowledge of the modern tendencies in linguistics which absorb the traditions of plenty of cultures and reflect changes in the modern society and state, creation of a base for the cross-cultural dialog of the EU and Russia at the local level.

SyktSU students, journalists, staff of Ministry of National Policy of the Republic of Komi, representatives of non-commercial organizations of Syktyvkar took part in the event.

The Hungarian delegation, consisting of the representatives of student youth of the largesy universities of Hungary visited SyktSU on May 6-9, 2013. In the program of the visit the workshop “Hungarian linguistics, literary studies and cultural studies in



terms of Finno-Ugric cooperation” was conducted.

The main part of information was presented in Hungarian with the translation into Russian and it allowed students to listen to live and emotional Hungarian speech which differs much from the Komi and Finnish language which are traditionally taught in

SyktSU. Hungarian students told about the role of Hungarian linguistics, literary and cultural studies in the joint projects within the framework of the EU. In particular, there is the actual issue related to the changes and preservation of the language and culture in the process of globalization in terms of Hungarian entry to the EU. The following discussions were the most interesting: “Theory and practice of poems translations in Hungarian – the experience of two epochs” by the student from Eotvos Lorand University Reke Lelkes and report by Sofia Mattaikat “The usage of linguistic consciousness concept for the study of the Hungarian language”. At the end of the meeting students performed the most popular Hungarian songs and dances and taught their Syktyvkar colleagues to dance and sing Hungarian songs and dances.

On 17 May 2013 the joint exhibition of students from universities of Finland and SyktSU “The traces” was arranged in the Exhibit hall of Art Faculty. The number of participants – 64 people.

The aim of the arrangement was to increase the information level of schoolchildren about the culture of Finland as one of EU countries; to show the common points in

the culture of the Republic of Komi and Finland; activate the development of local art in terms of experience of colleagues from Finnish universities.

Students of Art Faculty of SyktSU, students of SyktSU Humanitarian Sciences Institute, staff of Syktyvkar museums, schoolchildren of art schools of the town took part in this event.

The Department of Arts and Crafts of Art Faculty of SyktSU together with the Finnish Art departments of Lapland University, Lahti University of Applied Sciences and Academy of Fine Arts in Helsinki implemented the joint innovational art project "Northern Places – Tracking the Ugrian traces through place-specific art and photography".

In April 2013 Finnish students together with Syktyvkar students passed the orientation courses on the cultures of kindred Finno-Ugric peoples. The most essential part of the project was the joint work of Finnish and Syktyvkar students. There were two mixed working groups which created their own art projects.

The official day of the exhibition was May 17. After this date exhibition material was sent to Finland for the exhibitions in Helsinki, Lahti and Rovaniemi. Olga Orlova from the National Gallery of the Republic of Komi was invited to participate in the



summarizing of the results of the cross-cultural communications project. She presented the report related to the common points of Komi and Finnish cultures and to the impact of Finnish traditional and modern culture at the European level. During the second part of the event students participated in the project told how the participation in the joint project impacted on their perception of modern local art and photography, what new tendencies in modern European art and culture they understand better after the project.

On 24 May 2013 the evening of British music "British Party" was conducted with the participation of 140 people.

The aim: presentation of local EU cultures as the part of European cultural heritage, acquaintance with modern musical tendencies as the display of social and cultural changes in the society and investigation of the impact of British culture on the culture of the EU, Russia and the Republic of Komi.

Students of SyktSU, musical bands and rock groups of Syktyvkar who sing in English, journalists, members of Ministry of Culture and Ministry of National Policy of the Republic of Komi, representatives of non-commercial organizations of Syktyvkar, working young men took part in the event.

The evening of British music was organized in cooperation with a musician from the Great Britain Jason Offen who together with the musical bands of Syktyvkar demonstrated the traditional British music (cover versions of the songs by The Beatles, Rolling Stones, Queen) and the music in English written by Syktyvkar bands under the influence of the modern English music. The evening of British music was conducted in English (the interpreters were the students of Politology and International Relations Department of the Humanitarian Sciences Institute). The hall was decorated with the style of local English parties where the participants of the concert can communicate with musicians in informal setting, sing their favorite musical compositions and try hands in the activity of rock guitarists or drummers. In the "saloon bar", which was decorated as the British pub, all visitors could drink traditional English tea.



The evening was opened by Jason Offen's lecture (in English) who told about the reasons of modern British music origins, its impact on the post-war society, its transformation under the impact of external and internal factors, the brightest representatives of British pop and rock music beginning from the Beatles and ending with the modern Indie groups.

