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Summary report on policy activities undertaken and their outcome

CREMLIN Deliverable D2.2

WP2: Exchange platform

Task 2.2 Support to science-policy interface on EU-Russia RI cooperation

Lead partner: DESY

Introduction

The main goal of CREMLIN Task 2.2 is to support the policy dialogue and the joint roadmapping in the area of EU-Russia cooperation on Research Infrastructures, focus on five Russian megascience projects, as well as to establish close ties to the ESFRI forum and to the ESFRI Roadmap update process.

A special WP2 Working meeting at JINR in Dubna has been organized in order to initiate policy discussions and negotiations of European and Russian RI stakeholders. A number of bilateral meetings and exchanges have been organized in order to follow up this topic and to sustain ESFRI-Russia informal links.

The implementation of this task was supported by an external expert adviser with expertise in the EU-Russia S&T dialogue on the basis of a subcontract. In the course of addressing Task 2.2, EU-Russia expert meetings and policy briefs to EC have been performed.

CREMLIN WP2 Working meeting „Exchange on Policy- and ESFRI-related Issues”

Date & Location:

20 April 2016 at JINR, Dubna, Russia

Focus and Objectives:

During the ESFRI-Roadmap update process, the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research (JINR) has successfully established links between the NICA megascience project and the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI). NICA is mentioned in the ESFRI Roadmap Update 2016 in the context of the Landmark Project FAIR (see ESFRI Roadmap 2016 <http://www.esfri.eu/roadmap-2016>).

On its way to this milestone, JINR has gained valuable expertise that is also relevant for Russian research infrastructure projects intended to become an international RI of pan-European interest.

This WP2 Working meeting was designed to stimulate and enable mutual learning and exchange of best practice within the CREMLIN community, with a focus on policy issues as e.g. access policies. The Working meeting has also served as an exercise to prepare the larger CREMLIN WP2 Workshop at Lund on 30 June 2016, “Internationalisation Aspects of Megascience Facilities”.

The Workshop was a CREMLIN internal event, open to the entire CREMLIN Consortium.



Picture: JINR. Group picture WP2 Working meeting. Dubna, 20/04/2016

Participants:

More than 20 stakeholders and representatives of the European and Russian research infrastructures within CREMLIN, as well as three external partners:

- Jean Moulin (BELSPO; former Belgium country representative in ESFRI; SPAB-member within CREMLIN)
- Alexey V. Novikov, Head of the Administration of Strategic Development and Foreign Relations; Federal Agency for Scientific Organisations (FASO)
- Zamil B. Sitdikov, Deputy Head of the Department for Cooperation with International Organizations; Federal Agency for Scientific Organisations (FASO)

Agenda of the Workshop:

09:20	Welcome <i>Nikolai Rusakovich, JINR (as proxy for Grigory Trubnikov, JINR)</i> Goals of the Working Meeting <i>Frank Lehner, DESY</i> <i>Alexander Petrov, NRC KI</i>
09:45	The ESFRI Process and the Promotion of EU-RU Scientific Collaboration Relations in Megascience <i>Jean Moulin, Belgian Delegate to ESFRI from 2002 to 2016</i>
10:00	The NICA-Project and JINR's Way to Approaching NICA to the ESFRI Roadmap Update 2016 Part I: <i>Nikolai Rusakovich, JINR</i> Part II: <i>Vladimir Kekelidze, JINR</i>
10:20	Discussion
10:30	Coffee break
10:45	Contributions from Russian Megascience projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PIK: <i>Sergey Grigoriev, PNPI NRC KI</i> - XCELS: <i>Alexander Sergeev, IAP RAS</i> - STC: <i>Yuriy Tikhonov, BINP</i> - IGNITOR (status report): <i>Mikhail Subbotin, NRC KI</i>
11:45	Contributions from EU partners in CREMLIN <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FAIR: <i>Jürgen Eschke, GSI</i> - ILL: <i>Jiri Kulda</i> - CERN: <i>Livio Mapelli</i> - DESY: <i>Ute Krell</i>
12:45	Discussion <i>Moderation: Uwe Meyer, CREMLIN-Advisor</i>
13:15	Short break
13:25	Summing up & Next steps <i>Martin Sandhop, DESY</i>
13:30	Lunch
14:30	<i>Group picture (at Magnet Assembly Hall)</i>
14:40	Tour through Magnet Assembly Hall (NICA)
16:00-17:00	<i>2nd PMB Meeting CREMLIN face-to-face (closed session; PMB members only)</i> <i>Venue: Laboratory of High Energy Physics (VLHEP, JINR)</i>

