

MINUTES

17th GOVERNING BOARD MEETING EUROPEAN STUDIES INSTITUTE

Moscow, 25 April 2013

MGIMO, 119454 Moscow, Prospect Vernadskogo, 76
10.00 a.m., Academic Council room (MGIMO new building)

AGENDA

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Speaker: A.V. Torkunov

2. Presentation of new members of the Governing Board

Speaker: A.V. Torkunov

3. Overview of the ESI current activities and perspectives of development

Speaker: T.V. Shashikhina

4. Future financing of the ESI

Speaker: Chairmen of the ESI ExeCom

Open discussion

5. Report on the activities of the ESI Committees

Speakers: Heads of the Committees

Co-speakers (if necessary): members of the ExeCom.

Draft of the ExeCom proposals:

- (1) Committee on students' enrolment - functioning on permanent basis;
- (2) Committee on professors - functioning ad hoc;
- (3) Executive committee – holding in future its sessions through skype-conferences only

6. The ESI Board of Trustees

- 6.1. Approval of the ESI Board of Trustees Provisions;
 - 6.2. Open discussion on composition of ESI Board of Trustees
 - 6.3. Cooperation with the diplomatic missions of the EU Member States
- Open discussion*

7. The ESI Regional Strategy and network

Speaker: O.N. Barabanov

8. Date of the next Governing Board meeting

Open discussion

9. Miscellaneous

PARTICIPANTS

The Governing Board members from the Russian Federation side

Mr. Anatoly TORKUNOV	Rector of the MGIMO-University, Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences
Mr. A.Y.MESHKOV	Deputy Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia
Mr. Alexey GROMYKO	Deputy Director, Institute of Europe of the Russian Academy of Sciences
Mrs. T.V.SASHIKHINA	Director, European Studies Institute

The Governing Board members from the European Union side

Mr. Eiki BERG	Professor of International relations, Department of Political Science, University of Tartu, Estonia
Mr. Klaus SEGBERS	Program Director, Centre for Global Politics, Freie Universitat Berlin
Mr. Gerhard HAFNER	Professor of International law, School of Law, Vienna University, Austria

Observers

Mr. Michael VEBB	Deputy Head of the EU Delegation to the Russian Federation
Mr. Alexis LOEBER	Head of section, European Union Delegation to the Russian Federation
Mr. Paul DEMARET	Director, Development Office, College of Europe, Bruges
Mrs. Evangelina BLANCO GONZALEZ	Project Manager, College of Europe, Bruges
Mr. Nicola SCARAMUZZO	Project Officer, Educational Programmes, Operations section, European Union Delegation to the Russian Federation

Guests

Mr. Mariusz SIELSKI	Representative of the College of Europe at the European Studies Institute
Mr. Mikhail MARCHAN	Deputy Director, European Studies Institute
Mrs. Svetlana KORZHOVA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Deputy Head of the Section of European Cooperation
Mr. Nicolay KAVECHNIKOV	Head, Chair of the European Integration, MGIMO (U)
Mrs. Natalia ADAMCHUK	Head, Department of the EU Economics, European Studies Institute
Mr. Oleg BARABANOV	Head, Department of Politics and Policies of the EU and the Council of Europe, European Studies Institute
Mrs. Natalia SLAVKINA	Advisor to the Director, European Studies Institute

ABSENT

Mr. Yury USHAKOV	Aide to the President of the Russian Federation
Mrs. Alexandra KHUDAYKULOVA	Vice-rector, MGIMO (U)
Mrs. Elena DANILOVA	Director of the Department, Ministry of Economic Development of Russia
Mr. U.Ugrinovich	Director of the Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of education and science
Mr. Jaap Willem de Zwaan	Professor, Erasmus University, Rotterdam, Netherland
Mr. Daniel TARSHIS	Professor of Political Science and Public Administration, Stockholm University, Sweden
Mr. Dimitrios TRIANAFILLOU	Director, Center for International and European Studies (CIES), Kadir Has University, Istanbul

BOARD MEMBERS PROPOSALS AND DECISIONS

On the First Issue:

The following members took part in the discussion: A.Torkunov, E.Berg, K.Segbers, T.Shashikhina

A.Torkunov greeted members of the Governing Board (GB) and informed about absences that are taking place among the Russian and EU members of the GB: Mr. Y.Ushakov is absent due to the President of the RF assignment; Mrs. A.Khudaikulova had to be in the Ministry of Education due to the approval of budget quotas for MGIMO (U); Mrs. E.Danilova was ill. Professors J.de Zwaan and D.Tarshys absence was due to emergency family reasons. Mr. D.Triantafillou was unable to come because of technical obstacles related to registration at the airport.