Then Syktyvkar musical bands The Kate Runners, Signal Fire и Highlights took the stage. United concert where 18 songs were sang lasted near 1.5 hours. Then Jason Offen, evening moderator, played for those who wanted to sing solo parts of their favorite songs.

Jason Offen pointed out that he was pleased with the musical level of Syktyvkar musicians. All participants of the Evening of British music concurred in opinion that the expression of society through the culture and the music is the index of its maturity and readiness to the search of common cross-cultural interests and integration.

On 30 May 2013 the arrangement "German national and cultural autonomy demonstrates the European region" was conducted. The number of participants – 60 people.

The aim: to increase level of students' awareness about culture, traditions, history and language of Germany, to acquaint students with the representatives of the youth department of national and cultural autonomy of the Republic of Komi, to tell about the peculiarities of the higher educational system in Germany and opportunities of SyktSU students for studying in the universities of the European Union.

SyktSU students, representatives of National and cultural autonomies of Syktyvkar, journalists, representatives of the Ministry of National Policy of the Republic of Komi, participants of the youth department of the German National and cultural autonomy of the Republic of Komi "Wir" took part in the event.



The arrangement was started with the joint report of the specialists of SyktSU Directorate for International Activity and one of the students from Germany, who studies in SyktSU in the framework of the double degree program. The report was devoted to the modern education system in Germany, the

reforms of the 1990-s and living conditions in Germany. The discussion was active and allowed to single out Syktyvkar residents' preferences connected with the additional and parallel education and with future job. At the end of the report students, who were interested in the further studying in the EU, were registered for questionnaire survey and professional orientation in the Directorate for International Activity.

Then the representatives of the youth department of the German National and cultural autonomy "Wir" acquainted all participants with the traditional German dances, traditional and modern music and conducted master classes dedicated to the most popular German folk dances.

After the active part of dancing and singing part all participants could taste traditional German food which was prepared for this arrangement by the German autonomy. The culture and traditions of Germany and their impact in Russian culture and traditions were the topics of active discussions during the final tea drinking.

The main conclusion of participants is the confirmation of the fact that now the Republic of Komi is the tolerant region without interethnic conflicts. Such arrangements should help to preserve as long as possible the cultural variety and respect alien languages as your own one. In this regard the experience of the EU is the unique and invaluable and it can be used in the national and cultural policy of Komi region.

On 7 June 2013 the opening of the exhibition of Art Faculty



students and lectures "Under the sun of Tuscany" was arranged in the Exhibition hall of Art Faculty.

The aim: presentation of local cultures of the EU as the part of European cultural heritage, acquaintance with the modern Italian art, investigation of its impact on the culture of Europe and Russia, nature and traditions of Tuscany by the eyes of Syktyvkar lecturers and students.

The participants: SyktSU students and lecturers, journalists, representatives of the Ministry of Culture and National policy of the Republic of Komi, staff of museums and National gallery, representatives of Artists' Union of the Republic of Komi and Artists' Union of Syktyvkar, schoolchildren, working youth.

The group of students of the second-fifth years of study of Art Faculty spent May in Tuscany where they investigated the art and culture of Italy, acquired the practical experience of work on the open air and participated in the master classes of German artists. This became possible thanks to the Agreement between Syktyvkar State University and Fine Arts School in Shwanthaler (Germany) and the University of Florence (Italy).

Artists from Germany, Holland and Italy were among the participants of the working group. According to the results of plein-air students organized the first exhibition in Tuscany where skilful artists could see the works of their young colleagues and reveal some secrets of proficiency. According to the plan the final exhibition of lecturers' and students' works should have been opened on May 31. But due to long-lasting delivery of the pictures over the border installation of exhibits started only on June 6 when the pictures had arrived in Syktyvkar.

The exhibition was opened by the Dean of Art Faculty Ludmila Gurlenovna. She pointed out the importance of integration of international education process into the local culture and made the excursion into the history of Italian art. Then the head of the delegation of Syktyvkar State University, associate professor of Fine Arts Department Vera Belousova was given the floor. She told about the goals of plein-air, purposes of the participants and results.

The exhibition "Under the sun of Tuscany" presented 50 pictural works created with the help of techniques of water painting, gouache painting, pastel drawing, graphics and oil painting. All participants could also see photo works by the students and lecturers which showed the process of plein-air work and the culture, life and traditions of Italian inhabitants.

