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| International Conference**Cooperation in the Barents Euro-Arctic Region in the Field of Education and Research as a Resource for Regional Development**26th – 30th November 2012, Northern (Arctic) Federal University (NArFU), Arkhangelsk, Russia |  |

A call for the conference

***Dear Colleagues!***

Northern (Arctic) Federal University (NArFU) invites Russian and foreign scholars and students; politicians and officials; business and industry representatives to take part in the conference **"Cooperation in the Barents Euro-Arctic Region in the field of education and research as a resource for regional development".**

The conference provides an international forum for debate and analysis of a variety of issues related to past, present and future of the university/ academic cooperation and its significance for the Barents Euro-Arctic region development. Russian and foreign scholars, students, politicians, business and industry representatives will discuss and analyze the 20 years’ history of the BEAR cooperation (experiences, success stories and challenges) as well as develop a vision of the future cooperation (new forms and formats of participation, actors, agenda).

On 11th January 1993 the first conference on the Barents Euro-Arctic region cooperation took place in Kirkenes, Norway. The Kirkenes Declaration that gave political impetus to the intensive and fruitful collaboration for the next twenty years came as a major result of the conference. Universities of Finland, Norway, Sweden and Russia have been actively involved in the process of building cooperation across borders. NArFU, being one of the leading educational and scientific institutions of the Russian North, has accumulated a unique experience in the area of the Barents cooperation. The International Conference “Cooperation in the Barents Euro-Arctic Region in the field of education and research as a resource for regional development”, organized under the co-chairmanship of twin-universities NArFU and the University of Tromsø in the BEAR Working Group on Education and Science (JWGER BEAC), aims to become a platform to discuss a new stage in the development of the Barents partnership.

The conference hosts the following **thematic streams**:

1. Twenty years of history of cooperation in the Barents Euro-Arctic Region: success stories, perspectives, new start?
2. Cooperation in the Barents Euro-Arctic Region in the field of education: time for research based education?
3. Research cooperation in the Barents Euro-Arctic Region: university as a resource for business and industry development.
4. Education and career pathways in the Barents Euro-Arctic Region through the eyes of young people.

**Conference venue:**

NArFU, Arkhangelsk (Naberezhnaya Severnoi Dviny, 17) <http://www.narfu.ru/en/>

**Preliminary program:**

November 26 - arrival of participants

November 27 - plenary session, thematic streams, panel discussion

November 28 - thematic streams, a youth forum, summarizing

November 29 – (a) meeting of the BEAC Working Group on Education and Science (JWGER BEAC); (b) meeting of the Arctic association of Russian Universities; (c) working seminar Horizon – 2020; cultural program, departure of participants

November 30 - departure of participants

**Forms of participation:**

• Plenary session lecture;

• Thematic session presentation;

• Participation in discussions and youth forum.

**Working languages:** Russian and English.

**Invited guest speakers:**

***Sverre STUB*** - Ambassador; Section for the High North, Polar Affairs, Energy and Resources of Ministry of Foreign Affairs

***Lars KULLERUD*** - President UArctic, Senior Advisor to GRID-Arendal Managing Director

***Rune RAFAELSEN*** - Secretary General of the Norwegian Barents Secretariat in Kirkenes, Norway

***Anatoliy SMIRNOV*** - President of the National Institute for Global Security Research (NIIGloB), a member of the Presidium of the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences, Doctor of Historical sciences, Professor, Ambassador of the Russian Federation

***Steffan WEBER -*** Secretary General EU ARCTIC Forum, Special Adviser Arctic European Parliament

**Registration forms** and abstracts are to be submitted by **15th October, 2012**.

**Registration forms** are available on the conference’s web-page <http://cibear.narfu.ru> or by e-mail: cibear@narfu.ru

**Abstracts:** The title of the file is to coincide with the surname of the first author. The abstract should not exceed 300 words. The heading of the abstract should contain name, organization and full address. The abstract should not contain subtitles, diagrams and drawings.

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