

***News from the UNESCO Chair on Global Problems
Journal 1/2016
Moscow
Russian Federation***



***Lomonosov Moscow State University
Faculty of Global Processes***

Dear colleagues, UNESCO Chairholders and members, international scientists, friends!

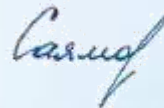
May I first wish to all of you health, success, prosperity and new achievements in the New Year 2016!

Together with all other professors, students and post graduates from our UNESCO Chair and Faculty of Global Processes of the Lomonosov Moscow State University—the first and the most high ranking university in Russia, I would like to present to you our new initiative—a kind of a journal with the news from the Chair and information on scientific and educational activities.

At the Congress «Globalistics-2015» in October, 2015 an appeal was launched to develop joint scientific and educational platforms leading to a common space of science and education in the interests of a peaceful and sustainable development the world over. With the participation of the Chair a project of a joint scientific platform is under construction in Nice, France aimed at the creation of a common European space of science and education. The initiative to establish the Association of scientific and educational centers of BRICS countries is gaining ever more ground: it is envisaged to hold its inaugurative meeting in May 2016 in the Lomonosov Moscow State University. Everyone interested in these and other initiatives which we are going to communicate to you via this journal is invited to participate.

We would be grateful for news from other UNESCO Chairs all over the world and we believe that in this way we may enrich the work of each other.

Looking forward to hear soon from you,
I remain
Yours sincerely



Dr. Yury Sayamov
Professor and Head of the UNESCO Chair
on Global Problems and Emerging Social and Ethical Challenges
for Large Cities and their Population
Moscow, Russian Federation



The UNESCO Chair on Global Problems and Emerging Social and Ethical Challenges for Large Cities and Their Population at the Faculty of Global Processes of the Lomonosov Moscow State University was established in accordance with the Agreement between UNESCO and the Lomonosov Moscow State University signed by the Director General of UNESCO H.E. Mrs. Irina Bokova and the Rector of the MSU Acad. Victor Sadovnichy in Moscow on September, 28, 2010. In 2014 the Chair finalized its first 4 years contract and was granted the prolongation for the next 4 years period till September 2018. In the UNESCO prolongation letter ED/PLS/HED/15/49 from 18 February 2015 addressed to the MSU Rector it was stated that the Chair achieved «very good results confirmed by the positive evaluation of its activities».

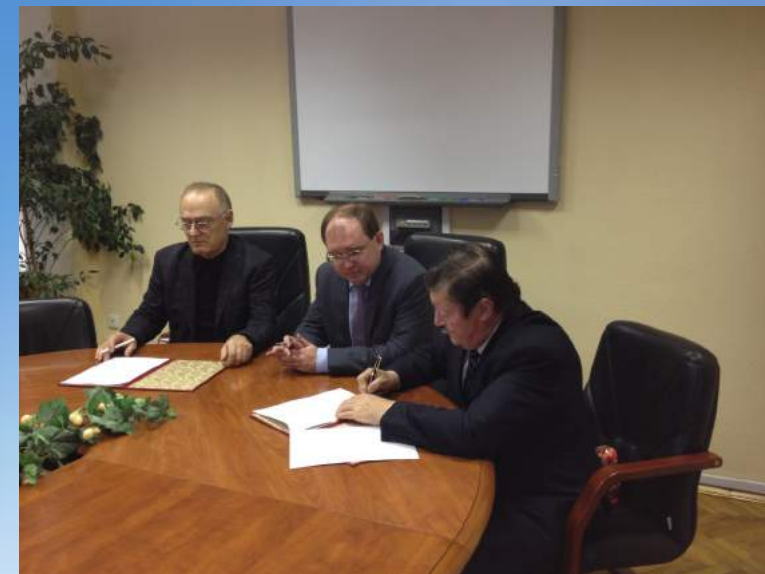


Signing of the Agreement on September 28, 2010. UNESCO Director General H.E. Mrs. Irina Bokova, MSU Rector Acad. Victor Sadovnichy, Dean of the Faculty Prof. Ilya Ilyin, Chair's Scientific Council President Prof. Igor Abylgaziev, Head of the Project and UNESCO Chairholder Dr. Yury Sayamov



The Chair's activities are carried out in several directions. The Chair was incorporated into the structure of the University and this inclusion gave the opportunity to elaborate and introduce innovative educational courses. The majority of these courses are now part of the curriculum of the Faculty of Global Processes. The Chair's staff included professors of the Lomonosov Moscow State University, prominent Russian scholars, diplomats and specialists in municipal administration. Innovative courses «International Relations in the Context of Global processes» and «Emerging Global Social and Ethical Challenges for Large Cities and their Population» laid ground for a number of international projects.