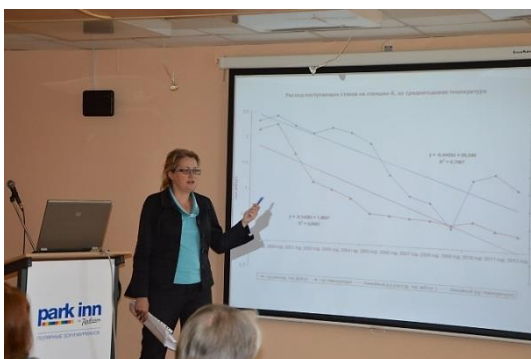


It's the second year on end when MSTU arranges "The EU Days". They were opened in Murmansk on 21 May 2013 by the scientific and practical seminar "Ecological Security of Water Resources in the Arctic Region of the EU and Russia" in the conference hall of the hotel "Park Inn Polyarnie Zori (Polar



Dawns)". The reports were represented by the candidates of sciences, professors of Murmansk Naval Biology Institute of Kolar Research Centre of Russian Academy of Sciences, director of the Institute for Industrial Ecology Problems of KSC RAS in Apatity and MSTU, specialists of "Kolar Ecological Centre" in Apatity, "Murmanskvodokanal" ("Murmansk Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant"), Limited Liability Company "EcoService" and others. There were the following reports: "Cooperation of Russia and the EU in the Sphere of Radiation Ecology in the Euro-Arctic Region", "Ecological Security of the Mining and Smelting Industry of the Barents Region", "The Experience of Waste Water Treatment in Scandinavian Countries", "Water Resources Monitoring in Russia and Finland", "Cooperation of Public Associations in the Sphere of Supply of Ecological Security of Water Resources of the Arctic Region of Russia and the EU", "Practice of Phosphates Removal From Waste Water", "Comparative Analysis of Standardization of Water Resources in Russia and the EU" and others.

The participants of the seminar discussed some essential and topical issues as environmental pollution is the most topical problem of the modern times because



anthropogenic activity affects all spheres of the Earth including hydrosphere. Nadezhda Kasatkina, candidate of chemical sciences of Murmansk Naval Biology Institute (MNBI) of KSC RAS investigated the questions related to radiation pollution of Arctic seas and told about international projects and

collaboration of MNBI with organizations and research institutes of EU countries in the sphere of radiation security.

Grigory Voskoboinikov, professor of MNBI of KSC RAS, gave a report on the role of biota in the purification of the offshore strips of the Barents Sea from oil products. The speaker was convinced that in spite of efforts of specialists from various spheres the problem of offshore strips pollution exists and will exist in the future. The increasing pace of surface and underground water pollution raises concerns not only in Russia but in Europe too. The team of MNBI in cooperation with the colleagues from the University of Tromsø carried out investigation related to the possible role of seaweeds and hydrocarbon-oxidizing bacteria in the neutralization of oil pollution and offered the scheme of algal sanitary plantation for the offshore strips purification. Natalia Stepanova, chief technologist of the state regional unitary enterprise "Murmanskvodokanal" ("Murmansk Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant") presented the report "Theory and Practices of Phosphates Removal From Waste Water" and Olga Fedorova, Head of the Department of Ecology and Environmental Protection told about technologies of waste water treatment which are used in Finland and municipalities of Norway. Intensive development of the consumer market provokes continuous growth of the amount of formation and accumulation of municipal waste. Thus, the problem of municipal waste utilization is one of the most essential goals of mankind. Waste recycling is acquiring a special role as for each state as for the whole planet. The report on the role of Russian and international public organizations, action groups and ecological movements in the sphere of environmental protection was also presented at the seminar.

The seminar demonstrated that from year to year the development of cross-border cooperation in the sphere of water resources protection is becoming more topical. The processes of cross-



border cooperation may serve as an effective method for search of solutions to various ecological problems, adoption of efficient and resource saving technologies and equipment, resource management and simultaneously may encourage the economic growth at the international and local levels.

On 24 May 2013 the second day of the festival "The EU Days" was organized. Practical seminar "International Experience in the Sphere of Energy Efficiency and Energy Supply" was arranged in Murmansk Regional Demonstration and Education Centre of Energy Efficiency and Energy Supply. The main topic of the seminar was the discussion of strategies, programs, priorities and goals of the European Union in the sphere of energy conservation, cooperation of Russia and the EU in the

energetic sphere, including the questions of energy efficiency and renewable energy sources, development of cooperation between Russia and the EU in the framework of international projects in the sphere of efficiency increase and reliance of heat and electrical supply of cities and buildings. More than 20 people (representatives of non-



governmental organizations, business associations and professors, researchers and post-graduate students of Murmansk universities) took part in the event.

