**Recent changes in Russian Federation educational system.**

**Background:**

Since 2018 Russian Government elaborated a number of documents, dedicated to development of economy and social sphere of the country for the next 5-10 years. The main document is called National Projects. Under each National Project there are some Federal Projects, the number depends on the financing and volume of tasks.

There are 13 National Projects: Health (with 8 Federal Projects), Education (with 10 Federal Projects), Demography (with 5 Federal Projects), Culture (with 3 Federal Projects), Safe and High-Quality Highways (with 4 Federal Projects), Housing and Urban Environment (with 4 Federal Projects), Ecology (with 11 Federal Projects), Science (with 3 Federal Projects), Small and Medium-Size Businesses (with 5 Federal Projects), Digital Economy (with 6 Federal Projects), Productivity and Employment (with 3 Federal Projects), International Cooperation and Export (with 5 Federal Projects), Integrated plan of mainline infrastructure modernization and development (with 11 Federal Projects).

\* The detailed information could be found there: <https://futurerussia.gov.ru/> (sorry, there is only Russian version).

The end of 2018 ‘beginning of 2019 became the crucial period for the Russian educational and research system because of three important documents, signed by president:

* National Project “Digital Economy” (01.10.2018 – 31.12.2024)
* National Project “Education” (01.01.2019 – 31.12.2024)
* National Project “Science” (01.10.2018 – 31.12.2024)

These projects have the following key performance indicators/goals connected with education and science:

- 15 World Level Educational Research Centers by 2024 (0 in 2018, 5 in 2019)

- 10th place in the World by presence of Russian Universities in top-500 of Global Rankings by 2024 (17th place in 2019)

- 425 000 international students in Russia by 2024 (approx. 210 000 in 2019)

- not less than 15 000 international students attending summer and winter schools by 2024

- not less than 10 massive online courses on international platforms with not less than 5000 participants by 2024 (now - 0)

- by 2024 not less than 5% of graduates from Russian Universities stay and work in Russian of International companies.

Main results:

**A. 5 Educational-Research Centers of World Level were approved by the Government**:

* Belgorod Region – “Agriculture and Food” with Belgorod State University as a main center.
* Kemerovo Region – “Mineral Resources, Coal, Petroleum, Machine Engineering” with Federal Research Center of Coal and Coal Chemistry of Russian Academy of Science as a main center.
* Nizhniy Novgorod Region – “Machinery, Laser Technologies, Chemical Engineering, Nuclear Technologies” with Nizhniy Novgorod State University as a main center.
* Tyumen’ Region - “Technologies for Arctic Region, Petroleum and Gas, Biology, Social and Humanitarian Sciences” with center in Tyumen State University and Industrial University of Tyumen.
* Perm Region – “Ecology, Mineral Resources” with Perm Polytech University, Perm National Research University as main centers.

The last 2 regions are “on top” now, because of young and active Governors and big support from the industry. Perm will construct the new type of Campus for the international students with support from the Government and VEB bank.

**B. Extension of the Academic Excellence project:**

The official end year of the present project is 2020. But Ministry of Science and Education already announced in April that project will be extended and since 2021 30 universities will be selected.

The existing 21 university do not have guaranteed places. It will be a separate “roadmaps competition” in 2020.

**C. The second phase of Russian Academy of Science reform.**

In 2013 the reform of RAN was initiated, because of its huge bureaucracy structure and some scandals with scientific degrees awarding. As an alternative, the Ministry of Science Education established Federal Agency of Research Organizations (FARO), that started the process of RAN reformation and modernization of infrastructure. By 2018 the first stage of this process was over and FARO was liquidated, became a part of the Ministry and the ex-head of FARO Mr. Kotyukov became the new Minister of Science and Higher Education.

So, now the second stage started, when Ministry of Higher Education and Science negotiate with RAN to complete unification process. It is still going on.