

## MINUTES

### 19<sup>th</sup> GOVERNING BOARD MEETING EUROPEAN STUDIES INSTITUTE

Moscow, 11 December 2014

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

## AGENDA

1. **Adoption of the agenda**  
*Speaker:* Y.V. Ushakov
2. **Information on the Report (Minutes) of the 18<sup>th</sup> Governing Board meeting**  
*Speaker:* A.V. Torkunov
3. **Review of ESI current activities**  
*Speaker:* T.V. Shashikhina
4. **Report of the ExeCom activities**  
*Speakers:* J.de Zwaan
5. **Future ESI (Institute) plus ESI staff, GB and ExeCom: positions MGIMO, ESI and EU**  
*Speakers:* A.V. Khudaykulova, T.V. Shashikhina and EU representatives
6. **Future financing ESI: contribution RF and EU (Erasmus + and Partnership Instrument)**  
*Speakers:* A.V. Torkunov, representative of the EU Delegation in Moscow
7. **Board of Trustees**  
*Speaker:* M.T. Marchan
8. **Any other business**
9. **Date of the next GB meeting**

\*prepared on the basis of the ExeCom proposals

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**  
**19<sup>th</sup> GOVERNING BOARD MEETING**  
**EUROPEAN STUDIES INSTITUTE AT MGIMO (U)**  
 11 December 2014

MGIMO, Prospect Vernadskogo, 76  
 15.00 am, Academic Council room, aud. 423  
 (MGIMO new building)

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. Ivan SOLTANOVSKY	Director of the Department for European cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation (on behalf of Mr. Alexei Meshkov, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs)
Mr. Nikolay TOYVONEN	Director of the Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation
Mr. Alexey GROMYKO	Director, Institute of Europe of the Russian Academy of Sciences
Ms. Alexandra KHUDAYKULOVA	Vice-Rector of the MGIMO (U)
Mrs. Tamara SHASHIKHINA	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. Daniel TARSCHYS	Professor of Political Science and Public Administration, Stockholm University, Sweden
Mr. Jaap Willem De ZWAAN	Professor, Erasmus University of Rotterdam
Mr. Michele TOMMASI	Minister-Counsellor of the Embassy of the Italian Republic to the Russian Federation

### Observers

Mr. Sven-Olov Carlsson	Deputy Head of the EU Delegation to the Russian Federation
Mr. Nicola SCARAMUZZO	Project Manager, Educational Programmes, Operations section, European Union Delegation to the Russian Federation
Mrs. Outa Hermalampi	Project Manager EU-Russia Cooperation Programme
Mr. Jan De MONDT	Director, Development Office, College of Europe, Bruges
Mrs. Evangelina BLANCO GONZALEZ	Project Manager, College of Europe, Bruges

### Guests

Mr. Simone IEVOLELLA	Second secretary of the Embassy of the Italian Republic to the Russian Federation
Mr. Mariusz SIELSKI	Representative of the College of Europe at the European Studies Institute
Mr. Mikhail MARCHAN	Deputy Director, European Studies Institute
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

## **BOARD MEMBERS PROPOSALS AND DECISIONS**

### **On the First Issue:**

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

*A. V. Torkunov:* Welcomed Russian and European colleagues. Expressed confidence that, despite known feature and sharpness of the political moment, dialogue and cooperation in the educational sphere have to be by all means continued for preservation and development of those achievements and practices which are saved up by Russia and the EU during the previous years.

Informed on the reasons of absence of the Russian and European colleagues: The chairman of the Governing Board Y.V. Ushakov charged to preside on his behalf because of his foreign country assignment. From the Russian side are absent: A.Meshkov, E. Danilova. Mr. Meshkov was at the meeting in the Government of the Russian Federation therefore the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is represented by the Director of the department of the European cooperation Mr. I.D. Soltanovsky. For the first time at a meeting there is a Director of the international department of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation Toyvonen Nikolay. From the EU are absent – professors K. Zegbers, G. Hafner and D. Triantafillu.

