



OLEG KHARKHORDIN

RECTOR EUSP

It's been both interesting and eventful year

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! I hope the upcoming year brings you prosperity, success, and the pleasure of seeing your efforts rewarded.

2012 is coming to an end. It's been both interesting and eventful for us. This year, 18 students completed their three-year program and joined the ranks of EUSP graduates. We congratulate these young scholars, who helped us continue to improve and develop as an institution, and we wish them success on the path to further academic and career achievements in their chosen fields.

One of the most important results of our work this year has been launching a joint doctoral program with the European University Institute in Florence, one of Europe's best universities. Two of our students—Philipp Chapkovsky and Aleksandr Polyanichev—have successfully passed the entrance exams and begun their

studies in Florence, while their colleagues from the EUI are preparing to come to the EUSP. There were also positive changes in our international education programs: in September 2012, we launched our third international program, ENERPO (Energy Politics in Eurasia), which has admitted ten new students.

Thanks to the efforts of our glorious Educational office, the EUSP has completed the licensing procedures and has officially confirmed its status of an institute of higher education.

Our Board of Trustees has added two new members: Serge Schmemann, writer and editorial page editor of the International Herald Tribune, and Oleg Zherebtsov, founder of Lenta supermarket chain, who has done much for the development of the EUSP.

This fall, the university opened an office to work with students and alumni on employment and career opportunities. It will work closely with you, and will

rely on the achievements we are already proud of. Thus, thanks to your assistance the European Alumni Association has been supporting EUSP students with Travel Grants already for four years.

One of the things that we are launching now is a tradition to see and welcome you at our regular university events. Thus, we hope to see you at the Day of the EUSP in late March, when we will celebrate the fifth anniversary of the end of the "fire crisis," as well as at graduation in June.

Thank you for your support and your interest in EUSP life. I hope that together, we will make it even better in 2013.

Yours,

Oleg Kharkhordin,
Rector of the European University at St. Petersburg

DANIEL STEIGER,
ALUMNI IMARES 2009/10



**When snowflakes are falling on Kazan Cathedral...
Happy New Year IMARES!**

Dear friends of the EUSPB

Already three years have passed, since we left European University, so I take pride in being appointed to deliver this New Year's message. (Yes, really, already a new year again...)

Our University is now looking back on 18 years of teaching and research. It has been a successful time, as you can tell by simply just counting the numerous new programmes recently established listed on the homepage.

As the snowflakes are falling alongside (and an additional portion lie on the prospekts of Petersburg), the Kazan Cathedral is being lighted for Christmas Mass and one can watch people outside Dom Knigi as they pull their fur hat deeper into the face a new year announces itself. – Always a new IMARES-year, too.

I do like remembering sitting in the classroom with an interpretation of Eizenstein, spending the days in the library or the nights at "Feeling good". – One thing did all of those activities have in common: None was like the other, but all together wrapped up in a good time.

I suppose, only a few of the current students will be spending New Year's Eve in Saint Petersburg (probably sitting at home, writing the last essay – damn). But as soon as February has arrived, you will deferentially announce again: "Sleduche! Na Gagarinskaja pashalsta." People of Saint Petersburg will finally hear true IMARES slang in the mashrukkas again.

So let's seize the opportunity that New Year offers to further develop the science, and promote the IMARES slang accordingly: Xaroshaja Nowi goda.

ANNA & KSENIA,



Dear Alumni, Alumnae, and all EUSPniks,

True, we anthropologists spend a lot of time studying questions of senseless etiquette, but more importantly, we bear responsibility for rituals of collective violence. We invent festive ceremonies and keep tradition. And so without further ado, we anthropologists are looking forward to seeing you—not only on the 26th, but also on the 28th, in the cozy pink boudoirs of Princess Yurievskaya!

ELENA TYUNINA,
EUSP'06



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The European University is the best place in St. Petersburg. Not only because it's located within a gorgeous architectural monument, but because only here could a method unknown to science form an incredible concentration of amazing people. The people who are inhabiting the Maly Mramorny Palace today are intelligent and decent, one and all.

You're all friends of mine, because I couldn't find an enemy here if I tried. And whether I know you or not, I want to wish my friends and colleagues a happy New Year, and wish you even more goodness, beauty, and warmth in the coming year.

To the marvelous teachers of the EUSPb, I wish you gifted, thoughtful students; I wish you the joys of collaboration and togetherness. I wish you even more bright eyes, more beautiful ideas, more understanding colleagues, intimate friends, interesting and useful work, effort that brings you pleasure, and satisfaction in the results.

Let your mornings be courageous, let your days be productive, and let your evenings be peaceful. And may you sleep sweetly and soundly at night! And may spring come soon!



