



## ***International Educational Program “Civilization (Theory, History, and the Future of Civilizations, Their Dialogue and Partnership) for the period up to 2020”***

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### ***1. The Need for and Objectives of the Program***

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1.1. The International Educational Program “Civilization (Theory, History and the Future of Civilizations, Their Dialogue and Partnership) for the period up to 2020” (the Program) is set up as an initiative of the Pitirim Sorokin — Nikolai Kondratieff International Institute, Institute for Economic Strategies and International Association “Znanie” in consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council. It is intended for use in the educational activities of the UN Alliance of Civilizations and in the activities of its youth field.

1.2. The need for the development and implementation of the Program is driven by the following factors.

*First, from the beginning of the 21st century the world has entered into a long crisis of civilization determined by the change of civilizational cycles. The crisis can be overcome through dialogue and partnership among civilizations in the establishment*

of an integral, humanistically noospheric civilization. This process should be facilitated.

*Second*, from the end of the 20th century the Russian civilizational school completes the formation of the science of civilizations (civiliography). There are published such monographs as “The History of Civilizations” (1997), “The Past and the Future of Civilizations» (2000), “Globalization and Interaction of Civilizations” (2003), the fundamental multi-volume book “Civilizations: Theory, History, Dialogue and the Future” (2006-2009), “Civilization: the Past and the Future” textbook (2008) (in Russian, English, and Arabic), “Dialogue and Partnership of Civilizations” textbook (2013). It comes out the international scientific and educational magazine “Partnership of Civilizations” in Russian and English languages. It is launched science and education portal “New Paradigm” ([www.newparadigm.ru](http://www.newparadigm.ru)), which includes more than 30 sites. It is worked out the Global Outlook “Future of Civilizations” for 2050 (2005–2011); the reports of an international team of scientists “Foundations of a Long-term Strategy for Global Sustainable Development Based on Partnership of Civilizations” (2011), “Strategy for Overcoming the Crisis of Civilization and Entering the Path of Global Sustainable Development” (2013) are presented at the UN at Rio+20 Conference and distributed among delegations to the “G-20” Summit in St. Petersburg.

However, the vision and proposals of the scientists are out of the reach for a wide range of public and political figures, business leaders and educators, the leaders of the new generation, are not included in educational programs, or taken into

account in the preparation of international instruments.

It is time to incorporate the findings and recommendations of scientists in the educational process, to use them in the system of education for adults, in training, advanced training and professional development of human resources.

*Third*, it has begun the process of generational change, the responsibility for taking and implementation of strategic decisions is passing to the generation of the leaders of the 2020s (2011–2040). They exhibit high activity, but do not understand the nature and prospects of occurring radical changes, do not have a long-term scientifically founded program. The task is to equip them with the latest knowledge about the theory, history and the future of civilization, the strategy of dialogue and partnership.

1.3. *Program goal* is the organization of the consistent education of a new generation in the basics of the theory, history, and the future of civilizations, strategy and methods of their dialogue and partnership for promoting the efforts of the leaders of the generation in surmounting the crisis of civilization and entering the path of sustainable development.

This goal is achieved by addressing the following priorities:

— establishment of the Open University for Dialogue among Civilizations (the University) — an international non-governmental organization which, together with leading universities in different countries, organizes additional professional education, continuing professional development, distance learning on civiliography and its practical application;

— preparation, publication and posting on the Internet the teaching and the-

matic plans, programs, textbooks, and electronic reading-books in the core disciplines of the University. Currently there are published the textbooks “Civilization: the Past and the Future” (in Russian, English and Arabic), “Dialogue and Partnership of Civilizations”, “The Strategy for Global Sustainable Development Based on Partnership of Civilizations”;

— Organization in cooperation with the leading universities from various countries education of participants in course as advanced training, further professional training, organization of summer schools. In 2013, there were delivered professional development courses in the disciplines “The Strategy for Global Sustainable Development Based on Partnership of Civilizations” at the International University of Nature, Society and Man (Dubna) and “Theory, History, Future of Civilizations. The Circumpolar Civilization” at the premises of the Arctic State Institute of Art and Culture (Yakutsk).

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## **2. The Content of the Program**

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2.1. On the basis of the researches made in the field of civiliography it is being developed a system of fundamental and applied knowledge, which must be presented in the general and specialized training in the framework of the Program:

— The general course “Theory, History, Future of Civilizations” (based on the textbook endorsed by the Ministry of Science and Education, published in English, Russian and Arabic);

— “Dialogue and Partnership of Civilizations” (textbook prepared and published in electronic form);

— “The Strategy for Global Sustainable Development Based on Partnership of Civ-

ilizations” (textbook for a new generation of leaders, published in electronic form);

— the textbooks underway: “The Global Forecasting, Strategic Planning and Programming” (based on the 4th edition of the textbook “Forecasting, Strategic Planning and National Programming”), “The Dialogue among Cultures and Religions” “The Circumpolar Civilization”, “Civilizational Tourism”, “Dialogue among Civilizations and International Relations”.