The seminar was opened by Evgeny Mishchenko, general director of Demonstration and Education Centre of Energy Efficiency and Energy Supply of Murmansk region. Leading specialist of Energy Efficiency Agency of Murmansk region Vadim Ulanov presented report "Energy Conservation Experience in Finland by the Example of Rovaniemi". He described the methods which help Finnish enterprises to achieve increasing of energy efficiency as reduction of energy consumption is the key moment for the European Union. Another report was presented by Artur Dudka, project manager from Rovaniemi University of Applied Sciences, Finland. He highlighted international projects in the sphere of energy efficiency which are financed by the European Union and also highlighted the common policy of EU member states related to this issue. The participants were acquainted with the following interesting fact: despite the EU is the world leader in energy conservation, nevertheless there are places with no electricity at all in the developed countries of the European Union for instance, in some French villages. In the EU there is also a problem connected with the lack of investments for the development of advanced technologies in energy efficiency, etc. Seminar resulted in heated discussions, there were many questions, is it possible for Russia to achieve EU standards of energy consumption reduction. In Murmansk region reduction of energy consumption is implemented mainly by installation of individual heat and energy meters but even this measure doesn't allow to pull down payment for utilities services. The reporter from Finnish university is sure that we should start from ourselves and show careful attitude to the recourses, be responsible for the home we live in.

Within the framework of the seminar general excursion over education and demonstration centre was conducted by Ludmila Kir'yanova, Deputy Director of Murmansk Centre of Scientific and Technical Information – subsidiary of the federal state budgetary institution "Russian Energy Agency" of the Ministry of Energy of Russia where the boards with the samples of energy conserving products and materials were represented.



On 28 May 2013 within the framework of "The EU Days" in Murmansk festival for children "Country of Suomi in the Book House" was arranged in Murmansk regional library for children and young people. The division of Consulate General of Finland in Murmansk joined to organizing and arranging this attractive event. Special guests of the festival were Juhani

Tiainen from Finland, Sari Peuhenen, consular mass media and culture assistant in Murmansk Branch of Consulate General of Finland in St. Petersburg, Tatiana Yashinkina, specialist of Consulate visa department. Thus children could not only implement interactive trip to Finland but also to see and directly communicate with the representatives of the country.

The cognitive festival was opened by Natalia Anikeeva, the head of International Relations Department. She emphasized that such arrangements and the project help to get more information about our European partners and it in its turn will serve for fostering relations with European neighbors. Children were acquainted with the state symbols of Finland, colors of the national flag and their meaning, national animal, flower and bird. Preschoolers were told about origination of fairytale heroes – moomins which were created by Finnish writer Tove Jansson. With the astonishment and joy children met computer heroes – angry birds. The fact that their favorite birds and piggies came from Finland was a discovery for children. No doubt, everybody knows about Finnish Santa Clause. The children saw a real village of Santa Claus which is on the mountain on Finnish land in Lapland. But the most interesting moment was the meeting with Finnish guests. Sari Peuhenen, consular mass media and culture assistant in Murmansk Branch of Consulate General of Finland in St. Petersburg, told the children about her family and learnt with the children some Finnish words – "hello", "bye", "thanks", "a cat", "a deer", etc. Juhani Tiainen played the guitar and sang together with the children the song of Gena the Crocodile in Russian and Finnish. Also the children danced Finish



polka. At the end of the festival the children received sweet presents.

On 29 May 2013 in Murmansk regional library for children and young people in the framework of "The EU Days" media trip "Welcome to Germany", which demonstrated the world of Germany, was held. The year of 2013 was announced as the year of Germany and Russia as our countries have close historical and friendly ties. The aim of this arrangement was to expand horizons of knowledge in chronology of culture and art development, to give basic conception of the great achievements of Germany in different genres of the epoch of "the Northern Renaissance".