VERONIKA PASINKOVA,
POL SCI AND SOC,05

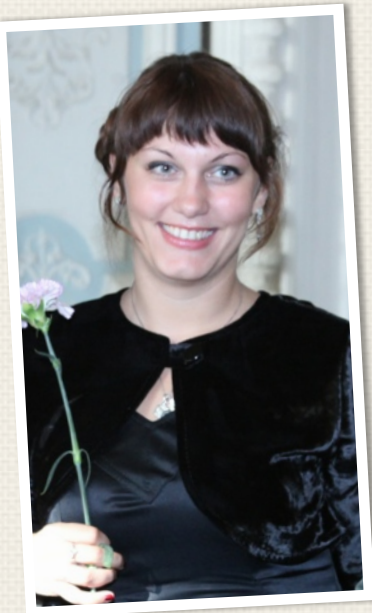
Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Department traditions allow us to take part in the vivid world of the academy regardless of what we do or where we live. For me, the Department of Political Science and Sociology at the European University opened the window not only to Europe, but also to a new perspective on the world. It turns out that reality is a social construct, that people come together through habitus, rather than hobby, and that parliamentary elections really can work.

Our years spent at the EUSPb have a different meaning for each of us, but my long-standing relationship with the department is based on three consecutive events: the port party, New Years, and the boat ride. New Years is the link connecting the first and the last—the buckle in the seat belt.

This year, I wish everyone a successful continuation along their chosen paths. For those graduating, congratulations! I hope this year brings you another "seat belt buckle" that will link the traditions of the department to your coming years.

Happy New Year!



ELLA SAGINADZE, HISTORY '11

For me, studying at the European University was a time of personal growth, a time of new and unforgettable experiences. So I'm flattered to have the opportunity to address the graduates of the EUSPb with a few words just before the holidays.

New Years is the perfect time to make new plans and think up ambitious projects. This is a time when everything is still within our grasp: we can promise ourselves that we'll start every morning with a run, we'll learn a new language this year, we'll finish all those important projects we started once. And this year will be no exception, Mayan calendar notwithstanding.

The most important lesson to be learned from history is that nothing is impossible if you know what you want. Set grandiose goals for yourself! Don't let external stereotypes limit your aspirations and endeavors! I like to think that my personal hero, Sergei Witte, would have been stuck working at a ticket booth at some railroad station way on the outskirts of the empire forever if he hadn't had the courage to break norms and conventions. Of course, not everyone is destined to be a reformer (thank God!), but absolutely anyone can make their life the way they want it to be. World history offers so many examples of success—it's important to choose what inspires you. The most important thing is not to take yourself too seriously: life isn't a test; it should be a fascinating and fun process!

In anticipation of the holidays, I wish everyone bright emotions, new and interesting acquaintances, wellbeing, inviting prospects, brilliant ideas, and successful scholarship. And love. After all, that's the only essential, time-tested ingredient in the recipe for a happy life. But you already know that, of course!



ALEXANDER NESTEROV, ALUMNI'

Dear alumni,

My greetings are about the close connection between us, the European University and culture.

There is an old absurd joke about a bear and a jeep. The bear walked through a forest and saw a burning jeep. He got in and burned up. And there is a real story about a girl. She walked through St.Petersburg and saw a burning university. She got in, put the fire out and then got accepted, learnt and graduated, and began working with graduates herself.

There is an old epic novel about war and peace. And there is a young man born in Balkans, German in soul, named after the main hero of that novel. Once he went to Russia and got in the very same university, and then founded an alumni organisation, which helped the university's image, the students and putting the fire out as well.

Finally, there is an old Soviet movie, which is served every year to the Christmas dinner. And there is a phrase in this movie about bringing up the Baba Yaga in own collective. But there is also a unique example of a university, where this became real and a high percentage of staff is brought up within the same collective (while others being re-educated).

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to that girl, to that young man, to the staff and to all of you, dear alumni. Be happy!

EUSP ALUMNI EUROPE



Keep in touch with EUSP, and take part in the activities of EUSP Alumni (Europe) e.v.!

Dear EUSP Alumni!

Ahead of the Festive Season 2012-2013 I am writing to you on behalf of alumni association EUSP Alumni (Europe) e.v. to extend the Season's greetings!

In the outgoing 2012, the Association has continued its very successful mission in providing travel grants to EUSP students, carried out yet another fundraising campaign (during which we raised a whopping EUR 3239!), as well as co-sponsored certain events at EUSP (such as a reception marking the start of the academic year in the IMARES programme and the Department of Political Science and Sociology).

We are very pleased that this year almost a half of the Association donors are Russian citizens! It seems that we are witnessing a gradual shift in the tradition established since 2008 – the year of the foundation of the Association in London - according to which the grant-making activity has been primarily sponsored by EUSP alumni from European countries and the US. Who

knows, maybe in some 10 years the generosity of “Russian” contributions to EUSP Alumni (Europe) e.v. will let it become as powerful as its counterparts at Ivy League universities are!

Meanwhile, it is the 2013 out there, waiting to walk in, the year which will mark many anniversaries more or less remarkable, but at the very least none of them will be linked to apocalyptic prophecies, expectations of Armageddon and the like by any known tradition of the past. So let me stick to that too and wish you the absence of global cataclysms, but rather peace and love in 2013!

Keep in touch with EUSP, and take part in the activities of EUSP Alumni (Europe) e.v.!

Have a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year!

On behalf of EUSP Alumni (Europe) e.v.

Maxim Bouev, vice-president



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Dear alumni!

We welcome you to join
European University at St
Petersburg New Year events:

December, 26 – the New
Year party, organized by
Student Council for students,
employees and EUSPB alumni

December, 29 – New Year
party for children

Your friends and colleagues
are always glad to meet you
on faculties. See you at the
EU!