It is also possible books on globalization and monetary and financial issues, innovation, intellectual property, geopolitical dynamics, etc.

Each such tutorial includes teaching and thematic plan and program of discipline. Electronic reading-books are under way on each course to be delivered. Such reading books have been completed in 2013 on such disciplines as “The Strategy for Global Sustainable Development Based on Partnership of Civilizations” and “Theory, History and the Future of Civilizations. The Circumpolar Civilization.”

Textbooks and reading-books will be posted on the Internet and will be available to its users.

2.2. The Open University for Dialogue among Civilizations is under way as an international institution of a new generation. Its features are: it is not focused on the professional higher education but on adult education, professional development and continuing professional education, and its content is the dissemination of knowledge in a new area — civiliography.

2.3. Focusing on the global spread of ideas of dialogue and partnership among civilizations the Open University forms the base departments and branches in Russia (Moscow, St. Petersburg, Nizhny Novgorod, Yakutsk), Ukraine (Dnepropetrovsk), Ka-

zakhstan (Astana), Austria (Vienna), Lebanon (Beirut), Brazil (Rio de Janeiro), China (Beijing) and in other countries.

2.4. The program focuses on the use of various modes of study and dissemination of knowledge:

- teacher training in the theory, history, dialogue and partnership of civilizations;

- reading additional courses for students, masters and postgraduate students in the disciplines of the University within the framework of education programs in related and close disciplines with taking exams, tests or paper writing;

- additional professional education in a particular discipline in the form of full-time, part-time or distance learning with the defense of the final work and issuance of certificate;

- professional development of civil servants and employees of international organizations under a short-term program with the use of active forms of learning and issuance of certificate;

- professional development of teachers and university faculty with the issuance of certificates;

- arrangement of international youth summer schools for students and high school students in individual areas and programs.

Education may include educational civilizational tours by individually-tailored programs.

2.5. Education is creative in nature, includes the results of the latest research in conjunction with the discussion of topical issues. In preparing the final papers specific tasks are addressed, civilizational tours set up.

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### 3. Structure of the Program

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3.1. The Program consists of five units (Fig. 1):

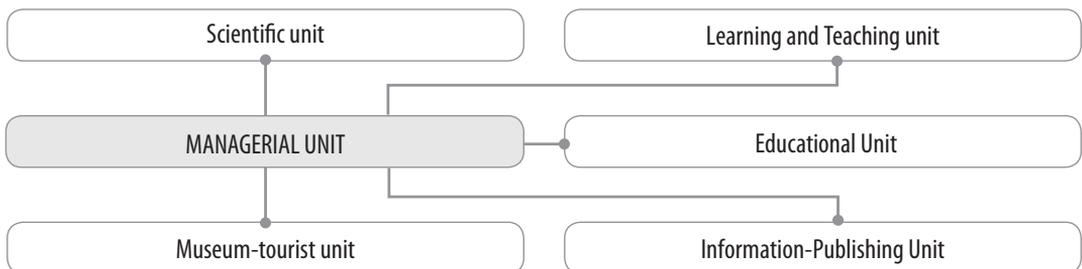
- Scientific unit — defining the scope and content of the system of knowledge and courses to be delivered based on the development of civiliography and studies into the outlooks of dynamics and interaction of civilizations (with the leading role of the Pitirim Sorokin — Nikolai Kondratieff International Institute).

- Learning and teaching unit — development of teaching plan, teaching and thematic plans and programs, preparation of textbooks, electronic reading-books.

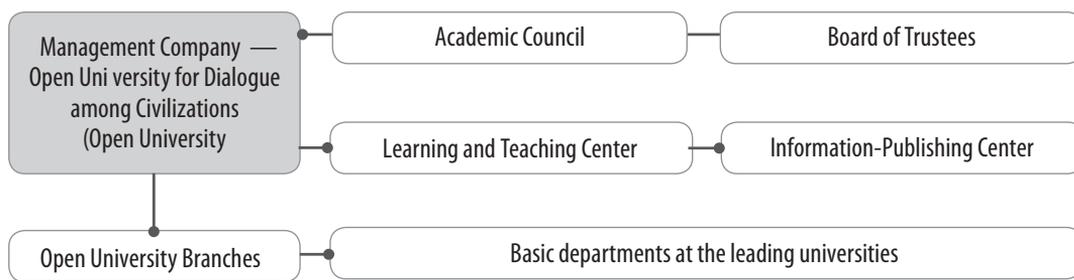
- Museum-tourist unit — creating real-online museums, exhibitions, development and implementation of civilizational tour programs.