Rector of MGIMO (U) A.Torkunov proposed to adopt a draft Agenda, based on the proposals of the Execom.

E.Berg proposed to discuss air-tickets issue with the ESI administration and members of the GB in connection with some problems Mr. D.Triantafillou's has encountered in line with registration for his flight to Moscow.

K.Segbers expressed an anxiety about quality of hotel services and ask the ESI administration to explain whether the situation with tickets and accommodation is somehow linked with the ESI financial autonomy or it is rather connected to changes in the Russian legislation.

T.Shashikhina commenting on the abovementioned questions stressed out the following:

In accordance with acting Russian legislation, the company which won the tender for the air tickets purchase (Aeroflot) buy air-tickets for MGIMO (U) faculty and administration only. The ESI administration had to refer to a company that purchased air-tickets by its own means (because the Russian legislation forbidden to make 100% advance payment). These e-tickets have been forwarded to the EU members of the GB. A regrettable technical break has occurred in the registration system of the airport when D.Triantafillou was trying to make its registration. Unfortunately the ESI had no chance to help Mr. D.Triantafillou because learned about the incident hours after the incident. A new proposed option – change of departure time - was not appropriate for D.Triantafillou. The question of boarding registration remains strictly is in the competence of airport authorities and has nothing to do with the ESI financial autonomy.

There is an alternative: Members of the GB EU nationals should purchase air-tickets on their own and then the ESI will be able to reimburse their cost.

The issue with the accommodation is the following: daily allowances that Members of the GB countries from EU are receiving, are too little to cover costs of accommodation at the hotel "Kadashevskaya", as the cost have been augmented considerably (with discount – 12 000 rbls. per night). Taking this into account the ESI administration proposed to the Members of the GB from EU-side and received from them a written approval for "Varshava" hotel which costs and location are appropriate. The ESI administration has to take as a premise market conjecture and today's Moscow prices for accommodation services.

K.Sebers and E.Berg did not approve a proposal to buy air-tickets on their own because of the complicated procedure of reimbursement in accordance with the financial regulations.

T.Shashikhina pointed out audit remarks and Grant Contract financial provisions saying that transfers inside the city have to be covered from daily allowance touched by Members of the GB as well which is not the case till today.

A.Torkunov expressed his readiness to help with solving air-tickets issue and decent as well as with accommodation in decent hotels with affordable prices. Promised to reconsider the possibility of covering expenditure of in-city transfers from MGIMO budget.

The Board members:

Adopted the Agenda prepared by the Executive Committee (Execom) of the ESI.

Commission the ESI administration to supervise and control issues with air-tickets, hotel reservation and transfers.

On the Second Issue:

The following members took part in the discussion: A.Torkunov, A.Meshkov

A.Torkunov introduced A. Meshkov – Deputy Minister of the Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation as a new member of the GB because his predecessor A.Grushko has been appointed the Ambassador to NATO.

A.Meshkov greeted members of the GB, highly appreciated the input to the ESI establishment sustainability of his predecessor A.Grushko. He confirmed interest and willingness by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation to support all fields of the ESI activity.

The Board members:

Supported the candidature of A.Meshkov as a new member of the GB.

On the Third issue:

The following members took part in the discussion: T. Shashikhina, A.Torkunov, K.Segbers, G.Hafner, E.Berg, A.Gromyko

T.Shashikhina reported that the first task of a new ESI administration was assuring the continuity of education process and management. At the moment the ESI staff and personnel has brought up to full state which make team-work of everyday functioning going on smoothly and well coordinate.