At the beginning of the "trip" the country and its unofficial symbols were demonstrated to the participants in the exciting form. They got to know many interesting facts: most of modern dog breeds was developed in Germany, the native land of the Nutcracker, the fairy tale hero, is also Germany, the building of the most grandiose cathedral in the world - Cologne Cathedral (it was the highest building till the end of the 19th century) which is described in UNESCO as "the extraordinary art work of human genius", was implemented for 600 years. The participants also received information about the history of development of Old Masters Gallery in Dresden, the Brandenburg Gate and the Reichstag building which are also the symbols of Germany. Everybody knows that Germany is famous for its automobiles – they are the most advanced, the most reliable, the most technological and the most attractive and it is noteworthy that luxury cars of English company Rolls-Royce are also produced in Germany. Germany is also associated with the greatest persons who are the key figures not only in the history of Germany, but also of the whole world. During the arrangement destiny and art of the following persons were illuminated: Beethoven, Wagner, Heine, Goethe, Einstein, Kant, Hegel, the Brothers Grimm, Hauff, Bruegel, etc. The second part of the "trip" was devoted to the epoch of "the Northern Renaissance" and, in particular, to the genius and founder of the German Renaissance Albert Dürer. The examples of painting, architecture, sculptures of this epoch were also demonstrated. It is noteworthy, that the temples and medieval castles in Germany in Gothic style of the Renaissance still boggle the mind.

On 31 May 2013 "The EU Days" were completed by the festival of German culture "Duetsches Fest" and results of literary translation competition. There were few



works in Italian and German, so, only first places were awarded.

The first places in the literary translation competition were taken by:

- Evgenia Shubina, first-year student of Radiotechnics and Radiotelecommunication Systems Department, Marine Academy,

MSTU – for the best translation from Italian into Russian;

- Maria Fedotova, fourth-year student, Faculty of Philology, Journalism and Intercultural Communications, Foreign Languages Department, MSTU – for the best translation from German into Russia;

The maximum number of works was connected with French. Thus there are 3 top places:

- the first place was taken by Leila Gashimova, fourth-year student of Faculty of Philology, Journalism and Intercultural Communications, Foreign Languages Department, MSTU;

- the second place was taken by Evgenia Kopytova, third-year student of Humanitarian and Law Faculty, Maritime Law and Special Linguistic Training Faculty, MSTU;

- the third place was taken by Ekaterina Matytsyna, third-year student of Humanitarian and Law Faculty, Maritime Law and Special Linguistic Training Faculty, MSTU.

The students who won the first place were awarded the main prize – certificate with 10 000 rubles from Non-state educational institution of additional education “Logos” for learning the European language chosen by the winner. Prize-winners of the second and third places were awarded gift and money certificates.

The first place among schoolchildren was taken by Mirieva Giunel Donmaz Kyzy from the tenth grade “A”, gymnasium 9 in Murmansk. She was granted certificate with 5 000 rubles from Non-state educational institution of additional education “Logos” for learning the European language chosen by the winner. The jury also singled out the work by Marina Zinov'eva from the tenth grade “A”, gymnasium 9 in Murmansk. She was awarded a recognition prize.



The final event for the participants of “The EU Days” was conducted in the best restaurant of German cuisine in Murmansk with special guests – the Russian and German Centre in Murmansk who presented live vocal performance in Swabian costumes, arranged international square dance master class. They not only sang and danced but the guests also could learn some basic movements of the dance and sang German songs “Rosamunde” and “Maiglöckchen”. Director of the Russian and German Centre in Murmansk Nadezhda Rafikova demonstrated presentation about the history of foundation and main directions of activity of the Centre in Murmansk. The guests also listened to the songs of popular German groups and singers by musical group “Roger”, took part in the quiz “Interesting Facts about

Germany" and acquired information on the carnival traditions in Germany, etc. Therefore, it was real German festival which left unforgettable impressions.

On 21-23 May 2013 "The EU Days" were arranged in Petrozavodsk State University. This time they were devoted to the culture of the EU member states. Each day was related with a definite topic.

21 May 2013 – "The Day of Cinema". The participants had the opportunity to watch movies of various genres produced by different EU member states.

The name of the first art house film was "Pina" (France, Germany, the Great Britain). The most essential Pina Bausch's performances in the Dance theatre (Tanztheater) is presented in the movie. There is also an interview with the dancers and their solo out of the theatre (in the streets of the city, against nature background, in the derelict building) in the film.



The second movie was the classical melodrama "The Umbrellas of Cherbourg" (France, Germany). Young Geneviève works in a family haberdashery – sells umbrellas. She is in love with auto mechanic Guy and he reciprocates her feeling. But soon Guy is drafted into the army and sent to Algeria. But the lovers promise to wait for each other. Then due to some

life circumstances Geneviève agrees to marry the rich and respectable man.

