

**ACTIVITY  
OF UNESCO CHAIR  
“PHILOSOPHY IN THE DIALOGUE OF CULTURES”  
Institute of Philosophy, Russian Academy of Sciences  
Moscow, Russian Federation**

**(June, 2010 – June, 2011)**

The UNESCO chair ““**PHILOSOPHY IN THE DIALOGUE OF CULTURES**” was established by the agreement between UNESCO and the Institute of Philosophy, Russian Academy of Sciences (signed on June 24, 2008).

The activity of the Chair has been aimed on the fulfillment the following **main goals**:

1. To promote the development of multicultural education in teaching philosophy.
2. To introduce to the students along with the Western philosophy as well the philosophical ideas rooted in the other civilizations so that the new generation could obtain a broader view of human cultural heritage.
3. To teach the comparative approaches in order to bring better understanding of universal and particular in human culture.
4. To educate the young people how to join in and carry on the dialogue with the representatives of the other cultures.

**Teaching activity**

a) Lecture course “The Introduction to Eastern Thought “(60 hours) and seminars (30 hours) were carried on annually for **all** the undergraduates at the philosophy faculty and the faculty of political studies of the State Academic University for Humanities (more than 70 students all together). Taking into consideration that the presentation of detailed histories of Eastern traditions in terms of names, schools, systems, and so on is practically impossible because of the time limits, the Introduction course was organized topically by introducing to the students the key notions – those concerning the general structure of the universe, the place and mission of the human being within it, and the means and ways to apprehend the Truth, etc. Every topic was presented in a comparative way. At the seminars the students read and discussed the source texts (originals translated from Sanskrit, Chinese and Arabic into Russian).

b) For those students who wished to go further and get broader knowledge of non-Western philosophies, there were organized language classes in Sanskrit, Persian and Chinese as well as weekly special lecture courses. These students got tuition in preparing course papers and diplomas.

c) Lectures were presented to the Ph.D. students. They got tuition leading to submission and public defense of the dissertations.

d) The members of the Chair acted as visiting professors to different Universities both inside and outside Russia: Moscow State University named after M.Lomonosov; Russian State University of Humanities; Russian Peoples’ Friendship University; Physic-Technical University, Moscow; Novgorod State University, High School of Economics, etc.

e) The members of the Chair prepared several manuals, text-books and course-programs which were published by different Universities where they taught:

Anashina Maria. Course-programs on “Chinese Philosophy” for the students of Russian State University for Humanities and Moscow State University on Physics and Technology.

Kanaeva Natalya. Electronic version of the courses on “Ancient and Medieval Indian Philosophy” for the students of the State Academic University of Humanities and The High School of Economics, 2010

Kanaeva Natalya. Electronic version of the course-programs on “Philosophy” for the faculty of psychology and the faculty business informatics at the High School of Economics, 2010

Zheleznova Natalya. Course-program on “Problem of Consciousness in Classical Indian Darshanas” for the students of the Moscow State University after Lomonosov.

### **Research activity and publications**

The fellows of the Chair were actively involved in: academic research of the history of Eastern philosophies, translation of the original texts into Russian, commentaries, studies in comparative philosophy. They participated in two national research projects:

1. Project of the Russian Ministry of Education and Sciences on “The Dialogue of Civilizations in the Contemporary World: Philosophic Foundations and Socio-cultural Strategies”.

2. Project of the Russian Academy of Sciences on “Eastern Philosophies in the Context of the Dialogue of Cultures and Civilizations”.

### **The list of the main publications for the years covered by the report:**

#### BOOKS:

*Philosophy in the Dialogue of Cultures. Proceedings of the World Philosophy Day 2009.* (In Russian and English). Ed. by A.Gusseinov. Moscow: 2010

*Russia looks at India. A Spectrum of Philosophical Views.* Ed. by M.Stepanyants. New Delhi: Indian Council of Philosophical Research Published in association with D.K.Printworld. Publishers of Indian Traditions, 2010.

