

## AESI FORUM – ST. PETERSBURG



Apostolic Nunciature in Moscow

### “EUROPEAN AND RUSSIAN IDENTITIES : SOCIAL AND CULTURE DIMENSION”



ST. PETERSBURG 10 – 13 MAY 2018

#### PROGRAMME DRAT

##### 10 May 2018

- 11.50 am Departures from Rome ALITALIA – 4.30 pm Arrival in St. Petersburg  
Transfer to Hotel Europe  
(Nevsky Prospekt Mikhailovskaya Ulitsa 1/7, 191186 St. Petersburg)
- 7.00 pm ITALIAN CONSULATE IN ST. PETERSBURG  
Welcome : Meeting with the Italian Consul General in St. Petersburg
- 8.30 pm DINNER WITH THE RECTOR  
Welcome: Rector of St. Petersburg State University of Economics

##### 11 May 2018

#### ST. PETERSBURG STATE UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS

(Sadovaya St, 21, Saint-Petersburg, Russia, 191023)

**International Forum : «European Union and Russian Federation: the role of the University Cooperation for Peace and Solidarity»**

#### PROGRAM

- 9.30 am Check-in of participants
- 10.00-11.00 am Plenary meeting :
- Greeting remarks:**  
Rector of SPbSUE, **Professor Igor A. Maksimtsev**;  
Chairman of the External Relations Committee of St. Petersburg Government  
**Evgeny D. Grigoriew**  
General Consul of the Italian Republic in St. Petersburg **Leonardo Bencini**;  
President AESI, **Professor Massimo Maria Caneva**;  
Message of the Apostolic Nuncio Holy See in Russian Federation **Archbishop Mons. Celestino Migliore**
- 11.00-12.00 am I Session: “European and Russian evolution of identity. National, political, territorial and religious aspects”
- Reports:**  
Rector of University of Vienna, **Prof. Heinz W. Engl**  
“Europe and Russia : against confronting identities”  
Vice Rector of National Distance University (Spain), **Prof. Esther Souto**  
“The European Identity and migration processes in the EU”

Secretary General of AESI, **Professor Antonio Macchia**  
“The role of modern historian in the formation of our present perception of Mediterranean and European identity”

12.00-12.30 pm **Coffee-break**

12.30- 1.30 pm **II Session: “European and Russian evolution of identity. National, political, territorial and religious aspects”**

**Reports:**

Deputy Director of INION, **Dr. Dmitrii Efremenko**

“Memory policy as a factor in the formation of European identity”

Professor of St. Petersburg State University, **Dr. Valerii A. Achkasov**

“The crisis of European identity as a demonstration of the crisis of the integration project”

Professor of St. Petersburg State University, **Dr. Zinaida V. Sikevich**

“The Dynamics of Russian Identity in the Time of Systemic Transformation”

1.30 - 3.00 pm **Lunch at the University**

3.00 – 4.00 pm **III Session: “The role of the University cooperation for the formation of universal identity and mutual understanding”**

**Reports:**

President AESI, **Professor Massimo Maria Caneva**

“University cooperation and humanitarian crises”

Vice Rector of International Relations of SPbSUE, **Dmitrii V. Vasilenko**

Prof. at Danube University Krems (Austria), **Dr. Johann Günther**

“New culture at university. From national to international orientation”

Associate prof. at SPbSUE, **Denis Gorulev,**

“University as a cross-cultural basis for formation of identity of intellectuals”

5.00 – 6.00 pm **Historical City Sightseeing Tour**

8.00 pm **Dinner**

**12 May 2018**

**ST. PETERSBURG STATE UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS**

(Sadovaya St, 21, Saint-Petersburg, Russia, 191023)

10.00-12.00 am **Plenary meeting : Introduction Secretary General AESI professor Antonio Macchia**

**Students Panel Interventions :**

Chaired by Rector of SPbSUE, **Professor Igor A. Maksimtsev** and President AESI, **Professor Massimo Maria Caneva**

**Discussion involving Italian and Russian students :**

1) Regional specifics of Italian and Russian Identities (differentiation of mentalities, customs, traditions in regions);

2) Italian and Russian Identities in the context of common European Identity (commodities and differences in mentality and lifestyle).

12.00-12.30 pm **Coffee-break**

12.30- 1.30 pm **Conclusions**

1.30 - 3.00 pm **Lunch at the University**

3.00 –5.00 pm **Historical City Sightseeing Tour : Visit of Hermitage**

8.00 pm **Dinner – AESI Delegation Meeting**

**13 May 2018**

10.30 am **Visit of the Old City and Lunch on Boat - River Neva**

5.40 pm **Departure to Rome**



Prof. Massimo Maria Caneva. MD, PhD  
PRESIDENT AESI - ROME

One of the basic challenges for the XXI Century is international peace and development in the light of the new world balance. Today, there are problems that can only be solved by action at the global level. New strategic thinking is required to approach global issues and advance “global public goods”. Consequently, international communities must become protagonists of a new strategy to intervene in crisis areas and to promote peace, human rights and development with a strategy based on realistic and effective foreign common policy. Such a strategy must include the collaborative efforts of all the “international actors” while being rooted in the common goal of development of a strong cooperation culture of solidarity capable of understanding local needs and providing quick and efficient solutions that are at once professional and respectful of human dignity. Such a strategy must rely on cultural expertise and include expert knowledge of the theoretical elements of crisis and development management and the capability to understand the real comprehensive needs of the populations, and their historical and cultural roots in order to give effective answers to them, and to promote peace and development even in the first phases of the interventions. The traditional “academic collaboration” is distinct from the “university cooperation for peace and development” understood as a strategy of action aimed to build a more developed and peaceful society. In fact, university cooperation needs to manage and deal with a double problem of independence in order to face the challenges to which it is called: from one side, it has to tackle the problem of research, didactics and operational services naturally built into the academic structure; from the other, it has to deal with the necessity of reconciling technical-scientific interventions, that must be tailored to the real demands of the local populations whose needs become are gradually discovered as the project proceeds. When we speak about university cooperation we don’t refer only to the exchange of lecturers and researchers - which is usually the objective of traditional forms of academic collaboration - although this kind of activity may be very useful. University cooperation implies a more general strategy based on both analysis and action, of training and research in the field, of cooperation among the academy and civil institutions, diplomats and international organizations, volunteers and peace forces, in order to provide support in both the prevention and solution of crisis promoting future development.