The third movie was about the legendary historical person. This is "King Arthur" (the Great Britain, Ireland). Britain, the 5th century, under the attacks of barbarians declining Roman Empire lives its last years. It seems that nobody and nothing is able to save Foggy Albion from the attacking horde of Saxons from over the sea. But there is a great warrior and it is written in the stars that he will prove the contrary and that he will set his name and the names of his faithful knights in stone. This is the film about a person who became the legend and a symbol of bravery, about a person who became a king!

After demonstration of movies there was a quiz related to the knowledge of European cinema. The questions were devoted to actors, directors, movies and film festivals of EU



member states. Memorable prize was awarded to the winner.

The second day, 22 May, was devoted to "The Language Day". It was consisted of two big events: "School of European Languages" and the student conference "European Language which I'm Studying".

The duration of lessons of the School amounted to 45 minutes. There were 6 lessons in accordance with represented European languages: Finnish, French, German, Polish, Swedish, and English. The participants could master basics of languages, welcome vocabulary and learn how to introduce yourself and they also were acquainted with the translation of some food products.

4 students participated in the conference: Maria Konovalova "The Melodies of Swedish. Language and Music", Ksenia Terletskaya "Peculiarities of Foreign Language Acquisition", Olga Tyapchenko "The Sunny Language of Amazing



Country (Italian)" and Anton Cherkasov "Polish and Russian. The Peculiarities of the Polish Language". The reports had an academic and personal approach. Maria Konovalova and Anton Cherkasov told about peculiarities of the target language. Ksenia Terletskaya and Olga Tyapchenko told about their experience. The participants revealed why they had begun to study language, the problems they faced and which of the methods were the most successful. The first place was awarded to O. Tyapchenko, the second place - K. Terletskaya, and the third - M. Konovalova and A. Cherkasov. Diplomas and memorable prizes were awarded to all participants.

23 May 2013 was "The Day of Music". The first part of the day was devoted to the acquaintance with European classical music. An analytical report was represented to participants and they also could enjoy the music of such great composers as Haydn, Bach, Mozart, etc. Besides, modern interpretation of classical music was introduced to them.

Then the quiz related to the knowledge of modern European music was arranged. The participants answered the questions about contemporary musicians and after each question they watched music video. The winner was awarded the memorable prize.

All participants received invitations to the event in the club-restaurant "Begemot"



which completed “The EU Days”. Special guests represented by the Finnish folk-rock band “Trollfolk” gave a concert which impressed everybody.

All in all “The EU Days” were successful. It was diversified and multisided event. The participants expressed their positive opinions of all three days.

On 5-6 June 2013 “The EU Days” were arranged in Archangelsk in NArFU. The Centre “Arctic Partnership” organized the business game “Cyprus Expropriation – the New Policy of the EU?” (or “Crisis in the EU”), devoted to this event.

The game had the form of discussion of the current critical situation in Cyprus. Students of first to fourth years of education from the Institute of Humanities, Social and Political Sciences from the Departments of World History and Politology, Regional Studies and International Relations evaluated the role of the Russian Federation, Cyprus and Germany and consequences of the events which took place in March 2013.

The lecturers of NArFU played the role of the independent monitors of the European Commission.

Following the results of the role play “Crisis in the EU” on 6 June the participants worked out the resolution where they formulated the proposals and alternative solutions for crisis recovery. Participants also were awarded certificates.

The Barents EU Centre Open Days

From 5 till 7 June 2013 “The Open Days” were conducted in the Barents EU Centre. The visitors had the opportunity to see the presentation of the project and Centre and to receive information on its purposes and objectives, main directions of work, implemented and future arrangements. Presentation of the European scholarship foundations was demonstrated. It allowed to get information on the opportunities for people who want to study, implement internship or research in Europe. Besides, the visitors could listen to the lecture by Alexey Gromiko, deputy director of the Institute of Europe of RAS, the head of British Research Centre, President of the European Research Association “The European Union: Current Situation and Prospects” (the video of public lecture in NArFU was used). From 5 till 7 June the exhibition dedicated to the EU and European educational programs was opened.



“The Open Days” and the Barents EU Centre received positive responses from visitors. Schoolchildren, students, post-graduate students, mass media representatives and people, who want to learn more about the EU, were among the participants. They singled out that there are no doubts that its activity is very

important for development of European research in the Barents region of Russia, it provides plenty of opportunities for its encouragement and is interesting for various representatives of society.