Noted that the last stage of the ESI project comes to its end on December 31 2014. The bilateral financial agreement between MGIMO and the European Commission on supporting sustainability and activity of the ESI is going to be expired. The ESI is facing a qualitatively new situation and new working conditions within this project therefore there is a necessity to discuss in detail transformation of this project and revision of the Provision on the ESI. The biggest achievement of the ESI activity are graduates who are working in all ministries and departments of Russia and their knowledge of the EU is pledge of development for the EU-Russia partnership in the long term. The ESI goal is to keep an international character of the Institute, its Master's programmes and to conserve certain autonomy within the revised Provision of the ESI. Thus it is necessary to strengthen a commercial component of the ESI.

Suggested to approve the draft Agenda prepared on the basis of the project offered by Executive committee of the Governing Board.

### **The Board members:**

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

### **On the Second Issue:**

**The following members took part in the discussion: A.V. Torkunov**

*A. V. Torkunov:* Noted that the ESI administration had not received no additions nor amendments for draft of Minutes of the 18 meeting of the GB therefore the Minutes has been approved and signed by the Chairman Y.Ushakov.

### **The Board members:**

- 1. Approved the Minutes of the 18 Governing Board meeting.**

### **On the Third issue:**

**The following members took part in the discussion: T. V. Shashikhina, A.Torkunov, D. Tarschys, Jaap De Zwaan, M. Sielski, M. T. Marchan**

*T. V. Shashikhina* reported that following the enrollment for Master's programme 128 students are now attending the program of the first year, 110 more students continue their study as of the second year, thus at the current Master's programme more than 230 students are trained on. The ESI is used to attract out of Contract financing for implementation of extra-curriculum activities (short-term advanced training courses, conferences).

Expressed gratitude to the College of Europe which footed the bill on payment of 2 professors from the EU who arrived to the ESI to give lectures.

Noted that the ESI together with the Russian State Humanitarian University, the Russian University of Peoples Friendship and the Representation of the UN High Commissioner for human rights participates in the Program of human rights protection.

Reminded that on the basis of the Institute of European Law the ESI has established the legal "clinic" which is engaged in educational and consultation activity on a pro bono basis.

Stressed out that following the results of the accounting report the total expenditures of all kinds of the ESI activity (curriculum and extra-curriculum including summer courses) within the period of October 1, 2012 - December 1, 2014 are 40 millions 900 thousand rubles which makes on an average two times less than the similar period of 2010-2012.

Drew attention to that fact that currently the ESI staff list consists of 23 employees, thus 9 more employees (including 2 foreign citizens working at GPD) are involved to different types of works in the ESI. Such staff list allowed to diversify work and to carry out objectives at the high professional level. Appealed to the MGIMO administration to approach deliberately to the restructuring the ESI staff in order to preserve the quality of education and the brand of the Institute.

*A. V. Torkunov*: Expressed gratitude to the Director for the detailed report about the ESI activity.

*D. Tarschys*: Expressed concern about the further financing of the ESI from the Russian side and as how it will affect the legal status and the role of the ESI in MGIMO structure.

*A. V. Torkunov* explained that the existing project has to be reformed therefore will lose some of its specifics. However the purpose of the ESI administration is to keep the international dimension of the ESI activities, thus having optimized and having harmonized all programs and procedures in strict accordance with the Russian federal standards and requirements imposed to the higher school. In this regard it is necessary to make changes to the ESI Provision. Further the draft of the reformed Provision will be submitted to the attention of the European colleagues.

*Jaap De Zwaan*: Welcomed the audience after a year of a break, noted the efforts of the ESI Director which at deficiency of financing managed to carry out the tasks assigned to the ESI. Expressed concern on how the GB and the Executive committee will function in the future.