There are several staff shifts and changes that need to be approved by the GB members for its setting in the staff-table and in the budget. The ESI administration proposes three candidates of the ESI academic assistants (I.Istomin, E.Egorova, D.Trenina) for promotion to position of Senior academic assistants to the Chairs of EU Law and EU Politics accordingly. These promotions will not implicate any financial encumbrance.

The position of the second deputy Director has been transformed into the Adviser to the Director. Mrs. N.Slavkina is appointed on it.

The position of the ESI driver has been cancelled – it made 41% of savings within this precise budget item.

The position of leading specialist is divided into three MGIMO Master's programme graduates who are specialized in EU Law and are fluent in two EU working languages. These arrangements made possible smooth running of everyday workload.

A new form of training has been introduced into the curricula – seminars and round-table discussion with the participation of well-tailored small target groups of students. Questionnaires and exam's results proved this training very effective.

The ESI administration engaged additional EU professors to Master's Program. A way to reduce financial burden has been found consisting in coinciding all sorts of event the ESI is organizing (international conferences/round tables/expert groups where invited EU professors take floor) with the involvement of speakers as lecturers. This coordination gave an opportunity to economize on tickets and per diem because Master's program lectures and extra-curriculum events were held the same days. Such a combination of simultaneous activities augmented the workload on the ESI administration but allowed to economize substantially on logistic expenditures.

Carrying out the decision of the 16th GB meeting, the ESI administration asked the ESI Alumni Association to organize a round table with the members of the GB. All members of the GB been given this opportunity today after the meeting.

As the result of collaboration with the College of Europe new lecturers and experts have been substituted those with low rating. Evaluations and few up-dates have been introduced into Master curriculum. The results occurred very positive. It has been reflected by the last questionnaires filled out by students.

The frame and content of conferences, short-term courses held by the ESI or on the basis of co-financing with partners are considerably updated and remarkably actualized. The ESI administration is continuously looking for co-founding partners for such events and has already acquired tangible outcome: in cooperation with the Association of Small Business of Russia and the Moscow Chamber of Commerce the ESI took part in two conferences on Russia's WTO accession; on the basis of co-financing a representative international conference on statistics (2013 is the year of statistics) have been organized in MGIMO; financial support of Association of lawyers of Russia made possible short-term courses for Judges of Supreme Court, Supreme Arbitration Court and civil servants: arbiters from France and lawyers from White and Case were key-speakers. In comparison with the same period of previous year the ESI administration spent minimum expenditure on these events.

In order to maintain financial sustainability the ESI took part in the Open call for proposals organized by the Moscow government and won the subsidy of 1,1 mil. rbls. for preparing short-term courses on anti-corruption measures. The ESI signed an agreement with Federal Agency of Youth policy, High School of State Administration at the Moscow State University and Association of Small Business "Razvitie" for promotion the project (subsidy of 4,7,mil rbls) in Nizniy Novgorod region.

Carrying out the commission of the GB in attracting additional financial instruments the ESI took part in Tempus. Three projects had been chosen from the limited list of proposed specialisations for Russia for this year's call: "EU Law" (elaboration of Master's Programme for Kazakhstan), "EU Terminology" (elaborating English-Russian-French-German comprehensive glossary of legal EU terms) and "Business administration" (modular-shaped program in the frame of Master's curriculum). The ESI administration collected 25 mandates from regional universities and non-profit organizations willing co-partnering in these projects. A huge work has been done. It is regrettable that the College of Europe- the partner under the current project was unable to become a Grant applicant for these or one of these projects. The College has not yet received a derogation in time (it is not a signatory of so called Erasmus Chart) and the ESI administration learned about it a week before the deadline submission. The ESI could permit to let down a big consortium of regional partners and found itself two EU Erasmus Chart

Universities that agreed to be the grant applicants. The ESI prepared and submitted two projects: “EU Terminology” (Aston University – the Grant applicant) and “EU Law” (Hamburg University – the Grant applicant). Unfortunately the “EU Terminology” did not go through, due to some technical incident in the IT system; “EU Law” has got the registration number.

The ESI administration held an Open Call for outsourcing proposals which was foreseen in the ESI Agenda and Budget. The ESI received 18 applications, the evaluation committee selected 6: one project from Italy, four projects from Russia (Moscow, Saint-Petersburg and Belgorod), one project – from Belorussia. By implementing one of these projects the ESI is planning to receive a license of Charter Insurance School (London) to set exams on international insurance on a fee-paid basis.