*Knowledge and Belief in the Dialogue of Cultures.* Ed. by M.Stepanyants. Cultural Heritage and Contemporary Change. Series IVA, Eastern and Central Europe; V. 39. Washington: The Council for Research in Values and Philosophy, 2011.

Marietta Stepanyants. *Oriental Philosophies. Manual for Universities.* (In Russian) Moscow: “Academia Project”, 2011. The first Russian manual which has the logo of the UNESCO Chair “Philosophy in the Dialogue of Cultures”.

#### ARTICLES:

##### I. Publications in Russia:

1. Анашина М.В. Концепция срединности в школе саньлунь// Историко-философский ежегодник. М., 2010..

2. Железнова Н.А. Ортодоксия и ортопраксия: различия между дигамбарской и шветамбарской ветвями джайнизма. // «Религиоведческие исследования» М., 2010.

3. Железнова Н.А. Джайнский мистицизм // Юбилейный сборник статей в память Ю.Н. Рериха. Отв. ред. В.В. Вертоградова. М.: Изд. фирма «Восточная литература». 2010

4. Железнова Н.А. Медитация в джайнизме // «Медитативные практики в религиях мира» под ред. П.Н. Костылева. 2010

5. Железнова Н.А. Буддизм в Тибете // «Индо-китайский буддизм». М.: Изд.фирма «Восточная литература». 2010

6. Карелова Л.Б. Статьи в разделе «Школы и интерпретаторы» // «Энциклопедия синто» (Бан Нобутомо, Босюн, Дзихэн, Есикава синто, Када Адзумамаро, Китабатакэ Тикафуса, Кокугаку, Кэйтю, Масухо Дзанко, Миварю синто, Ниномия Сонтоку, Санно итидзицу синто, Санно синто, Сингаку, Суйка синто, Хаяси Оэн, Хаяси Радзан). , М., 2010

7. Карелова Л.Б. Философско-антропологические взгляды Вацудзи Тэцуро в контексте его полемики с западноевропейской мыслью первой половины XX в. // Историко-философский ежегодник 2009, М., 2010.

8. Канаева Н.А. Индийская философия // Новая Российская энциклопедия. Т. VI/2. М. 2010.

9. Лысенко В.Г. Как я понимаю индийскую философию // Философский журнал. Ин-т философии РАН, № 3 (6) 2010

10. Лысенко В.Г. Чувственное и рациональное познание: Индия и Запад (принципы сравнительного анализа) // Философский журнал. Ин-т философии РАН, № 2 (5) 2010.

11. Лысенко В.Г. Преподавание индийской философии в преодолении европоцентризма // Философия в диалоге культур: материалы Всемирного дня философии. М., Прогресс-Традиция, 2010.

12. Ефремова Н.В. Доказательства бытия Бога согласно фальсафе // Ишрак. Ежегодник исламской философии. М.: Языки славянских культур, 2010.

13. Степаняну М.Т. Всемирный День Философии 2009 // Вопросы философии, № 4, 2010

14. Степаняну М.Т. Ключ к независимому мышлению // Вестник ЮНЕСКО, №11, 2010.

15. Степаняну М.Т. Культура и идентичность // Россия в диалоге культур. М.: "Наука", 2010.

16. Степаняну М.Т. Сейид Хоссейн Наср как участник «диалога между самыми великими философами» // Мир ислама: история, общество, культура. Тезисы докладов II международной научной конференции 28-30 октября 2010, М.: РУДН.

17. Степаняну М.Т. Философское образование и диалог культур // Философия в диалоге культур: материалы Всемирного дня философии. М., Прогресс-Традиция, 2010.

18. Степаняну М.Т. Возможна ли модернизация без вестернизации? // Философия и культура. № 11, 2010

## II. Publications abroad:

1. Yefremova N. The unity of philosophy and religion according to Ibn-Rushd // Knowledge and Belief in the Dialogue of Cultures. Washington: The Council for Research in Values and Philosophy, 2011.