*A. V. Torkunov*: Noted that it is necessary not to lose the outcome of the project, contacts with the partner organizations and institutions from the EU, in particular with College of Europe. Remarked that the work of the GB and Executive committee doesn't come to an end and this tradition has to be kept. Gave the floor to the constant representative of College of Europe in the ESI *M. Sielski* for the presentation of an independent research.

*M. Sielski*: Commented on the presentation prepared on the basis of polls of the ESI students about practical application of the knowledge gained in the frame of Master's program, and about quality of training programs and teaching in the ESI.

*A. V. Torkunov*: Proposed to give floor to the deputy director of the ESI *M. Marchan* with the report about the Board of Trustees. This report is under the point 7 of the Agenda, within discussion of the ESI activity for the reporting period.

Objections didn't follow therefore the floor was given to M. Marchan.

*M. T. Marchan:* Reported on consecutive work which the ESI administration conducted with the Association of European Business in Russia and personally with the Executive director of the Association Mr. Shauff. On November 6, 2014 the meeting with several member of the AEB took place: there was an exchange of opinions on a possible format of participation of the AEB in the ESI Board of Trustees. This dialogue will be continued.

**The Board members:**

1. Recognized the work of the ESI administration as satisfactory.
2. Approved of the work with the Association of European Business in Russia.

**On the Forth Issue:**

**The following members took part in the discussion:** A. Torkunov, Jaap De Zwaan

*Jaap De Zwaan:* Informed about the results of the last two meetings of Executive committee devoted to the questions of further financing of the ESI and elaboration of the 19 GB meeting agenda.

Noted that the future of the ESI will be dependent on the project financing instruments offered by the EU in the framework of Jean Monnet programme, Erasmus + and others. The ESI administration has to take advantage of these opportunities.

Emphasized that there is a big risk while reforming an organizational and legal form of the ESI to lose its unique status of educational institution. Proposed to the ESI and the MGIMO administration to foresee a transition period for preservation of the academic sustainability of the Institute and its programs.

*A. V. Torkunov:* Agreed that it is necessary to carry out most carefully the ESI restructuring, having kept continuity of management, traditions and programs. Specified that he is intending to appoint by his order T. Shashikhina to the position of the ESI Director for the purpose of keeping continuity of the management. Asked the GB for the approval of this nomination.

**The Board members:**

1. Approved of T. Shashikhina candidacy for a position of the ESI Director.

**On the Fifth issue:**

**The following members took part in the discussion:** A.V. Khudaykulova A.V, I.D. Soltanovsky, D. Tarschys, Shashikhina T.V, Jaap De Zwaan

*A. Khudaykulova:* Noted that as a result of seven years of the ESI functioning the Institute had achieved a great deal and gained its own academic face recognized among civil servants, business structures of Russia as well as abroad.

Expressed gratitude to the College of Europe for a big contribution in establishing and promoting the ESI brand.

Noted that lack of target financing forces the MGIMO management to perform optimization of the ESI maintenance expenditures. Assured that all programs which are currently going on, will be continue and 116 Master's program students will gain their Master's diplomas. Reported that the MGIMO administration is planning to provide for the next year enrollment a quota of 40 budgetary places to the interdisciplinary Master's programme "EU-Russia relations and policy". Master's programmes "EU Law" and "EU Economics" will be for fee-paying students only.

Reported that changes will also concern the ESI staff which draft project looks as follows: Director of the ESI (Shashikhina T.V.), deputy director of the ESI with assignment of duties of academic supervisor for the Master's programme (O.Barabanov) and 5 more administrative units for ensuring educational process. Informed that the project of optimization provides also affiliation of the Chair of the European integration (which is currently within MGIMO structure) to the ESI. Thus, the ESI will get a new organizational form, keeping for a transition period all of the acting programmes. These changes meet the Russian legislation and the requirements for the higher education.

*D. Tarschys:* Expressed concern about the future of two Master's programmes "EU Law" and "EU Economics" and the status of the Governing Board. Asked to comment on these questions.