Barents EU Centre supports professional development and establishing cooperation with European organizations



European Commission
TEMPUS

Under the Barents EU Centre support on 1 March 2013 representative of PetrSU Institute of International Programs A.A. Rogozin participated in the consultation and methodical workshop related to the preparation of project applications for the program Tempus IV within the 6th competition which took place in the Delegation of the European Union in Moscow.

During the workshop various aspects of the preparation of project applications were discussed: completion of the

electronic form, working out of the budget and working plan, completion of associated documents, application submission procedure, methodical recommendations for working out the logic and structural scheme, etc.

Besides, after the workshop all participants could ask questions and acquire personal consultations.

It is noteworthy, that in 2013 PetrSU takes an active part in the programme TEMPUS IV and participates in 14 consortiums from 12 different countries of the European Union.

From 11 till 13 April 2013 the 14th Kazakhstan International Exhibition "Education and Career-2013" was conducted in the exhibition hall "Atakent-Ekspo". Representatives of 14 countries, including 20 Russian universities, participated in the exhibition. During 3



days approximately 2000 people visited the exhibition.

Under support of the Barents EU Centre the representatives of PetrSU and PetrSU Institute of International Programs, A.A. Rogozin and P.A. Mikhaleva, took part in it.

During this arrangement they presented the activity of the Barents EU Centre, discussed the issues related to the cooperation and student exchange with the representatives of Baltic Centre in Riga, International Business School in Budapest and Transport and Telecommunication University in Lithuania. Besides, perspectives of cooperation within the framework of the project TSI Asia in the sphere of academic mobility were outlined.

This arrangement allowed participants to acquire information connected with the opportunities for Russian students to study in the European universities and opportunities of getting scholarships and grants in terms of these goals.

Under support of the Barents EU Centre representatives of PetrSU took part in the international educational exhibition "Education and Career - 2013" in Kiev (Ukraine). The exhibition was conducted in one of Kiev central halls "Ukrainian House" from 11 till 13 April 2013. The exhibition presented educational institutions and organizations of Russia, the Czech Republic, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland, the Great Britain, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, etc.

The representatives of PetrSU and PetrSU Institute of International Programs, L.Y.Kulikovskaya and N.V. Silina told about the opportunities of studying in PetrSU, presented the activity of the Barents EU Centre and also acquired information connected with the opportunities for Russian students to study in the European universities and opportunities of getting scholarships and grants in terms of these goals. They established contacts with some European universities among participants of the exhibition. The Head of Representational Office of Rossotrudnichestvo (Russia Cooperation) K.P. Vorobiov, the heads of Russian Centres of Science and Research visited the exhibition. PetrSU representatives discussed with them the issues devoted to the cooperation in the sphere of enrolment of perspective students and other research and educational arrangements.



The Barents EU Centre coordinator participated in EUVP

From 17 till 21 June 2013 the head of the EU Information Centre, Barents EU Centre coordinator Anastasia Kuznetsova took part in European Union Visitors Programme in Brussels, Belgium.

The aim of this programme is to provide opportunities to young leaders from non-EU countries to visit institutes of the European Union.

During this week A. Kuznetsova had the meeting with the representatives of the European Parliament, the European

Commission, the Committee of the Regions, the Directorate for Education and Culture, the Directorate for Development and Cooperation, the Directorate for Research and Development, the European Central Bank, the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency, DAAD, the EU-Russia Centre.

Thanks to these meetings she was able to acquire valuable information on such European programmes as Jean Monnet, Erasmus Mundus, Tempus, Marie Curie Actions. As PetrSU is very interested in the participation in these programmes, it was very useful to get the information on the current state of the programmes and about their future. Now they are being transformed and united into the programmes Erasmus Plus or Erasmus for all and Horizon 2020. The most essential issues devoted to participation of Russian organizations and Russian citizens and financing were revealed during these meeting.

Within the frameworks of the meetings there were discussions connected with relations Russia-EU, attitudes towards Russia in the European countries and towards Europe in Russia. It appeared that the views of the European institutions have largely negative character. The sharp problems which are put in the forefront, – human rights in Russia, the status of non-commercial organizations, the attitude to the opposition. It was emphasized that these trends have appeared during last two years. Nevertheless, Russia is the main strategic partner for the EU. The European Union want to see Russia as the strong democratic state. All in all, thanks to this programme Anastasia was able to establish contacts with the EU institutions, define directions of possible cooperation and provide information about EU Centre.



