



Research
Programme
2004-2007

Russia in Flux



wall •• cafe window •• climber •• moscow •• block •• reflections •• market place •• moscow in the future

Background

Russia is the world's largest country, extending from the fringes of Eastern Europe to the shores of the Pacific Ocean. Measured in population, it ranks sixth in the world.

Today, Russia is in the midst of a difficult process of transformation from a socialist economy to a market economy. However, in spite of all its current economic and social problems, Russia remains a significant force in the international community.

Russia is a cultural superpower and a major military force. The country's immense natural wealth and high level of education provide a useful springboard for the country's quest for greater stability in the future. Developments in Russia are reflected geopolitically throughout the world. This is obviously of special significance to countries in its immediate vicinity, such as Finland.

Russia's special status is today a key element in the process of Finnish internationalisation. Russia is the EU's most important European neighbour, and Finland shares a longer border with Russia than any other EU member country.

The EU's policy vis-à-vis Russia is dependent upon its Russian strategy and the Northern Dimension initiative, which is particularly important to Finland.

Russia has also been moving closer to European security and economic structures, and the EU is now Russia's main partner in foreign trade.

Venäjä
Russia

**Research Programme
Russia in Flux**

Further information

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Funded projects

Catalytic abatement of liquid and gaseous industrial pollutants: solving acute technogenic problems •• Kallas Juha

Competition and co-operation between Finnish and Russian enterprises •• Tiusanen Tauno

Corporate governance in Russia •• Liljebloom Eva

Does the geography of Russian northern peripheries really change? •• Tykkyläinen Markku

Dynamics of sustainable livelihoods. Social impact assessment of wood procurement in Russian northwest villages and towns •• Järvelä Marja

Environmental and social impacts of industrial development in northern Russia •• Forbes Bruce

Environmental effects of the Kola air pollution sources in the Kola area and in Finnish Lapland •• Paatero Jussi

Exports of roundwood and sawnwood from Russia and effects on market competition •• Toppinen Anne

Fertility patterns and family forms in St Petersburg •• Rotkirch Anna

Forest policy, politics and forest programmes in Russia •• Saastamoinen Olli

Genetic resources of Russian farm animals – the state of endangerment and ethno-ecological, technical and social opportunities for conservation •• Mäki-Tanila Asko

Governance of renewable natural resources in northwest Russia •• Nysten-Haarala Soili

Health values and changing society in Russia •• Aarva Pauliina

Impact of forestry on taiga ecosystems, species diversity and distribution in north-west Russia •• Lindén Harto

Intensification of forest management and improvement of wood harvesting in northwest Russia •• Karjalainen Timo

Interaction between boreal forests and the atmospheric aerosol system •• Kerminen Veli-Matti

Living with difference in Russia – hybrid identities and everyday racism among young "rossiyane" •• Puuronen Vesa

Multi-sited lives in transnational Russia: questions of identity, belonging and mutual care •• Vuorela Ulla

New and old Russia in the transition discourses of Finnish-Russian relationships •• Rytövuori-Apunen Helena

New role of Russian enterprises as actors in the international business arena •• Liuhto Kari

Opening of the Russian economy and its integration with the European Union •• Alho Kari

Reconstitution of northwest Russia as an economic, social and political space: the role of cross-border interaction •• Eskelinen Heikki

Reproductive health in Russia – discovering determinants through comparative research •• Hemminki Elina

Russia's European choice: with or into the EU? •• Vaahtoranta Tapani

Self-governing associations in northwestern Russia: common things as the foundation for Res Publica •• Alapuro Risto

St. Petersburg / Leningrad: narration – history – present •• Pesonen Pekka

The ethnic, linguistic and cultural making of northern Russia •• Nuorluoto Juhani

The other Russia. Cultural multiplicity in the making •• Siikala Anna-Leena

Towards sustainable fishing and biodiversity preservation of northwest Russian salmonid stocks by using molecular genetic techniques for stock and parasite monitoring •• Primmer Craig

Transboundary landscapes •• Häyrynen Maunu

Russia in Flux Research Programme

The programme covers the following thematic areas:

- Russia as an international actor
- Regional policy, internal administration and security
- Natural resources, the environment and sustainable development
- Economic mechanisms
- Technological prospects
- Health and well-being
- Cultural changes
- Values in society and education

The Academy of Finland has allocated a total of 8.2 million euros for the research programme, which consists of 30 separate research projects. An additional 1.26 million euros have been allocated by other funding bodies implementing the programme: the Ministry of Transport and Communications; the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry; the Ministry of Defence; the Ministry for Foreign Affairs; the Ministry of the Environment; and the National Technology Agency Tekes. The programme has also cooperation with the Russian Academy of Science and the Russian Fund for the Humanities.

Aims

The research programme is concerned with Russia in flux; its purpose is to shed light on Russia as a state, society, natural environment and as an economic and cultural area.

More specifically, the aim is to gain a clearer picture of the conditions prevailing in Russia today, the ongoing processes of change, and the underlying causes of those processes, and also their impacts.

It is expected that the research will generate information that can help us reach a deeper understanding of Russia and that can be used in strategic decision-making in different sectors of society.

Lenin •• putins •• rave •• photos Sami Hyyryskylähti, hyyryskylähti@mail.ru, www.sami-hyyryskylähti.com



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