Finally the ESI administration managed to materialize an ongoing discussed idea of having its own promotional materials: pens, leaflets and pads advertising the ESI in English.

The ESI submitted to the EU Delegation a request for Grant Contract extension till December 31, 2014 and preliminary have been informed by the EU Delegation that there are no potential obstacles for its approval.

Deputy Director M. Marchan conducted negotiations in Brussels with representatives of EU Parliament and EU Commission over prospective of further ESI financing in the framework of EU initiative “Instrument for Partnership” for the period 2014-2020. The ESI is requesting an efficient and forceful support from the EU Delegation in Moscow and EU members of the GB in this matter.

A.Torkunov noted a very detailed and circumstantial report by the ESI Director.

K.Segbers was surprised at students’ low rating of EU professors and at big divergence among evaluations of Russian and non-Russian lecturers and asked for comments.

T.Shashikhina explained that the core of this year students is very exigent. Expectations from student to student differ a lot because of varied academic background. Questionnaires give impartial assessment during the first semester because all three specialisations are following the same curriculum. Assuming the experience of previous years the second semester usually shows much more objective rating. This year the ESI administration updated curriculum, substitute some unpopular courses and lecturers and engaged much more practical-oriented professors and experts. These arrangements contributed and will contribute in upgrading curricula in long-term perspective.

E.Berg wondered a super-low rating of course “EU judicial system”.

T.Shashikhina explained that this module has being given in French for six years already and its presentation and interpretation reflected less dynamic and less attractive image of content and lecturer (Mr.Philipp Singer – head of the EU Court Documentation department) comparing to the modules presented in English by practical-oriented acting judges invited this year to the ESI. The ESI administration made conclusions and will not engage this lecturer any more.

G.Hafner shared his opinion: he said that this striking divergence in rating might be partially explained by lack of identical and common background among students: it is difficult for some of them to understand law/economics notions and terminology. Suggested to make appropriate modifications in curriculum.

A.Gromyko commented on the rating saying that polar rating could be explained by different level of interpretation.

T. Shashikhina explained that the Master's programme is based on the Unified Federal Standard and the ESI is not empowered to modify it. Similar standards are in Bologna System. MGIMO had joined it for 10 years already. To overcome this problem the ESI administration introduced this year a new shape of lecturing in small targeted groups. This experiment turned out to be very successful and effective – exams showed much better results in comparison with previous years.

E. Berg wondered whether the ESI financing from the Russian side for period till December 31, 2013 is unconditional.

A. Torkunov specified a very detailed and circumstantial report of the ESI Director. Confirmed once again that the decision of appointing Mrs. Shashikhina as the ESI Director was accurate and true. The ESI is continuing all its activities: Master's programme is monitored by permanent evolution; new forms of teaching have been implemented; the ESI administration is attracting additional alternative sources of financing. The ESI students are fully involved in extra-curriculum activities – conferences, round tables and expert panels and it's very important for maintaining corporate mood.

The Board members:

Recognized the work of the ESI administration as acceptable.

Approved changes in the staff time-table and empower the ESI Director to make rectifications in the budget with the aim to assure the ESI sustainability till December 31, 2014 giving priority to the educational activity.

On the Forth Issue:

The following members took part in the discussion: A. Torkunov, M. Webb, T. Shashikhina, M. Marchan, A. Gromyko

A. Torkunov informed that financing from the Russian side will be delivered in a new format. Previously the President of the Russian Federation was signing an Order and the Government was allocating financing to the ESI. Starting this year all higher education institutions will be given finance through subsidy upon the results of tender run by the Ministry of Education of Russia. MGIMO has applied for financing of 130 ESI students through subsidies which aggregate in total the sum of money corresponding to the amount provided by the Russian side annually- 1 mil. of Euro. Aide to the President of the Russian Federation, the Chairman of the ESI GB Mr. Y. Ushakov and Minister of Foreign affairs Mr. S. Lavrov explicitly expressed in the letter sent to the Minister of Education their strong position regarding support of the ESI. It was stressed out that the ESI sustainability - is a political will of the Russian authorities. Today the subsidy for the ESI has been approved (130 places). It means that the Russian Federation is completely fulfilling its financial obligations. Our concern is the parity financing of the ESI from the EU-side. The project is successful and based on a parity financing and it would be wrong to let it go without financial support.

