



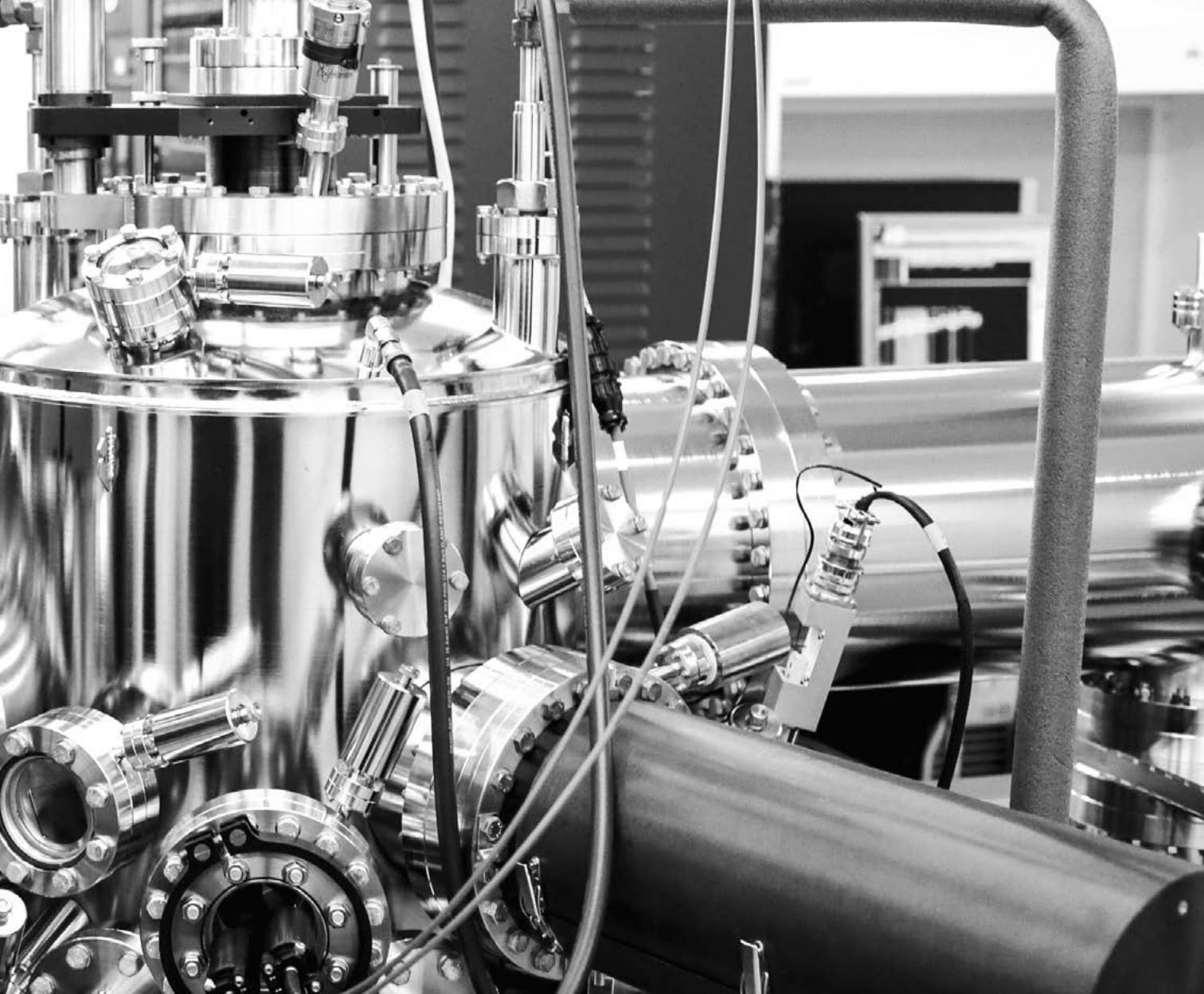
St Petersburg
University

RESEARCH

FOR ACADEMIC STAFF









St Petersburg University was the first university founded in Russia. It was established by Emperor Peter the Great in 1724.

Combining tradition and innovation in education and research, the University today is one of the largest centres of Russian and world science, education and cultural development.

ST PETERSBURG UNIVERSITY TODAY:

25 000

students

> 5 000

professors and
scientists

421

degree
programmes

> 800

non-degree
programmes

> 150

online
courses

2 000

training and
cooperation
agreements

504

partner institutions
and universities
worldwide

> 500

new large-scale
research projects
annually

In 2009, the Federal Law established a special status for St Petersburg University and Moscow State University as 'unique scientific and educational centres which are of utmost importance for the development of Russian society'.