Discussion during the Workshop

During the discussion sessions of the workshop it became clear that the NICA case is a very positive example of establishing closer ties to the ESFRI, and the respective Strategy Working Group. NICA's way to enter the Roadmap update and being mentioned as a "complementary facility" to FAIR, however, has become possible – among other – through JINR's status as an international (intergovernmental) organization.

The aim should be – the participants agreed – to bring also (other) Russian facilities, especially those of the megascience class, to the ESFRI roadmap, and to find them mentioned in the respective landscape analysis, as complementary facilities.

The most promising candidate may be the PIK facility, as a powerful neutron source under construction that is expected to deliver first neutrons roughly from 2018/2019 on. The PIK facility has the clear potential to become very attractive not only for the Russian, but also for the European neutron user communities. Yet, the communities in Europe still need to develop more trust with regard to the concrete project implementation plan for PIK. For this, a more transparent and convincing communication strategy should be elaborated and started.

It was also mentioned, that the scientific communities should be main drivers of the process of approaching Russian RI to the European landscape. International user bases are a key factor for closer collaboration also at policy level, such as joint roadmapping. Therefore, a development and implementation of a concept for access conditions to (Russian) RI that will open the facilities also for international, European users, will be very important.



Pictures: JINR.WS participants during tour through Magnet assembly hall. JINR, 20/04/2016



Results & Recommendations of the Workshop

The main outcome of the WP2 Working meeting:

- An approach to and closer cooperation with the ESFRI forum with regard to the Russian megascience projects is needed and intended. The path towards closer collaboration between RU megascience projects and EU RIs (ESFRI projects and ESFRI landmarks) goes via ESFRI.
- NICA's mentioning as a complementary facility to the ESFRI landmark FAIR is an impressive success. But, due to JINR's international status, the NICA approach to ESFRI can't be copied simply 1:1 to the other Russian-megascience projects.
- Within CREMLIN WP2, an interface should be initiated that will allow and facilitate to set up a dialogue between ESFRI, the respective ESFRI Strategy Working Group (SWG) – Physical Sciences and Engineering (PSE) – and Russian megascience stakeholders.
- Especially for the PIK project, such an interface will be useful, with the aim to position PIK in the ESFRI Landscape Analysis in a later Roadmap update, e.g. in the ESFRI Roadmap update 2018.
- As a first concrete step, the chair of the ESFRI SWG PSE should be informed on the current status of the Russian megascience projects as well as on the CREMLIN project.

Development of closer ties to ESFRI

During the course of the CREMLIN project and based on the outcome of the WP2 Working meeting in Dubna, the CREMLIN coordination team including the advisor have contacted ESFRI representatives several times and have developed further ties to ESFRI, especially to the SWG PSE.

ESFRI chair Prof. Rossi took part in the CREMLIN Closing Conference on 5 June 2018 at DESY in Hamburg, where he performed an active role for instance during the panel discussion and a dinner speech.

EC-Info-day on 19 December 2017, Moscow

A cross-reference should be made with regard to the CREMLIN contribution to the EC Info day, organized on 19/12/2017 at the NCP RI at NUST MISIS premises in Moscow.

The CREMLIN contribution is explained in more detail in the CREMLIN D8.5 "CREMLIN closing conferences", since this event contributes to dissemination purposes and will best be placed in a deliverable within WP8 "Communication and dissemination; innovation; education & training".

The Info day, entitled "Deepening EU-Russia strategic cooperation in the area of Research Infrastructures: challenges and new opportunities", has been initiated by the European Commission and was organized in close collaboration of the EC, the Ministry for Education and Science of the Russian Federation, the National Contact Point for Research Infrastructures (NCP RI) in Moscow, and the CREMLIN project management. This event, while mainly devoted to dissemination, also offered

the opportunity for research policy stakeholders from both EU and Russia to discuss the EU-Russia collaboration in the area of RI together with a European-Russian stakeholder audience.