M. Webb greeted the members of the GB, remarked the role of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia in supporting the ESI. Expressed his willingness to monitor issues with air-tickets and accommodation of the EU members of the GB.

Informed that the EU Delegation received the request for the current Grant Contract extension till December 31, 2014. The EU Delegation requested the EU Commission to extend and support to the Contract for this short-term period. He said that the request is now under consideration and we expect an approval – extension till December 31, 2014. We have plenty of time to find a way of future financing of the ESI

At the same time, as it was pointed out previously by the Head of the EU Delegation Mr. F.Valenzuela, the EU had exhausted all existing arrangements of direct financing under the current Contract. The previous and the current Contracts have to be considered as “exception” which underline the importance of the Russian-EU cooperation. The ESI is eligible to request financing under different instruments of cooperation which are taking place in 2014. The EU Commission is now revising financial instruments. “Instrument for cooperation” targets developed countries and Russia among them. Precise allocations in the frame of this instrument have not been determined yet because all expenditures are correlated to the EU budget at large. Coming months will bring more clarity in this matter. The EU is now regrouping external educational financial instruments (Tempus, Erasmus Mundus) and herein might be a potential source of future financing for the ESI.

Another promising instrument for the future financing of the ESI is the EU-Russian cooperation in the project “Partnership for modernization”. This project foresees diversified agenda of activities in different fields and the ESI creates an optimistic perspectives in this project. As of today the ESI has submitted an application to Tempus – the result will be announced by September 2013. By the next GB meeting we will know the decision of the EU Commission in regards of the current Contract’s extension. Within this period is enough time left to specify next steps of the ESI financial support.

Remarked that EU stands by the ESI not only financially but substantively as well: advisory assistance of the College of Europe, participation of the EU Delegation in Moscow in all sorts of the ESI events, visits of the ESI students to the EU Delegation etc. The EU Delegation is interested in developing cooperation with EU Embassies and diplomatic missions. This activity has to be continued.

A.Torkunov pointed out that the financing is the key-point of joint cooperation in the project but the help and assistance of the Delegation is difficult to overestimate.

However there is one more aspect that still remains non-demanded – attraction to the ESI students enrolled on a fee-paid basis and coming from the EU countries. This matrix is widely in use in different departments in MGIMO and could be a substantial financial injection for the ESI. Addressed the EU members of the GB to think over this issue and asked about actual EU students in the ESI.

T. Shashikhina answered that this year a citizen from Italy is attending Master’s programme. He is an employee of the EU Delegation in Moscow and he is studying on a paid-free basis as he is a civil servant. One more citizen from Italy is doing his PhD in EU Politics department on a fee-paid basis.

P.Demaret greeted all members of the GB on behalf of the College of Europe and confirmed the intention to continue cooperation with the ESI even after the project is coming to an end. Remarked that the College did not take part in Tempus project because proposed subjects did not match the field of specialization of the College.

He shared his opinion in regards of EU student’s attraction saying that the ESI has to develop some new attractive curricula non-existing in the EU because these could be interesting for the students EU nationals.

T.Shashikhina informed that current Master’s programme is built on a comparative-basis approach of EU-Russia legal, economic and political systems. There are no doubts that besides this programme it would be useful to elaborate several facultative courses about Russian realities for EU target audience.

E.Berg asked why the Russian ministries do not pay for Russian students.

T. Shashikhina explained that the allocations from the Russian side goes from the budget of the Russian Federation and ministries cannot pay for their students because double financing from the same source is illegal.

A. Gromyko pointed out efforts the ESI administration is undertaking for finding out alternative instruments of financing (Tempus, Moscow government subsidies).

Expressed joint opinion of the previous Execom that the ESI project can evaluate in the frame of two streams: ad hoc projects financing and consistent financing for Master's programme. Proposed to consider the possibility of previewing a separate item in the budget on the analogy of College of Europe (Bruges) or European University Institute (Florence).