2. Kanaeva Natalia. The Contribution of Bimal Krishna Matilal to the New Paradigm of Comparative Philosophy and Comparative Logic // First Asian Philosophy Congress. Abstracts of Papers. March 6-9 2010. Jawaharlal Nehru University. New Delhi, 2010.

3. Kanaeva Natalia. Polemics between Buddhists and Jainas about the rules of Inference as presented in the Tattvasaṅgraha by Śāntaraks#ita and the Commentary Pañjikā by Kamalaśīla // Russia Looks at India. A Spectrum of Philosophical Views. New Delhi: Indian Council of Philosophical Research, 2010.

4. Kobzev A. Knowledge/Rationale and Belief/Trustiness in Chinese Philosophy // Knowledge and Belief in the Dialogue of Cultures. Washington: The Council for Research in Values and Philosophy, 2011.

5. Lysenko V. Between Materialism and Immaterialism: Atomism in India and Greece // Materialism and Immaterialism in India and Europe. Ed. Partha Ghose. PHISPC 12(5), Centre for Studies in Civilizations, Delhi, 2010.

6. *Lysenko V.* The Atomistic Theory of Vaiśeshika: Problems of Interpretation // Russia Looks at India. A Spectrum of Philosophical Views. New Delhi: Indian Council of Philosophical Research, 2010.

7. *Lysenko V.* Knowledge and Faith in Early Buddhism : A Soteriological Perspective // Knowledge and Belief in the Dialogue of Cultures. Washington: The Council for Research in Values and Philosophy, 2011.

8. *Marietta Stepanyants.* Preface // Knowledge and Belief in the Dialogue of Cultures. Washington: The Council for Research in Values and Philosophy, 2011.

9. *Marietta Stepanyants.* Introduction // Russia Looks at India. A Spectrum of Philosophical Views. New Delhi: Indian Council of Philosophical Research, 2011.

10. *Marietta Stepanyants.* Muhammad Iqbal as an Islamic Reformer // Russia Looks at India. A Spectrum of Philosophical Views. New Delhi: Indian Council of Philosophical Research, 2010.

11. *Marietta Stepanyants.* The Philosophical and Socio-Political Views of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad // Russia Looks at India. A Spectrum of Philosophical Views. New Delhi: Indian Council of Philosophical Research, 2010.

12. *Marietta Stepanyants.* Philosophy of Non-violence: Lessons of Gandhism // Russia Looks at India. A Spectrum of Philosophical Views. New Delhi: Indian Council of Philosophical Research, 2010.

13. *Marietta Stepanyants.* “Dialectical Dynamism” of D.P. Chattopadhyaya // Russia Looks at India. A Spectrum of Philosophical Views. New Delhi: Indian Council of Philosophical Research, 2010.

14. *Marietta Stepanyants.* Challenges for Education in the Age of Globalization // Knowledge, Language, Thought and the Civilization of Islam. Essays in Honor of Syed Muhammad Naquib al-Attas. Ed. By Wan Mohd Nor Wan Daud, Muhammad Zainiy Uthman. Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, 2010.

15. *Marietta Stepanyants.* Could Asian Values Transfer into Global Values? // DCG MITTEILUNGSBLATT 54 (2010)

16. *Marietta Stepanyants.* Asian Values to Multi-Polar World // Proceedings. The First Asian Philosophy Congress. New Delhi: ICPR, 2010

17. *Marietta Stepanyants.* Dialogue of Cultures and Ethno-Religious Processes of Modern Russia // "World Religions: New Prospects for Dialogue and Understanding. St.Petersburg, 2011

### **Conferences organized by the UNESCO Chair**

Lecture by Dr.Karan Singh on “Vedanta To-day” organized by the UNESCO chair (May, 2010)

Round Table on “Consciousness in Buddhism and Modern Physics” (September 2010)

