

Федеральное государственное автономное образовательное учреждение высшего образования

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Professor Michael Murphy
President of the European University Association
Avenue de l'Yser, 24,
1040 Brussels
Belgium

Dear President, Board Members and Colleagues,

On behalf of the entire community of Immanuel Kant Baltic Federal University I am delighted to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the European University Association for the 20th Anniversary.

IKBFU is honored to be a part of a year-long celebration of EUA 20th anniversary. Since 1993 IKBFU has been a proud member of EUA significant, prestigious and powerful community. We are very grateful for the opportunity to be heard, to share common goals and values throughout the years of prospective collaboration within the framework of science and education.

During these 20 years EUA has developed as one of the most authoritative organizations that reinforces collaboration between European universities. EUA actively corresponds with the challenges of fast-changing socioeconomic environment and holds as a top priority to contribute in overcoming the global crisis.

As a member of EUA, IKBFU enhances the role of universities in the prosperous development of European knowledge society; becomes the part of networking among national rectors' conferences; increases its visibility in Europe and in the world. IKBFU is gratified that collaboration with EUA provides us with an opportunity to interact with key decision makers in Europe. We strongly believe that effective cooperation between IKBFU and EUA is a key towards enhancing university governance, establishing a firm platform for providing foremost opportunities for students and universities, engaging partner organizations throughout the world in productive dialogue.

The mission of IKBFU is consistent with fundamental values and principles of EUA that we embrace and enforce. These values include monitoring and promoting institutional autonomy as a major principle of university management and defending academic freedom as the most important foundation for meaningful academic research and teaching; fostering a culture of openness, tolerance and diversity; encouraging the students and staff to make their valuable contribution to sustainable development of our society. We embrace the principle of ethical and transparent research process and consider it as a key to enhancing the credibility of universities and consolidating their role in society.

We want to over again emphasize that IKBFU is committed to achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals and considers these principles indispensable, particularly quality and affordable education, economic growth, proving decent working conditions, industrialization, focus on innovations and infrastructure development, eliminating inequality.

IKBFU respects principles of European Pillar of Social Rights which stands for social protection, equal opportunities, healthy, safe and well-adapted professional environment; education, training and life-long learning. One of our leading mission - together with EUA implement these principles in academic society.

We see the future of EUA as a leader, who will support and guide association members towards development and progress. It is a great honor and responsibility for IKBFU to represent share values and principles and we proudly enter the new milestone together without deviating from common goals. We expect active involvement of IKBFU to the agenda on all relevant issues. We sincerely invite EUA to participate in international events organized by IKBFU.

Immanuel Kant Baltic Federal University wishes EUA prosperity and the very best for the future years to bring.

Best wishes, Rector

Alexander Fedorov