G. Hafner supported the opinion of A.Gromyko saying that contractual sides should not renounce consistent financing of the ESI taking into account the importance of the ESI not only for Russia but for the EU as well.

P. Demaret agreed that there is a standalone item in the EU budget for the College of Europe and the EUI (Florence), but these institutions had already got a unique and exceptional status in the EU long ago. It would be appropriate to think about expansion of the list of similar institutions while the EU budget is under revision. For the moment the ESI has focus on ad hoc (project) financing.

The Board members:

Approved the work of the ESI administration on optimization of expenditure taking into account the extension till December 31, 2014.

On the Fifth issue:

The following members took part in the discussion: G.Hafner

G. Hafner informed the GB that the main task of the second Execom was the revision of work of the ESI Committees. Committee for Student's enrollment is mandatory. Committee for Scientific Research and the one for PR have not been very active for the last two years and their competences coincide. Execom arrived at a conclusion that these two Committees should be merged. As J.de Zwaan, D.Triantafillou and D.Tarshys are absent, Execom proposed to postpone the question about the Head a new joint Committee.

The Board members:

Agreed to merge Committee for Scientific Research and PR Committee.

Postponed the issue of the election of the Head of a new Committee till the next GB meeting. Committee for student's enrollment and Committee for Professor's evaluation remain without changes, ad hoc.

Agreed that format of Execom meetings remains at the discretion of the members of the Execom.

On the sixth issue:

The following members took part in the discussion: A.Torkunov, G.Hafner, K.Zegbers, M.Vebb, A.Gromiko, M.Marchan

A. Gromyko informed that the text of the ESI Board of Trustees had been revised at the Execom meeting. The issue of the creation of the Board of Trustees had been discussed many times for previous 3 years. The role of the Board is growing because of the goal of the moment – attraction

of alternative financing for the ESI. A new redaction of the Provision has been distributed among the members of the GB beforehand and it's time to vote and adopt the text and think about candidates for this body.

A.Torkunov proposed to vote.

Informed that the ESI administration had negotiations in the EU Commission with G.Vigand, discussed this issue with representatives of Siemens, Total, Credit Agricole, Du Pont, Statoil etc. There is an apprehension of this matter and time is coming to raise this question on an upper level, on the level of official talks. There is that intention from the Russian side to start to work with potential members of the Board. Probably, such candidates could be identified by the EU Delegation from the EU side.

Taking this into account it is proposed to:

- empower Execom to prepare a list of potential candidates to the Board of Trustees;
- ask EU Delegation in Moscow for assistance in organizing a meeting of the EU GB members with determined by the EU Delegation representatives of diplomatic missions and EU business bodies and companies, accredited in Moscow, for discussion of their involvement into the ESI Board of Trustees;
- ask the Chairman of the ESI for assistance of the Governing Board in organizing a meeting of Russian members of the GB with determined by the Chairman representatives of the Russian business community for discussion of their participation in the Board of Trustees.

G.Hafner wondered whether an endowment may have autonomy from MGIMO account. Specified that Execom is preparing a list of candidates only.

K.Segbers clarified that Execom has to prepare a list and the GB would approve it.

M.Webb confirmed that the EU Delegation is intended to help in this matter but is not in the position of proposing exact companies or persons. The Delegation can assist in organizing the meeting but this initiative has to be bilateral.

M.Marchan drew attention of the Governing Board to the fact that the ESI is conventionally on the second phase of setting up the Board of Trustees. Within the first phase the ESI administration was active and energetic in negotiating with potential candidates but right now this resource has exhausted. It would be pointless if the ESI administration starts the same round once again. There are no doubts that the EU Delegation has to stick to a neutral status and cannot point out the exact persons or names but nevertheless it's evident that the EU Delegation knows much more and has closer relations with EU business community in Moscow than the Russian side and the ESI administration. It would be constructive and effective if the EU Delegation takes a role of an initiator of a joint meeting of EU business community with EU and Russian representatives of the GB and announces to them that it's a time to make a decision to cooperate with the ESI Board of Trustees.

M.Webb supported the initiative of joint meeting in stressing out that the similar arrangements have to be undertaken by the Russian side.

