

Paris March 31, 2017

Letter of Support for the European University at St. Petersburg

The European University is one of the top schools of higher education in social sciences and humanities in Russia. This university trains new generations of academic and industry professionals by combining studies and research activities.

The excellent reputation of EUSP attracts leading faculty from all over the world in order to teach, to advise students, get valuable feedback to their work, and learn something new for themselves. In turn EUSP's faculty visits department and research centers all around the world. They are invited in seminars and workshops and they attend international conferences. The EUSP Department of Economics is now an important center for research in mathematical economics, economic growth, income distribution, and environmental economics. Its MA programs have earned a solid reputation for their international quality. A significant number of their graduates have continued careers in PhD programs in Europe, USA, and Australia, contributing to the Russia "soft power". Others have chosen to stay at home, where they are contributing to strengthen the country's academic life, private and public sectors.

We believe that any problems with EUSP of a regulatory compliance nature can and should be resolved by the parties involved, including the Russian authorities, in a professional and routine manner. That is, without stopping the educational and research activities. This University is a good example of what Russia is able to and should achieve in the economic and social transition from soviet era. We strongly hope that our colleagues in the EUSP will be able to continue to teach and do research for the benefit of Russia and beyond.

The Board of the French Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (www.faere.fr)