The special status of the University grants:

- a separate entry in the Russian Federal budget
- the right to conduct additional examinations for all major degree programmes
- the right to establish its own educational standards
- the right to confer degrees
- the right to establish its own rules for conducting selection procedures for academic positions
- the appointment of the Rector of St Petersburg University by presidential decree

ST PETERSBURG UNIVERSITY IN INTERNATIONAL RANKINGS

St Petersburg University is included in all major international rankings of higher education institutions.



European Business Schools



Master in Management

INTRODUCTORY INFORMATION, KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

St Petersburg University today is a global research institution with dozens of scientific centres and laboratories, and a Research Park with its innovative equipment and technological facilities.

> 450

**research
teams**

> 16 000

**scientific
publications
per year**

> 50

**scientific
discoveries
per year**

> 400

**intellectual property objects
(patents, certificates,
including foreign ones)**

PRIORITY SECTORS FOR DEVELOPMENT



Medicine
and human
health



Information
systems and
technologies



Ecology
and nature
management



Social
research and
technology



Management
technologies
and human
resources



Nanotechnology
and materials
science

RESEARCH PARK OF ST PETERSBURG UNIVERSITY

Introductory information, key performance indicators

30,000 m²

Total area
of premises

3 940

Number
of users

2 938

Number of
active projects

~52,000

Number
of research
requests

~212


Number
of research
requests per day

>7.5

billion roubles
Equipment
worth

26

Number
of resource
centres



LIST OF RESOURCE CENTRES

The Research Park of St Petersburg University has been established to provide a modern scientific infrastructure.

It consists of 26 resource centres for the four priority areas of scientific research.

Nanotechnology and materials science:

- » Magnetic Resonance Research Centre
- » Centre for X-ray Diffraction Studies
- » Chemical Analysis and Materials Research Centre
- » Centre for Optical and Laser Materials Research
- » Centre for Physical Methods of Surface Investigation
- » Centre for Thermogravimetric and Calorimetric Research
- » Centre for Nanofabrication of Photoactive Materials
- » Centre for Innovative Technologies of Composite Nanomaterials
- » Interdisciplinary Resource Centre for Nanotechnology
- » Physics Educational Centre
- » Centre for Microscopy and Microanalysis
- » Chemistry Educational Centre
- » Centre for Applied Aerodynamics
- » Centre for Extreme States of Materials and Constructions
- » Resource Centre “Neutron Physics – Neutron Research”

Biomedicine and Human Health:

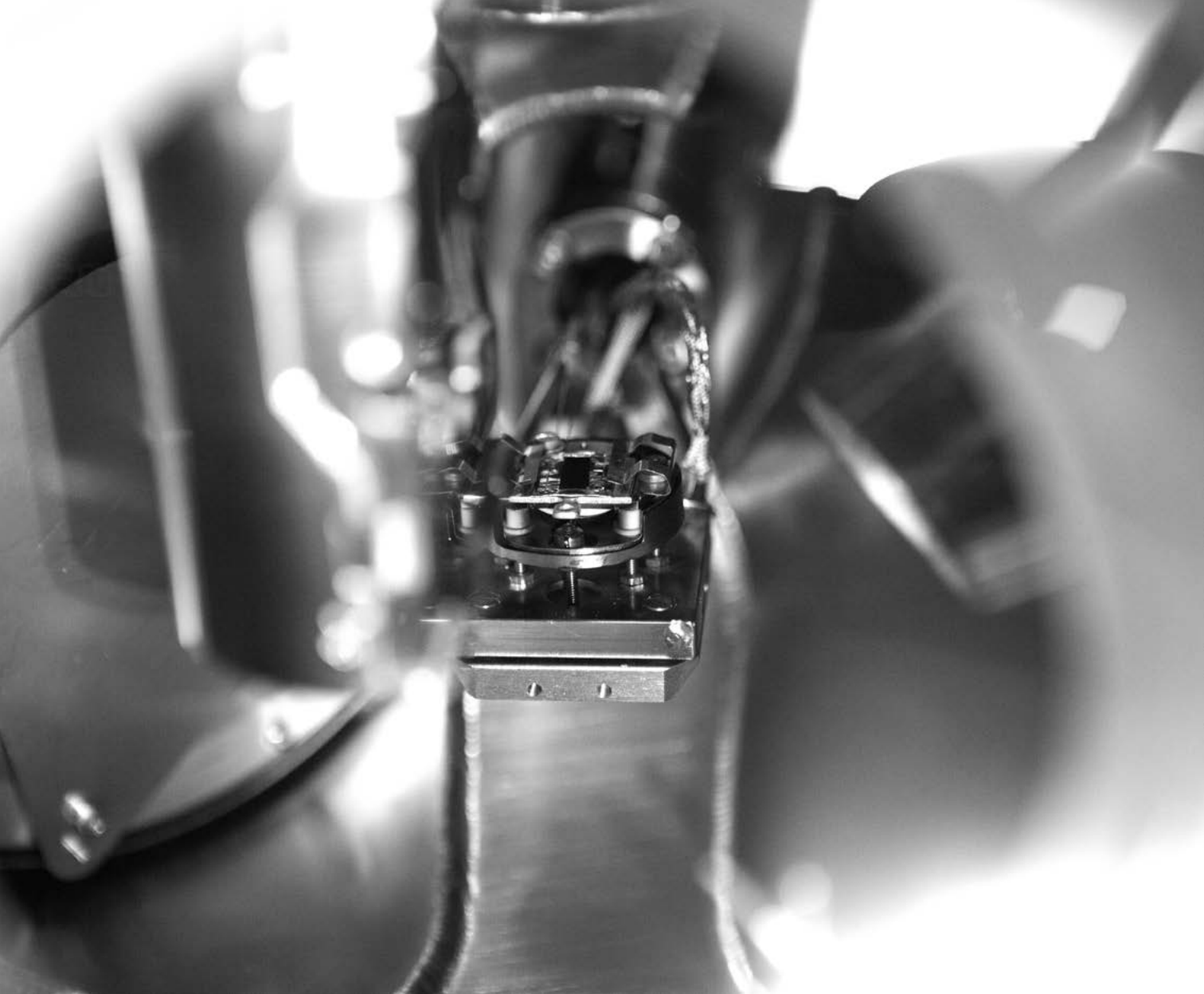
- » Centre for Diagnostics of Functional Materials for Medicine, Pharmacology and Nanoelectronics
- » Centre for Molecular and Cell Technologies
- » Centre for Culture Collection of Microorganisms
- » Chromas Core Facility
- » Centre Biobank
- » The centre of medical accreditations

Information systems and technology:

- » St Petersburg University Computing Centre
- » Centre for Sociology and Internet Research

Ecology and nature management:

- » Environmental Safety Observatory
- » Centre for Space and Geoinformation Technologies
- » Centre for Geo-Environmental Research and Modelling (GEOMODEL)



Centre for collective use – principle of operation of resource centres

The Research Park of St Petersburg University operates according to the principle of equal access.

The equal access principle allows all interested parties to use it:

- » regardless of their affiliation with St Petersburg University;
- » provided they follow the rules established for all resource centre users.

Basic principles are:

- » sharing of intellectual property if works on the equipment are conducted without any financial arrangements;
- » signing of a commercial agreement if these works are conducted on a commercial basis.

For more information about the regulations and the procedure for conducting works at the Research Park, visit the website:



REMOTE ACCESS TO RESOURCE CENTRES

Electronic registration of users (including external users) allows them to: work with the entire St Petersburg University Research Park within a single interface; and solve scientific problems in the shortest possible time.

The unified electronic system for receiving applications ensures:

- ✓ organisation of the application procedure and its processing
- ✓ prompt notification of all operations and measurements conducted in the Research Park as part of user projects
- ✓ quality control
- ✓ easy customer access to research results at the Research Park
- ✓ remote access to the results of works conducted
- ✓ monitoring qualitative and quantitative changes in user needs to improve the service and infrastructure

There are several ways to start working with the Research Park:



filling out the
application form
for carrying out
measurements



describing the tasks
and goals of the
research

or the application for
training



contacting the director
of a specific resource
centre for preliminary
discussion of the task



Links to the website sections of the Research Park of St Petersburg University containing explanations and clarifications:

» List of services



» Methodology



» Equipment



» Tour application



» Information on how to apply
for research studies



COMPETITIONS AND GRANTS

Grants from the Government of the Russian Federation

Since 2010, St Petersburg University has received 11 grants from the Government of the Russian Federation to support scientific research of leading world-famous scientists.