*A. V. Torkunov:* Explained that restructuration and optimization of the ESI budget won't make any harm neither to the ESI students nor to the current programmes. Changes will concern only a new students enrollment. The ESI academic status will remain intact and the affiliation of the Chair of European integration into the ESI structure will contribute to the sustainability of the ESI.

*I.D. Soltanovsky:* Agreed with the statement that under the circumstances of lack of EU financing it is necessary to carry out the ESI restructuring. At the same time the remarkable experience the ESI had saved up during the project shouldn't be lost. Reminded that in the long term Russia and the EU have so many common goals, which are required to be solved together, in a partner way, despite of all political turbulences of the moment. Take it or leave it. One of these goals is creation of common EU-Russia friendly space of partnership and specialists in EU Law and EU Economics are in need for that objective. Stressed that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is very much interested in graduates lawyers who are familiar with the EU Law. Therefore it is necessary to take careful and deliberate approach in reforming an academic profile of the ESI, taking into consideration market demands.

*A. V. Torkunov:* Remarked that his recent business trip to Seoul once again convinced him that the future belongs to integration processes. Development of the relations between the countries within Eurasian Economic Union, EU and Russia and other regional associations sets a task of training specialists familiar with integration processes. Assured the representative of the Russian Foreign Ministry to reconsider once again the distribution of quotas on specialization for the next academic year.

*Shashikhina T.V.:* Suggested to consider a possibility of developing on the basis of the ESI of a legal integration program. Such program could be very in-demand in labor market in connection with Eurasian Economic Union and cooperation with the EU.

*Jaap De Zwaan:* Suggested to make the step-by-step plan of the ESI further reorganization taking into consideration all comments and advices.

**The Board members:**

1. Approved of a draft plan of the ESI reorganization as the structure of MGIMO operating within the new ESI Provision providing its certain autonomy.
2. Asked the ESI Director to prepare the step-by-step plan of further reorganization of the ESI, taking into account the concern of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
3. Asked to prepare a new draft of the ESI Provision taking into account comments stated by the GB members and to dispatch it to the GB members.
4. In view of the preparation of the next GB meeting the ESI Director will cooperate with ExeCom.

**On the sixth issue:**

**The following members took part in the discussion:** A.Torkunov, N. R. Toyvonen, S.-O. Carlsson.

*N. R. Toyvonen:* Supported the efforts of MGIMO administration on the ESI reforming taking into account actual goals and personnel requirements of the market.

*S.-O. Carlsson:* Noted the necessity of supporting the continuity of traditions in the ESI new format. Emphasized the common interest in continuation of cooperation on this project from both parties, from EU and Russia and appealed to look forward, despite of temporary political tensions. Stressed out the objective to maintain an international academic component of the ESI. Remarked that within the instruments of partnership the EU can offer some financing ad hoc in the framework of Jean Monnet programme, Erasmus plus and other financial instruments. The administration of the ESI has not to lose these opportunities.

Congratulated all members of the GB on successful realization of the joint project and expressed confidence that the format of the international cooperation will be continued.

**The Board members:**

1. Agreed that the ESI management should consider the opportunities to apply for EU grants (Jean Monnet, Erasmus plus, Partnership Instrument etc.).

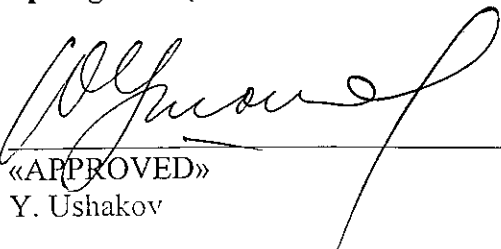
**On the ninth issue:**

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

*A. V. Torkunov:* Came in on congratulations and expressed his hope for meeting next year in spring to decide on further prospects of the ESI functioning.

**The Board members:**

1. The Board members decided that a next Governing Board meeting will be held in Spring 2015 (the exact date to be coordinated later).



«APPROVED»  
Y. Ushakov

Chairman of the Governing Board  
of the European Studies Institute