Scientific research on emerging global ethical and social problems formed a permanent direction of Chair's activity. Besides the articles on global problems, social and ethical issues a scientific research study «The City in the Context of Global Processes» was elaborated in 2011 and published as a 446-pages monograph. Scientific research in this field was continued and the first monograph was followed by the second one on «Global Urban Systems» published in 2012. The third book «A City in the Globalizing World» was published in 2015 in English with the participation of Prof. Joseph Mifsud, Director of the London Academy of Diplomacy and Dr. Stephan Roh, Chairman “RoH Attorneys at Law”. In order to promote and popularize the UNESCO UNITWIN program the Chairholder prepared and published the articles: «UNESCO Chairs in search for solutions to the challenges of modern world»; «UNESCO Chairs as a political technology and «soft power» tool for development and cooperation»; «UNESCO Chairs as an instrument for global cognition and search for solutions to the challenges of the modern world»; «UNESCO Chair working for global education»; «UNESCO Chair’s activities for management of science and education».



Signing of the Agreement on the establishment of the Chair's network section in Tbilisi, Georgia



Signing of the Agreement on the establishment of the Chair's network section at the Russian Academy of Ecology. UNESCO Chairholder Dr. Yury Sayamov, Dean of the Faculty Prof. Ilya Ilyin, President of the Academy Dr. Vladimir Grachev

In accordance with the recommendations of UNESCO the Chair formed its own international network of sections on various topical issues of global social and ethical challenges. The Chair has network sections at: the Baltic State Technical University in St. Petersburg; the Saratov State Technical University; the Inter-Regional Institute of Economics and Law of St. Petersburg; the Ivane Javakhashvili Tbilisi State University (Georgia); the Karazin Kharkov State University (Ukraine); the Yugra State University in Khanty-Mansiysk (Siberia); the Peoples' Friendship University of Russia (Moscow); the Russian Academy of Education (Moscow); the Russian Academy of Ecology (Moscow); the International Global Monitoring Aerospace System, IGMASS (Moscow); the London Academy of Diplomacy (Great Britain) a.o.

The Chair actively joined the work of the Faculty of Global Processes in the organizing and holding of the International Scientific Congresses «Globalistics» which became a unique world forum to discuss global issues. The Congress «Globalistics-2011» had over 800 participants from about 30 countries; discussions held in 12 sections, 2 workshops, 3 round tables, the youth panel, the Russian-Chinese Student Conference and the Student Inter-University Model of the «Shanghai Cooperation Organization». Following the Congress, the Chair continued working on its results. The Congress «Globalistics-2013» held under the auspices of UNESCO was attended by more than 700 scientists and experts from 40 countries, representing Europe, Asia, North and South America, Africa and Australia. The program of the Congress included 7 sections, 3 conferences, 5 round tables, 2 video bridges, IT-exhibition of achievements that took place during all days of the forum. There were presented the latest scientific and technical achievements in the field of computer programming and robotics, panel discussions, seminars and master classes. The IV International Scientific Congress «Globalistics-2015» was held on October 25-30, 2015 and was dedicated to the 70th anniversary of the UN and the UNESCO and the year of Russia's presidency in BRICS. The Congress included 7 sections, 4 conferences, , 3 round tables, 3 master classes, Xth Civilization Forum on development goals and the International UNESCO School on Management of Social Transformations (MOST). The Congress was attended by 984 participants representing 52 countries. UNESCO School in the framework of the UNESCO program «Management of Social Transformations»(MOST) held in Russia for the first time was dedicated to the «Diplomacy, global governance and the post-2015 international development agenda». The results of the school were positively evaluated by UNESCO. By the decision of the Congress the International Global Research Academy was established.





An event of a very special importance for the Chair was the official visit of the UNESCO Director General H. E. Mrs. Irina Bokova to the Lomonosov Moscow State University on September 9, 2011.

During the visit a solemn inauguration of the Chair by the UNESCO Director General and the MSU Rector took place in the presence of high guests and University professors and students. When inaugurating the Chair, the Rector of the University Acad. Victor Sadovnichy and Mrs. Irina Bokova exchanged speeches. In her speech Mrs. Bokova expressed important ideas on a wide range of problems related to the development of the human potential.

Mrs. Bokova in recognition of her scientific contribution and achievements was granted the title of the Honorary Professor of the Lomonosov Moscow State University. In the course of her visit Mrs. Bokova met with students of the Chair and of the Faculty and answered questions. The students presented some ideas on how better interact with UNESCO through the Chair praising its establishment at the University as an important contribution to the development of the UNITWIN Program and to the implementation of its goals. They expressed their sincere gratitude to the Director General for the meeting and for the unique possibility for them to have an open and free discussion directly with the Head of the Organization on matters of their interest. In the framework of her visit Mrs. Bokova discussed the further development of cooperation with the Rector of the University Acad. Victor Sadovnichy.

The visit of the UNESCO Director General to the Moscow University represents an important milestone for the development of the multifaceted cooperation between UNESCO and the Russian Federation.