### **International cooperation:**

Marietta Stepanyants – panel speaker, VIII World Public Forum, Rhodes, Greece, 2010 October

Marietta Stepanyants – participation in the annual CD of FISP meeting as the first vice-president of FISP, Mexico, 2010 November

Marietta Stepanyants - panel speaker, Russian-Ukrainian round-table, Kiev, Ukraine, 2010 December

Marietta Stepanyants - a speaker at the UNESCO Regional high-level meeting on the teaching of philosophy in Europe and North America, Milan, Italy, 2011 February

Marietta Stepanyants – the key-note speaker at the Tenth East-West Philosophers’ Conference, Honolulu, USA, 2011 May

## 19. Expected Results

It is expected that the activity of the Chair will demonstrate the potentials of multicultural education in philosophy as “a moderator” in carrying on cultural dialogue.

- . It will permit to expand the horizons of world-out look of the students in general.
- . It will train new brand of specialists who will pass the acquired knowledge to the others either by teaching, or doing journalism, or being involved in political activities, etc.
- . The research activity of the Chair will promote to construct multicultural philosophy education on a solid basis of knowledge and comprehension of the other cultures.
- . In the long run, the activity of the Chair will contribute in bringing changes in the public opinion and making the people to be ready and capable to join cultural dialogue.

## 20. Target Beneficiaries

The targets beneficiaries will be:

- . University students (undergraduates, graduates)
- . Ph.D. students who will form a new generation of specialists.
- . University teachers in general to whom the methods of multicultural education in philosophy will be transmitted by different ways (through publications, seminars, conferences, etc.).

If the Chair gets a support from UNESCO or finds out other sources for a financial support it will enlarge the circle of beneficiaries by:

- . Making own Web site;
- . Establishing an electronic library which will help in developing distant and continued education, in particular for those from the distant regions.
- . Organizing summer schools for training teachers of philosophy;

## D. Funding of the Project

### 1. Total project budget

Total project budget (Russian Rubles, RR) **2.719,000**

### 2. Contribution of the Institute of Philosophy, Russian Academy of Sciences

1. For Academic year 2010-2011

Expected expenditures:

01.	Chair holder@ RR 32,000/mo. x 12 months	384,000
02.	4 Professors@ RR 30,000/mo. x 12 months	144,000
	4 Assistant professors@ 18,000/mo. x 12 months	864,000
	2 Lecturers@ 12,000/mo. x 12 months	288,000
	2 Support staff@ 8.000/mo. x 12 months	192,000
03.	Maintenance & Other Operating Expenses	
	reproduction	20,000
	mail/postage	8,000
	documentation	10,000
	maintenance	25,000
04.	Computer system	70,000
0.5	Communication/Telephone access	20,000
0.6	Office space	600,000
0.7	Office facilities	40,000
0.8	Manuscript preparation/publication	50,000

**Total:**

**2.719,000**

**3. Extra-budgetary resources are needed:**

For salaries to the teachers of the Oriental languages;

For the publication of the books and manuals;

For purchase of books and journals;

For coverage of expenses needed for participation in regional and international professional conferences.

**4. Donor funding**

The publication of books is financially supported through the obtaining the grants from the Russian State Foundation for Humanities; Russian State Foundation for Fundamental Research and the State Agency of Press.

There are few cases when the research and publication were financially supported by the foundations in Japan, India and Iran.

Sanskrit and Persian classes got a financial support from the Cultural Centers of India and Iran in Moscow.

Chinese language classes got financial support from the Russian Foundation “Dialogue of Civilizations”.

**5. Proposed funding sources**

We do our best to continue to get financial support from the above listed sources. We are trying to find some new donors for special projects.

**E. Support**

**Institutional**

Letter of support from vice-president of the Russian Academy of Sciences

The project is presented by the Director, Institute of Philosophy, Russian Academy of Sciences.

**National Commission**

Letter of support from the UNESCO National Commission of the Russian Federation