

Institute of Socio-Political Research – Russian Academy of Sciences
Internship / Review

My name is Nikita Billier, student in Dual Master Degree between University College London and Higher School of Economics (IMESS Programme). I was fortunate to be able to do an internship at the Socio-Political Research Institute from the Russian Academy of Sciences under the supervision of the Director of the institute Mr. Sergey Ryazantsev.

I am studying Politics and Security at UCL and one of the pathways of my specialization is immigration. ISPR RAS gave me the opportunity to meet many migrations specialists and experts on demographic issues.

Since I want to devote my master thesis on migration issues within Russia, the considerable expertise of Monsieur Sergey Ryazantsev allowed me to gather all the academic and methodological tools to write an article on migration policies in Moscow. The objective of my study was to examine the policy undertaken in Moscow since the end of the USSR, that is « a complex mix of Kremlin and municipal power », in focusing on the question of the integration of migrants.

Moreover, I was able to receive a very effective scientific input on migration issues in Moscow with all the meetings with collaboratives and assistants from IPSR RAS. I had the chance to assist few analysts on case studies concerning integration of specific communities in Moscow (For instance, I interviewed Mr. Ibrahim Akhmedov, The Representative of the Ministry of Labour, Migration and Employment of Tajikistan). These case studies were very interesting and enriching because I could experiment some theories with different socio-political and economical contexts.

Last but not least I attended with The Deputy-Director of the Center for Social-Demography, Ms. Marina Khramova, few conferences at MGY and she has also been a precious help for my work.

I was very delighted to get such opportunity of Internship in a prestigious scientific research institute such as ISPR RAS. All the analysts and scientific teams were very welcoming and always willing to help me.

I would like to thank the Director, Monsieur Sergey Ryazantsev for his great hospitality and availability. His support regarding my work brought me a lot, both academically and professionally.

I am extremely grateful to all the assistant team of the Director and I hope to meet them again soon.

Nikita Billier

