



# Transformation of the European Education and Research Area and Russia

**Alla Akulshina**

Director of the Centre for International Projects and Programmes

**Dmitriy Galushko**

Associate Professor of the Department of International and European Law  
Voronezh State University, Russia

"First of all, science and education should help to overcome the crisis in the relationship that exists between the EU and Russia, as in these areas of interaction we have huge potential. We must actively cooperate with each other - something that in English sounds like «people to people contact».

*Nicola Scaramuzzo,  
Head of the EU-Russian Cooperation Programme*

# *European Research Area*

European Research Area (ERA) - combined efforts of different countries for joint resolution of problems in various fields of science.

The original 2000 vision of the ERA was founded on the analysis of the unfavorable gap between Europe and the US and Japan on key science and technology indicators (1,8% of GDP in the EU in average whereas 2,8% in the USA and 2,9% in Japan).



# *European Research Area*

Report about state-of-the-art in ERA by European Commissioner for Research *Janez Potochnik*:

The tasks put in the Lisbon strategy (employment level – 70% and 3% of GDP expenditure on S/T development) were not fulfilled on time (2010).

It is difficult to say about any significant progress.

The percentage of GDP spent on R&D by the EU-27 was 1.85%.

While in the same period the percentage of GDP spent on R&D by Japan grew from 3,04% to 3,39%, by Korea from 2,39 to 3,23%, by China from 0,90 to 1,42%.

The report marks stagnation in the development of research policy.

# *European Research Area*

*Technological achievements of Europe are less indicative*

- More than 50% of all patent applications received by the European Patent Office (EPO) are not from the EU Member States, but from other countries
- More than a half of the EU Member States do not produce high-tech patents, and the highest concentration of patents can be traced only in a few European regions

*The EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation  
(2014-2020)*

The Commission has proposed to increase the EU R&D budget to EUR80 billion for the Horizon 2020 Program and Member States have committed themselves to the EU target to invest into the research sphere on average 3% of EU GDP by 2020.

European Research Area (ERA) is in the heart of the Europe 2020 strategy.

# *Russian state scientific policy*

- The scientific policy of Russia faces very close challenges, similar to EU.
- Since 2000, there is a serious growth in public spendings on science: expenditures of the federal budget increased by 1.5 times.



# *Russian state scientific policy*

Despite the increase in funding for science, the number of organizations engaged in research and development, reduced:

In 2000 - 4099 scientific organizations;

In 2013 - 3536 scientific organizations.



# *Russian state scientific policy*

Personnel engaged in research and development:

- In 2000 - 887,700 people.
- In 2013 - 742,400 people.

# *Russian state scientific policy*

Indicators of efficiency of scientific researches in Russia:

In 2012 - only 2.08% of Russian scientific articles were published in scientific journals indexed in the database Web of Science.

Whereas in France - 4.67%, Germany - 6.4%, China - 15.8%.

According to their relative weight in the total number of scientific publications, Russia was between Brazil (2.59%) and the Netherlands (2.46%).

# *Russian state scientific policy*

The strategic objective of Russian policy in the field of science and research is the return of Russia to the countries that are leaders in this field, as well as providing of a breakthrough in the field of basic and applied research in the spheres that are important to the world economy in general and for the Russian economy, in particular.

Legal base:

- Presidential Decree of May 7, 2012 № 599 "On measures for implementation of the state policy in the field of education and science»
- The strategy of innovative development of the Russian Federation for the period up to 2020



# *Russia-EU*

Russia - EU summit 2005 in Moscow:

task to form a "common space of research and education, including cultural aspects».

# *Russia-EU*

The legal basis for S&T cooperation and is formed by the group of agreements

- Agreement on scientific & technological cooperation between the European Community and the Russian Federation (concluded in 2000 and renewed in 2003 and in 2009);
- Agreement for cooperation between the European Atomic Energy Community and the Government of the Russian Federation in the field of nuclear safety (2001);
- Agreement for cooperation between the European Atomic Energy Community and the Government of the Russian Federation in the field of controlled nuclear fusion (2001);
- Roadmap for the EU-Russia Common Space in Research and Education including Cultural Aspects (2005).
- EU-Russia Partnership & Cooperation Agreement (chapter on science & technology - article 62).

# *Russia-EU*

Institutional base Russia-EU relations in the field - multilateral mechanisms on the level of the RF Ministry of Education and Science and the Directorate for Research and Innovation of the European Commission:

- *Permanent Partnership Council (PPC) in Science, 2008;*
- *Joint EC-Russia S&T Cooperation Committee;*
- *Joint EU-Russia Thematic Working Groups (WG) in priority research areas (Nanotechnologies & New Materials, Health, Food-Agriculture-Biotechnology, Non-Nuclear Energy, Nuclear Fission, Aeronautics, and ICT, Environment)*



# *Russia-EU*

In June 2011, within the Joint EC-Russia S & T Cooperation Committee - «road map» for such cooperation for 2011-2013.

Main tools of support, funding and promotion of research cooperation between EU and Russia are Framework Programmes for Research and Technological Development, such as: Tempus, Erasmus.

In 2010, introduction of a new format of cooperation between Russia and the EU - «Partnership for Modernization» - was announced.

At the 30th EU-Russia Summit, held on 21 December 2012 in Brussels, political leaders of the EU and Russia have declared 2014 as the «EU-Russia Year of Science» in order to enhance EU-Russia cooperation in research, higher education, innovation.

# Association to Horizon 2020

## Criteria for association in Article 7 of Horizon 2020 Regulation.

Eligible for association are:

☉ Countries acceding to the EU, EU candidate countries and potential candidates

☉ Selected third countries that fulfil all relevant criteria:

- Good capacity in science, technology and innovation;
- Good track record of participating in EU research and innovation programmes;
- Close economic and geographic links with the European Union;
- EFTA members, countries or territories listed in the European Neighbourhood Instrument;
- Fair and equitable treatment of IPR

☉ Countries or territories associated to FP7

☉ International cooperation

*Compared to previous FPs, revision to list of countries which receive 'automatic funding': **BRIC + Mexico will no longer receive automatic funding** from EU for their participation in H2020*

# *Voronezh State University*

- At present, Russia is the most successful international partner of the EU 7th Framework Program.
- VSU is one of the leading regional Russian universities in regard to such EU programs.
- Since 1995, VSU participates in European programs in the field of education and science, such as: TEPMUS, Erasmus Mundus, Framework Programs.
- At present VSU is involved in 10 different EU projects.



# *Conclusion*

- Nowadays, there is no doubt that the European Union and the Russian Federation makes revision of their attitude to the science and research area.
- Both EU and RF shares similar approaches to solving problems of this area, aiming primarily at improving the effectiveness of research, at increasing of the quality and quantity of researches, development and introduction of innovative technologies and practices in the field of education, at improving of the level of training of specialists, at expansion of acquired competencies.
- To date, within EU-Russia relations, in the light of the current geopolitical situation, there are many mutual claims and contradictions between two sides. However, in our opinion, the spheres of science, research and education, through international cooperation, international projects and programs, can become that factor, that catalyst to overcome differences and to develop cooperation, including the basis for common goals and interests, with the prospect of real implementation of the pan-European space of education and science.

# *Thank you for your attention!*

## **Alla Akulshina**

Director of the Centre for International Projects and Programmes,  
Voronezh State University, Russia  
*email: akulshina@vsu.ru*

## **Dmitriy Galushko**

Associate Professor of the Department of International and European Law  
Voronezh State University, Russia  
*email: galushkodv@gmail.com*