- Information-publishing unit — opening and maintaining the site (portal)

**Figure 1.** Structure of “Civilization” Program



**Figure 2.** Program management system



on the Internet, publishing textbooks and electronic reading-books, creating and maintaining a knowledge base on civilizations.

— Educational unit — organization of the educational process on the disciplines of the Open University for Dialogue among Civilizations (the Open University) in conjunction with leading universities.

— Managerial unit — development of programs and projects, coordination of the program, activities of the participating organizations, financing of the works performed and acceptance of the results received.

3.2. The structure of the Program management includes (Fig. 2):

— Board of Trustees consisting of representatives of the UN, UNESCO and the UN Alliance of Civilizations, the World Bank, and other international organizations as well as public and political figures.

— Research and Education Council consisting of the Program scientific supervisor, leading scientists and professors from different countries.

— The Open University for Dialogue among Civilizations set up for the implementation of the Program by the Pitirim Sorokin — Nikolai Kondratieff International Institute (SKII) in association with

the Institute for Economic Strategies (IES), the International Association “Znanie”, a number of Russian and foreign universities as an international educational consortium.

3.3. The Open University structure includes:

— Board of Trustees.

— Presidential Council headed by the president.

— Academic Council.

— Rector’s Office, headed by the Rector of the University.

— Learning and Teaching Center.

— Information-Publishing Center.

— Branches of the University.

— Basic Departments in the core disciplines.

Branches and basic departments are the core part of the educational process arrangement. They operate on the basis of universities — Open University partners. The central part provides scientific and teaching guidance to branches and basic departments in accordance with the signed agreement.

— The Management Company represented by the Open University for Dialogue among Civilizations (Open University), its branches and basic departments, learning and teaching and information-publishing

centers. The Open University is being formed as an international educational consortium created for the implementation of the Program for the period of its validity.

3.4. Funding for the development and implementation of the Program is carried out on a multi-channel basis from:

- funds received by the Board of Trustees from the international and national educational foundations;
- proceeds from the implementation of educational projects, both on a paid basis and on budgetary sources;
- proceeds from the sale of information and publishing products;
- contributions from sponsors.

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#### **4. Organization and Milestones of the Program**

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4.1. Development of the draft Program will be done by the SKII jointly with the Open University and INES.

— The draft Program is subject to discussion within the International Scientific Conference “Science and Technology Revolution and Educational Revolution of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Noospheric Civilizational Aspect” (St. Petersburg, 25.09.2013), published in “The Partnership of Civilizations” magazine #3 (2013);

— the draft Program to be submitted to the RF Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the UN Alliance of Civilizations to bring together the content and status of the Program (October – December 2013);

— to be determined the structure of the Program, scope of stage I projects in the years 2013-2017 (January-March 2014);

— to summarize the results of the implementation of the projects of the first

stage (2013-2017) and to identify the action plan and project scope of the second stage (2017–2022) is anticipated at the Civilization Forum in 2017; and the results will be presented at the Global Forum of the UN Alliance of Civilizations;

— After the implementation of the second stage of the project (2017–2022) it will be summarized the implementation of the Program.

4.2. The Management Company monitors the implementation of the Program and reports annually on the results to the Board of Trustees and management of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations.

4.3. For each of the project implemented and for each stage of the Program it will be performed the acceptance by an international commission consisting of the customer, the main responsible parties, and experts. The results are reported to the leadership of the UN Alliance of Civilizations and posted on the Internet.

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#### **5. The Effect of the Program**

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5.1. *Educational effect* of the Program implementation — dozens of thousands of young people will get systematic knowledge of the new branch of the social sciences that will help them to adapt to the conditions of the 21st century, enhance creativity and confidence in the future. It will be tested and implemented a new and effective form of replenishment and update of knowledge, a system of adult education.

5.2. *Socio-political effect* is to extend the idea of dialogue and partnership among civilizations, to overcome the crisis of civilization and enter the path of global sus-

tainable development based on partnership of civilizations, as well as to increase the activity and effectiveness of the new generation of leaders.

5.3. *Information effect* is in filling the Internet and other information networks with the educational content, in implementing the principles of synthesis of scientific, educational and information revolutions of the 21st century.

5.4. The costs and sources of funding for the Program will be determined by summing up business plans by the

projects, which is part of stage I of the Program. However, the program is not of a commercial nature, its originators do not seek to make a profit and return on investment.

5.5. The program will contribute to the implementation of the Strategic Plan of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, adopted in June 2013, its priorities in educational activities and youth work, and enhancing the role of Russia in the activities of the UN Alliance of Civilizations.