At present, St Petersburg University is implementing 4 projects (see the table) financed by the Government of the Russian Federation, other projects are financed from the funds of St Petersburg University or other sources.

Leading scientist	Period of implementation	Project
Yehuda Shoenfeld	2017–2021	Autoimmunity Mosaic Laboratory
Yury Shtyrov	2017–2021	Laboratory of Behavioural Neurodynamics
Arto Urtti	2018–2020	Biohybrid Technologies for Modern Medicine
Dipendra Prasad	2018–2020	Modern Algebra and Its Application

This is an annual competition initiated by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation

www.p220.ru

Mega-grants of St Petersburg University

In 2013 and 2015, St Petersburg University established research laboratories headed by the leading scientists as a result of open international competitions — mega-grants of St Petersburg University.

The team of each laboratory has: at least three employees holding a Candidate/Doctorate degree or an equivalent foreign degree; at least two postgraduate students; and at least three students of St Petersburg University. It is headed by a leading scientist, who in accordance with the terms of the competition could be invited from any university or scientific centre.

The programme of the competition was designed to meet the goals of the St Petersburg University Development Programme.





St Petersburg University Competitions

» Research awards



Employees of St Petersburg University may be nominated for the award if: their scientific research results have been published in the journals indexed in Scopus/Web of Science (Core Collection, RSCI, ESCI); and/or monographs have been published in the publishing houses included in the Web of Science.

» Research funding competition

Competitive selection of applications for carrying out fundamental (**Activity 1**) and applied (**Activity 3**) interdisciplinary research in 2018-2020 funded by St Petersburg University.

In 2018, applications for competitive selection were submitted in the following subject areas.

1.1.1 Digital economy: infrastructural, technological and socio-economic aspects

1.1.2 The investment potential of the Arctic Zone of the Russian Federation: opportunities, challenges and prospects for implementation

1.1.3 Modern anthropology in the system of natural and social sciences

1.1.4. Innovative technologies for ensuring information security of the Russian Federation

1.1.5 Environmental safety and urbanisation problems

1.1.6 Russian language as a state language in the context of National Technology Initiative

1.1.7 MegaScience: Fundamental theoretical and experimental research as a tool for long-term development of the Russian Federation

1.1.8 Customised medicine: methods of complex differential diagnostics, individual treatment methods and directed transportation of pharmaceutical substances

1.1.9 Microbiomic technologies as a resource for ensuring highly productive agricultural production



Both Russian and foreign scientists took part in the competition for the research project leader position.

Pursuant to research implementation, the research team should obtain the following results:

- » to produce at least 4 publications indexed by the Web of Science Core Collection or Scopus for each year of funding, indicating the affiliation with St Petersburg University;
- » to attract extra funding in the amount of at least 100% of the total St Petersburg University funding for the research in the subject area from external sources.



JOINT RESEARCH PROJECTS

Joint Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme of St Petersburg University and the Free University of Berlin

With a view to developing a strategic partnership, St Petersburg University and the Free University of Berlin (FUB) have developed a Joint Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme. Every year the universities hold an annual competition to provide funding for research activities conducted as part of the Joint Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme at St Petersburg University and the Free University of Berlin. Both internal (in relation to St. Petersburg State University and the Free University of Berlin) and external applicants with a candidate's degree or a PhD (or an equivalent degree) obtained not earlier than three years prior to the application, who are not employed by St Petersburg University or the Free University of Berlin, are eligible to participate in the competition. The funding covers up to 2 postdoctoral positions for a period of 24 months each, of which 12 months are spent at St Petersburg University, and 12 months at the Free University of Berlin. To take part in the competition, candidates should request and receive confirmation from potential research supervisors at St Petersburg University and the Free University of Berlin and submit the required documents.



Support Programme for Joint Projects between St Petersburg University and the Free University of Berlin

In order to develop a strategic partnership between St Petersburg University and the Free University of Berlin, the universities have developed a programme to support joint projects. The programme is aimed at strengthening cooperation between St Petersburg University and the Free University of Berlin in the field of science, expanding joint research activities, and intensifying academic mobility. Within the framework of the cooperation programme, the universities can implement the following projects:

- » organising and conducting scientific seminars and research group meetings;
- » short-term visits to the partner-university for conducting scientific research;
- » organising joint educational activities and developing joint academic programmes (by agreement with the Vice-Rector for Teaching Methods of St Petersburg University);
- » preparing joint applications for the external funding of scientific projects.