In 2014, the Chair joined the development of the project of the Russian Academy of Sciences on the global management of science. UNESCO Chairholder Dr. Yury Sayamov was appointed Counselor to the President of the Russian Academy of Sciences for cooperation with UNESCO. The Chair participated in the conduct of the official visit of UNESCO Director General Irina Bokova to the Russian Federation on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the country's membership in UNESCO on April 24, 2014. Important talks on joint scientific projects were held with the President of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Academician Vladimir Fortov. On September 10, 2014 the delegation of the Chair and the Faculty was received by the UNESCO Director General H.E. Mrs. Irina Bokova in her Office in the UNESCO Headquarters in Paris. The importance of global studies and innovative education courses reflecting the specific features of the contemporary world and advancing the noble principles of UN and UNESCO was stressed. The growing efficiency and attractiveness of the Chair were confirmed by the establishment of new network sections of the Chair and by the increased involvement of students and post graduates in its work.



Of a serious scientific impact was the Moscow Interdisciplinary Summit on “New Global Challenges” held in May-June 2014 by the Chair and the Faculty with the participation of over 100 scientists from Russia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus, India, Iran, China, Mexico, the Republic of Korea, the U.S., Turkey, Ukraine, South Africa and other countries. During the period of global instability and sanctions against Russia the Summit demonstrated continuing fruitful international scientific relations of the Chair and the Faculty, openness to dialogue and a great interest of foreign participants to the Russian point of view.

Contacts were established and cooperation developed with the London Academy of Diplomacy (LAD). The Director of LAD Professor Joseph Mifsud visited the Faculty and the Chair in November 2014 and gave a lecture for students. The agreements on cooperation and on the establishment of the Chair’s network section on global diplomacy at the LAD in London were signed. In March 2015 a Chair’s presentation and the inauguration of its network section at the LAD were held in London.

The cooperation was established with the International Agency ILS and together with the London Academy of Diplomacy the project on the creation of an international university on global issues in Rome started being elaborated jointly.

Another project under elaboration is related to the establishment of the Network UNESCO Chair in Italy.



A Round Table on “Contemporary Threats to International Security” was held in November 2014 with the participation of the Deputy Foreign Minister of Egypt, Ambassador Sameh Aboul Enin who also gave a public lecture for students of the University. Through his assistance contacts were established with the Geneva Center for Security Policy Studies.



On the basis of the Chair’s network section at the Institute of the Content and Methods of Education of the Russian Academy of Education a pilot project on "Pedagogical ways of implementation of education for sustainable development in successive stages of education" was carried out in three directions corresponding to the Priority action areas of the Global Action Program on ESD: Transforming learning and training environments: integrate sustainability principles into education and training settings; building capacities of educators and trainers: increase the capacities of educators and trainers to more effectively deliver the ESD; Empowering and mobilizing youth: Multiply ESD actions among youth.

In 2015, the year of the 70th anniversary of UN and UNESCO, the Chair, besides the active participation in the preparations for and holding of the Congress «Globalistics-2015» and of the Global University Summit of BRICS, continued with the projects of the Global Governance of Science and of the elaboration of a scientific study on «International Relations in the Context of Global Processes». A number of Round Tables were carried out with prominent Russian and Foreign diplomats and specialists in international relations. The Chair was involved in the support of the work of the Special Advisory Board (SAB) on the interface of science and policy composed by outstanding world scientists chosen by the UN Secretary General. The meeting of the SAB took place in St. Petersburg in December 2015. The UNESCO Director General H.E. Mrs. Irina Bokova participated in the SAB meeting and attended the Congress of UNESCO Chairs of Russian Federation held at the same time in St. Petersburg. The presentation of the Chair was made at the Congress (photo).



It is planned:

- to further develop the network of the Chair;
- to further perfect the education leading to certification (general courses, short term training, post graduate studies) introducing new forms among them the distant ones;
- to increase the student involvement in the scientific research at the Chair;
- together with the FGP to continue enlarging student exchange and partnership programs;
- to elaborate new comprehensive teaching materials and to publish the results of the scientific research work at the Chair;
- to elaborate and to carry out scientific and educational projects within the general theme of global problems and social and ethical challenges;
- to further develop the organizational structure of the Chair composing its Scientific Council and the Board of Trustees;
- to create an international scientific database in the field of global studies;
- to increase opportunities for international distant education;
- to continue conducting the program "Visiting Professor" to attract leading Foreign scholars to give lectures at the Chair and the faculty;
- to develop the International Centre for Global Studies in the Asia-Pacific region;
- to pursue the development and implementation of joint projects in cooperation with the Russian-Chinese Center for Strategic Research and the China Research Center of the modern world;

to increase expert analysis, research and educational activities commissioned by UNESCO and other major international organizations.

After the successful achievement of the aim of including the Chair in the structure of the MSU as the full-fledged chair of the FGP, next goals are to be followed:

the implementation of the Program of the development of the Chair for the period till 2020 in education and scientific research approved for short, middle and long term;

the development of the network on the basis of the Chair to a worldwide UNESCO Chairs' structure on global problems.

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