

*Dear colleagues,  
We warmly appreciate our cooperation during  
the past year and hope the next one will bring  
more opportunities to work together.  
Happy New Year!*



**Newsletter of the Jean Monnet Centre at Volga Tech**  
*Issue 4: December 2018*

**News and events**

The Jean Monnet Center of Excellence of Volga Tech received another support for a three-year Joint project under the EU ERASMUS+ Capacity Building in the Higher Education program “GIS and Remote Sensing for Sustainable Forestry and Ecology (SUFOGIS)”, which will be carried out under the coordination of the University of Aristotle in Thessaloniki (Greece).

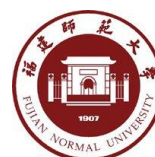


Master students from the "International cooperation in Ecology and Nature Management" programme took part in [international study visit at the University of Duisburg-Essen \(Germany\)](#) in the framework of EU programme ERASMUS+ ["Integrating and validating practical entrepreneurship skills in engineering and ICT studies" \(ReBUS\)](#). Volga Tech students had 10 days of intense learning. They worked in international teams, studied various aspects of entrepreneurship, innovation and creativity in relation to their field of knowledge.



**RE+** 

In November 2018, Head of the Center Eldar Kurbanov [visited the universities of Fuzhou and Yunnan \(China\) with the aim of strengthening partnerships and extending inter-university cooperation in the framework of the Erasmus + and BRICS programs.](#)



In August 2018, the staff members of Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence of Volga Tech visited [a number of universities and organizations in Finland to develop existing relationships and establish new contacts in the field of “Forest and Nature Management”](#). The issues of participation in EU Erasmus+ projects, implementation of on-going joint projects, organization of mobility and participation in double degree programs were discussed. During the week, meetings were held with representatives of the European Forest Institute (EFI), University of Eastern Finland and Häme University of Applied Sciences (HAMK), and the OY “Arbonaut” Ltd.



The Jean Monnet Center of Excellence at Volga Tech invites to the international conference [“Environmental and technological aspects of monitoring and reforestation in the conditions of climate change”](#) to be held 5-7 June 2019 in Yoshkar-Ola. The conference will provide opportunity for an important forum and networking with colleagues from research centers of the European Union and Russia.

The event comprises several sessions with speakers from leading specialized universities of Russia and EU, as well as regional Ministries of Forestry of the Russian Federation.

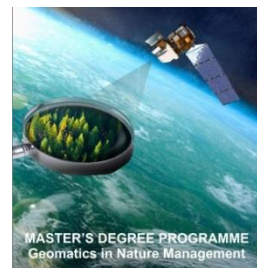
The 4-th [International compendium of research articles “Forest ecosystems under climate change: biological productivity and remote monitoring”](#) has been published online. We express heartfelt appreciation to all authors for their contributions.



*Dear colleagues*

## News and events

The Jean Monnet Center of Excellence launched a new Master Program ["Geomatics in Nature Management"](#) in the profile "Ecology and Nature Management". The studies are based on the experience of EU research and expertise in the field of GIS and remote sensing, sustainable forestry and nature management.



Second group of students was admitted to the international Master's degree program ["International Cooperation in the Forestry Complex and Nature Management"](#) at the Institute of Forestry and Nature Management of Volga Tech. The curriculum of the program is designed to train students for the international relations and companies. The program is based on teaching methods for a comprehensive analysis of the EU studies in the field of Forestry and Nature Management. The Master students will go through summer internships in the countries of the European Union.



The Jean Monnet Center of Excellence SUFEX at Volga State University of Technology in June 2017 carried [out the 6th Russian Studies Summer School](#) "Monitoring of Environment under Climate change: Methods and Technologies". Training during the summer school was conducted by the staff of the SUFEX in English. [The participants of the summer school were students from Russian Federation, Uzbekistan and China \(Fujian Normal University of Fuzhou and Yunnan Normal University of Kunming\).](#)



International conference ["Excellence in European Studies"](#) was held in Moscow 19-20 April 2018 under support of the Jean Monnet Erasmus + program. Head of the SUFEX Center of Excellence at Volga Tech, professor Eldar [Kurbanov took part in this event with a plenary presentation](#) on the research and activities of the Centre.



Researchers of the Jean Monnet Center of Excellence took part with two plenary presentations at the [international conference](#) "From space to land management: remote sensing technology supporting sustainable development and



natural resource management" held at the University of Florence (Italy), and also participated and led a round table discussion on regional cooperation at international [School on Central Asia](#) at Kazakh-German University in Almaty (Kazakhstan).



[The fourth Erasmus+ REBUS project Steering Committee](#) meeting was hosted by University of Palermo (Italy) 24-25 May. [Project partners](#) have repeatedly confirmed their commitment to the project with active participation in the meeting, whose topics varied from discussing content of face-to-face units (courses), contents of e-learning and self-learning units, potential student learning projects, to contents of expected students' visits to EU Universities.



**Integrating and validating  
practical entrepreneurship  
skills in engineering and ICT  
studies**

[International compendium of research articles](#) "Forest ecosystems under climate change: biological productivity and remote monitoring" welcomes article submissions related to the theory and practice of GIS systems and remote sensing of the Earth, using satellite data, assessing terrestrial ecosystems, vegetation cover, studying the dynamics of forest plantations in the conditions of Climate Change.

