

## IMPLEMENTATION OF ESI REGIONAL STRATEGY IN JULY-OCTOBER 2009

In July-October 2009 the ESI has organised a new cycle of educational programs for implementation of the ESI Regional Strategy to develop its first results presented to the ESI Governing Board on July 2, 2009.

The ESI took the following measures to implement the Strategy:

1. Short-term training courses for regional public servants. In continuation of first such courses held in Veliky Novgorod in May 2009, from 27 September till 3 October 2009 the new courses on EU Politics were organised in Saratov for regional public servants. The courses program was based on request from the Chief Federal Inspector on Saratov Region. The courses were organized with support of the ESI regional partner – the Institute for Vocational Training of the Saratov State University. In total, 6 MGIMO professors participated in the courses. The course curriculum included the following lectures and seminars:

- Political relations between Russia and EU;
- Institutional structure of EU. Multilevel governance in EU;
- Regional policy in EU. Euroregions;
- EU Northern Dimension;
- CFSP;
- EU Energy Policy;
- Germany's policy in EU framework.

At the end of the courses 33 official MGIMO certificates were issued to regional officials. Local public servants expressed the strong interest to the courses, all the lectures were passed in an interactive regime with many questions and practical comments. The program was highly appreciated by regional authorities. The Chief Federal Inspector on Saratov Region has presented the course results and the information about ESI to the Plenipotentiary Representative of the President of Russia in the Volga Federal District. The Chief Federal Inspector has proposed to use the infrastructure of Saratov for various ESI programs in the future.

2. A totally new course was organised at MGIMO from 21 till 26 September 2009. Its students were not regional public servants, but young representatives from regional non-political NGOs. There were 30 students from 18 regions of Russia. The course was prepared at the request of the Public Chamber of Russia and the National Council of Youth Organizations in the framework of the Year of the Youth in Russia. The curriculum was dedicated to the civil dimension of EU Politics and civil diplomacy in the EU. The special seminars were organised on the translation skills of political texts from English. In total 15 MGIMO professors were involved in the course. The contacts with course participants initiated the

talks with regional authorities of Tatarstan and Tambov for future ESI programs in these regions.

3. Master Classes for students of regional Universities. On September 9-14, 2009 the head of ESI Department for EU Politics participated in the international innovation forum INTERRA-2009 in Novosibirsk, organised with support of the Governor of Novosibirsk Region and the Ministry for Youth, Sport and Tourism of Russia, still in the framework of the Year of the Youth in Russia. During the forum two master-classes on EU policy in higher education were organised for Novosibirsk students. During the visit the negotiations with the Siberian Public Service Academy were initiated for future ESI programs in the region.

4. Participation of professors of regional Universities at the ESI research and educational programs. In July 2009 representatives of Universities from Veliky Novgorod, Kaliningrad, Saratov and Barnaul attended the ESI Summer School at the University of Catania in Italy. In October 2009 the lecturers of 7 regional Universities took part at the cycle of ESI conferences dedicated to the 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the Institute.

At the base of these results it is possible to plan the active development of the implementation of the ESI Regional Strategy for the next semester.