Within the framework of the Support Programme for Joint Projects, the universities hold an annual competition for financial support for the initial stages of joint research and educational projects implemented by the academic staff of St Petersburg University and the Free University of Berlin. Following the results of the competition, funding is provided for implementation of the initial stages of joint research and educational projects with Free University of Berlin. The maximum amount of funding allocated for one project cannot exceed 10,000 euros (or an equivalent amount in roubles).

ACADEMIC EXCHANGE WITH PARTNER UNIVERSITIES

St Petersburg University employs research staff from abroad.

Bilateral academic staff exchange programmes between St Petersburg University and partner universities provide the opportunities for research workers and professors to stay at St Petersburg University and organise joint scientific and academic events.

Terms and conditions for staff exchange are set out in international agreements with institutions around the world and are subject to relevant bilateral agreements with universities.

To visit St Petersburg University under existing staff exchange programmes, foreign candidates should contact their domestic international offices or staff exchange coordinators.

A full list of foreign partner universities is available here. »



The academic exchange programme is between partner universities located in the Programme Countries, including EU member states, the Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Turkey as well as Partner Countries including the Russian Federation. It covers travel expenses of the academic and research staff of St Petersburg University going abroad to improve their qualifications or lecture at foreign partner universities. The competition is held several times a year subject to quotas and cooperation agreements.



Information on university membership in the academic exchange programme Erasmus+ is available at the international office of the university. For more information visit the website.

ACADEMIC DEGREES

Introductory information, key performance indicators

Since 2009, the University has had the exclusive authority to establish educational standards for higher education and grant legally recognised certificates. Since 1 September 2016, the University has been conducting dissertation defences and awarding its own academic degrees under its own rules.

The practice of awarding academic degrees of St Petersburg University existed until 1918



There have been 167 successful dissertation defences conducted under the internal rules of the University.

ADVANTAGES OF DEFENDING DISSERTATIONS AT ST PETERSBURG UNIVERSITY

»» **Individual approach to each dissertation**

According to the St Petersburg University rules, the Dissertation Council is established for each specific defence. It consists of at least five members, two or three of whom are St Petersburg University employees, the rest represent other Russian and foreign scientific and educational organisations. The University Academic Secretary appoints the Chairman of the Dissertation Council.

»» **Participation of experts**

The Dissertation Council includes competent specialists in the field of research. Their qualifications shall be proved by the relevant experience and publications in specialised journals.

»» **Public defence**

The dissertation text is published with open access on the St Petersburg University website. Each member of the Council should prepare his/her own review of the dissertation. All reviews should be published on the website in advance

(at least 15 days before the defence). The dissertation defence is broadcast online, the recording is available for further viewing. The Dissertation Council decision is published on the website of St Petersburg University.



Remote access

Should a Dissertation Council member be unable to attend in person, he or she participates in the defence remotely online.



Integration into the world scientific community

Each dissertation council shall include at least one foreign expert. The dissertation is defended in two languages – Russian and English. The language of the presentation is chosen by the applicant; and there is simultaneous interpreting. The text of the dissertation shall also be translated into English.

STAGES AND TIME FRAMES OF DISSERTATION DEFENCE

1

Presentation and publication of the dissertation on the website of St Petersburg University

- » Decision on the admission of a dissertation for defence – 30 days; formation of the Dissertation Council – 40 days (concurrently)
- » Information on the composition of the Council and announcement of the defence date on the website of St Petersburg University – at least 2 months before the defence date

2

Dissertation defence

- » Drawing up and publishing the Council's resolution on the website of St Petersburg University – 10 days

3

Council's resolution

- » The decision to confer or refuse to confer a PhD or Doctor of Science degree – 90 days

4

Issuance of diploma

- » Registration and issuance of a diploma on the academic degree of St Petersburg University – up to 15 days


Provided there are no violations, the issuance of a PhD diploma takes on average 7 months after the submission of a dissertation to St Petersburg University. The same process takes at least 1 year at the Higher Attestation Commission of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation.

The list of necessary documents for submitting a dissertation for defence and detailed rules for participation can be found at **disser.spbu.ru**

To apply for participation in the dissertation council as an expert, it is necessary to fill in the application, available in the section «Application forms». Announcements on the formation of a new Dissertation Council are published in the subsection «Forthcoming defences».







St Petersburg University
7/9 Universitetskaya Emb.,
St Petersburg 199034,
Russia

english.spbu.ru

*Please send your proposals on improving dissertation
defence procedure to: dissovet@spbu.ru*