Literary Evening “My Country is the Czech Republic”

On 30 May 2013 literary evening “My Country is the Czech Republic” with the participation of PetrSU students and town residents was arranged in Petrozavodsk State University. Special guests were Barents EU Centre coordinator Anastasia Kuznetsova and the participant of international exchange program “Erasmus Mundus”, student from the



Czech Republic Eva Hejnisova. A. Kuznetsova presented information on the activity of Centre, perspectives of its development and opportunities it gives students, post-graduate students and lecturers of PetrSU. Eva Hejnisova told about the first president of Czechoslovakia Thomas Masaryk, prominent representatives of culture and art (John Amos Comenius, Franz Kafka, Alfons Mucha), reminded about the history of dissolution of Czechoslovakia into two independent states. “People often confound us and say that the Czechs and the Slovaks are alike but there are two principal contrasts: firstly, Slovakia has mountain landscape and many mountain peaks; secondly, 70% of inhabitants are Christians. In the Czech Republic there are few mountains and all people are atheists despite the fact that we have many churches. But it is hard to find operating churches”. – noted student from the Czech Republic. The video film about the Czech Republic was also demonstrated to the audience. The film was devoted to the best architectural monuments and sights which have become pilgrim places, plenty of which are of great historical and artistic



value and are under UNESCO protection.

The participants of the evening had the opportunity to ask foreign students about her first impressions of Petrozavodsk, surprising moments in the town, impressions of our country. “I was surprised by Russian trains, food in the student canteen and by fact that Russian

students have a rest with songs and dances. You have many singing people. Czech people don't sing a lot”, - that was Eva's observations. There also was a question: “Does the system of education in the Czech Republic differ from the system in

Russia?”. The foreign student said: “Yes! In Russia it brings me more pleasure to study as here professors and lecturers are interested in their students, they try to give them more knowledge and are distressed personally for each student. In the Czech Republic people attend universities just to get to know what they should read!”.

“The meeting was very emotional and dynamic largely thanks to the amazing sense of humor of our guest from the Czech Republic. Eva is a nice, smiley, honest, very communicative girl. It is not surprising that she has found friends in Russia very quickly who gave warm encouragement to her during her tale about her country helping to find more suitable definitions,” – Elena Yagich, head of the sector of humanitarian and educational work, said.

Cooperation between the EU Centres

On 18 April 2013 the meeting of the Russian EU Centres was Arranged in Immanuel Kant Baltic Federal University in Kaliningrad.

Anastasia Kuznetsova, coordinator of the project “Establishing the EU Centre in the Barents Region of Russia”, presented the EU Centre in the Barents Region of Russia (BEUC) which was established in PetrSU.



In the course of the meeting representatives of six EU centres demonstrated the results of their work in 2012 – beginning of 2013, shared their experience, discussed the results of reporting of the first and second years of activity and the questions of further cooperation and organization of joint activities in collaboration with not only Russian Centres but also with Centres of other countries. Nicola Scaramuzzo (Delegation of the European Union to Russia) emphasized some essential perspectives and possibilities of further work and financing of Centres activity.

On April 19-20, 2013 coordinator of the Barents EU Centre Anastasia Kuznetsova and project lecturer, director of PetrSU Institute of Northern European Research, director of the regional division of the European Research Association Jury Kilin took part in the international conference “Russia and the European Union: Dynamics of Relations” in Kaliningrad in Immanuel Kant Baltic Federal University.

Russian and foreign politicians, international relations experts, heads of European Research Centres participated in the event. The main aim of the conference was to discuss the essential issues devoted to Russia-EU relations as it gives the opportunity to correct the direction of further European investigations. The conference was opened by the exhibition where the works dedicated to the European and international research and to the works of the winners of the second competition "I and the European Union" were presented.

During the workshops of the conference participants discussed the following issues: the further facilitation of visa procedures and perspectives of non-visa regime between Russia and the EU, perspectives of partnership development between Russia and the West in sphere of security, the project of partnership for modernization, the problems of justice in Russian-European relations. Within the framework of the conference the round table discussions "The Role of Political Elites in the Transformation of the System of Identities of Mass Groups in Baltic Region Countries" were conducted.

On 20 April the meeting of the European Research Association, where Jury Kilin presented his report, and Ceremonial meeting of Scientific Council of Immanuel Kant Baltic Federal University were arranged.



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