A.Torkunov thanked all speakers and said farewell to P.Demaret who had to leave the meeting.

P.Demaret expressed his recognition towards the members of the GB and colleagues and informed that this meeting is his last one on the position of the Rector of the College of Europe.

K.Segbers underlined that the GB has to approve the list of candidates before negotiating with them.

A.Torkunov agreed with this initiative but noticed that according to his personal experience expectations about great enthusiasm among the business community seems to be slightly exaggerated.

The Board members:

Approved the Provision of the ESI Board of Trustees.

Charged Execom with an assignment to prepare a list of potential candidates to the ESI Board of Trustees.

Requested the EU Delegation in Moscow to organize a meeting of the EU members of the GB with selected representatives of the EU business community, accredited in Moscow, and discuss their availability in taking part in the ESI Board of Trustees.

Requested the Chairman of the GB to organize a meeting of Russian members of the GB with selected representatives of the Russian business community and discuss their availability in taking part in the ESI Board of Trustees.

On the seventh issue:

The following members took part in the discussion: O.Barabanov, A.Torkunov, T.Shashikhina, A.Gromyko

O.Barabanov informed GB about the implementation of the ESI Regional strategy in the mainstream of economy and cost-conscious attitude. Continuing the trend of the previous year the ESI took part in regional projects on the basis of co-payment between a regional institution and the ESI. This approach allowed saving financing without compromising the quality of education. Four big events had been organized in the spirit of this attitude:

- November 2012, two-weeks courses for regional and federal civil servants on the site of the Baltic Federal University named by E. Kant. 50 Certificates had been issued;
- March 2013, short-term courses “Public diplomatic corpus” for 60 participants from youth public federal and regional organizations on the site of Public Chamber of the Russian Federation;
- February 2013, a meeting with representatives of regional universities – consortium participants in Tempus projects;
- April 2013, the ESI participated in the event “Days of Europe” organized in the Baltic Federal University named by E. Kant for representatives of more than 100 regional organizations dealing with European integration issues. The ESI conducted consultations with partner-organizations about further cooperation.

Reported that 7 ESI students delegated from regions of the Russia had successfully defended their Master’s Theses and are going to be graduated this spring. The initiative of enrollment students from regions lived up the expectations. Proposed to continue this undertaking and enroll this year about 10 regional students for Master’s programme.

Informed that the ESI lecturers visited the university in Tartu in March 2013 and had negotiations with the faculty of this University in regards of further cooperation that had begun during the summer school 2012 for ESI students in Tartu. This year an autumn school dedicated to Energy issues will take place in Tartu. It would be fruitful to send several ESI students to attend this event. Proposed to invite students from Tartu University to the ESI Summer or Winter school on the basis of reciprocity.

A.Torkunov reported that this year Estonian parliamentarians visited MGIMO. Consultations were very productive and effective for neighborhood transparent cooperation with Estonia.

T.Shashikhina supported the initiative of Summer school but pointed out that the ESI needs additional financial allocations for this activity. This year the ESI administration had to cancel an interesting stage to Aston University and a stage for French teachers due to cost-conscious attitude. The ESI needs additional targeted allocations to set Summer school this year. Cooperation and co-financing with partners and suggestions from the EU Delegation, N.Scaramuzzo in particular, are precious in this matter.

A.Gromyko recommended to the ESI administration to consider a participation in one of the projects of the Fund "Russian World". The first phase of the current project will be carried out by the beginning of 2014, the second one – by the second half of 2014. It would be logical do not miss this opportunity.

The Board members:

Taken into account the information about Regional strategy.

Supported the intention of organizing summer school in the frame of targeted financing.

Entrusted the ESI administration to elaborate the question about the ESI participation in the Open Call for proposals organized by the Fund "Russian World".

On the eight issue:

All members of the GB took part in the discussion on the date and place of the next Governing Board meeting

The Board members:

Decided to hold the next Governing Board meeting in Moscow. To submit to the Chairman for his approval alternative dates of the next GB meeting: October 25 or November 8, 2013. To make the final decision about the date taking into account the availability of the Chairman and members of the GB.

«APPROVED»

X. Ushakov

Chairman of the Governing Board
of the European Studies Institute