

Volga State University of Technology Opens

Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence

The project, prepared by the team of the International Cooperation Department of Volga State University of Technology and the Centre of Sustainable Forest Management and Remote Sensing, provides for the opening of Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence in Volga Tech. The new Centre will work together with the European partners on research in the field of forestry and ecology, on study of the European experience in environmental policy and "green" diplomacy, on development of new courses and modules, conferences and summer schools. A key success of the application was a long-term experience of the International Cooperation Department in realization of projects of university cooperation between Russia and Europe in the Tempus program, the high international reputation of the University, as well as the availability of the Centre of Sustainable Forest Management and Remote Sensing headed by Professor E.A. Kurbanov. The competition of 2016 involved 1,011 applications, of which only 262 were approved for funding from the EU budget. The Jean Monnet Program, named after one of the founding fathers of the European Union, operates since 1989 in order to ensure the quality of education and research on issues related to European integration. At present it is part of a large-scale European program of support for science and education "Erasmus Plus" (Erasmus +). Within Jean Monnet Program EU supports work of academic excellence centers, specialized university departments and individual teachers on development of thematic modules on various aspects of EU policy. In the Russian Federation Centers of Excellence were opened in Saint-Petersburg and Tomsk State Universities, in Kazan (Volga region) Federal University.

Participation in prestigious academic network of centers named after Jean Monnet raises Volga Tech to a fundamentally new level of interaction with our European partners, but also imposes significant obligations to ensure a high level of teaching and research in the chosen field of specialization.