

MINUTES OF UNDERSTANDING

Date: December 4, 2017

Discussion in the framework of the Symposium “Relations between EU and EAEU in the framework of the WTO”

Place: University of Hamburg

Participants: ESI MGIMO MFA Russia - Tamara Shashikhina, Natalia Slavkina, Naku Anton, Makarenko Anastasia; The Hague University - Jaap de Zwaan; Universität Hamburg - Marian Paschke; DA of Vienna – Friedl Weiss, Petra Kakuska; University of Craiova – Sebastian R.Raduletu, Lucian B.Sauleanou.

Absent: University of Rotterdam

Agenda:

1. Interim estimations of the Symposium “Relations between EU and EAEU in the framework of the WTO”
2. Introductory discussion of the forthcoming Conference in the Hague in March 19-20, 2018.
3. State of play of the project, discussion of future cooperation among consortium partners within the forthcoming European Commission Open Call for proposals.

Summary:

1. The participants of the Symposium positively estimated the discussions, paid attention to the importance of its topic. They noted vivacity of the discussion at the level of experts connected to the fact that the action took place in a narrow professional circle. Participants appreciated an initiative of the organizer of the symposium (University of Hamburg) to involve in a discussion as the speaker a representative of business community - Mr. Ulf Schneider (Managing Partner Schneider group, Lisbon-Vladivostoc-Initiative).

Consortium partners highly appreciated the format and ambience of the event which was skillfully and elaborately organized by the University of Hamburg, particularly by Prof. Dr.Dr. Marian Paschke.

2. Representative of the Hague University Prof. em. of the Law Jaap De Zwaan submitted to the consortium members a draft project of the forthcoming Conference in the Hague “EU-Russia Relations: WTO and Sustainability”. The conference is previewed on Monday 19 (full working day) and Tuesday 20 March (half day) and assumes an expanded format in the form of a plenary session and four panels of discussions on various subjects:

- International Trade and Investment.
- Economic Sanction and WTO
- Energy and Environment
- Civil Society and Sustainability

Prof, J. De Zwaan noted that that he is planning to attract additional financing for involvement of the experts who aren't participants of consortium.

In was pointed out the need to provide beforehand the information (no later February 10, 2018) on the preferences in flights in order to give the organizer (the Hague University) an opportunity to buy air tickets, book hotel and calculate the budget of the event in due time.

3. 1. The ESI administration reported to the partners that a new restructured Budget has got an official approval from the European Commission project manager. Two big events are previewed in the Budget before the end of the project in September 2018: Conference in the Hague and Summer school at the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna.

Summer School at Vienna Diplomatic Academy will take place in July 1-7, 2018. It is a full-day programme which lasts 7 days. ESI students are attending classes and visiting international institutions as UN Organizations in Vienna, OSCE and the Russian Embassy.

3.2. It was agreed that the ESI administration will distribute the subjects/themes of the European Commission Open Call for Proposals among members of the consortium and each partner will think of its potential contribution to the general process for further collaboration in the framework of a new project.