



HIGHER SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS
National Research University



THE HSE INSTITUTE FOR STATISTICAL STUDIES AND ECONOMICS OF KNOWLEDGE



INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATIONAL FORESIGHT CENTRE

HSE Annual Conference on Foresight and STI Policy

Exploring new frontiers in Foresight

Dates: 30—31 October 2013, Moscow

Venue: National Research University — Higher School of Economics (HSE)

Languages: English and Russian

Description:

Foresight approaches have been widely used in addressing many problems in STI policy, and the methods employed continue to be developed. Foresight practitioners will agree that there is still considerable scope for innovation and improvement in the field, however.

This Conference aims to examine how Foresight might be advanced so that it is better able to contribute to policy-makers' search for Great Responses to the many Grand Challenges that confront contemporary societies.

The Conference hosts well known and highly reputed speakers from leading research centres, universities, international organisations and transnational companies.

The keynote speakers:

- *Alexander Povalko*, Deputy Minister of Science and Innovation, Russia
- *Luke Georghiou*, University of Manchester, UK
- *Leonid Gokhberg*, HSE, Russia
- *Jonathan Calof*, Telfer School of Management, University of Ottawa, Canada
- *Ian Miles*, HSE, Russia; University of Manchester, UK
- *Ozcan Saritas*, HSE, Russia
- *Angela Wilkinson*, OECD
- *Kuniko Urashima*, NISTEP, Japan
- *Philip Shapira*, Georgia Institute of Technology, USA
- *Alexander Sokolov*, HSE, Russia
- *Rafael Popper*, University of Manchester, UK
- *and more...*

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For registration, visa, and conference related issues please contact the organisers at ovmaximova@hse.ru

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Provisional Programme

The following four topics will be discussed:

Stocktaking. What has Foresight achieved — and what are its main limitations? In terms of this topic, we aim to consider the last two decades experience of building sustainable systems of national STI Foresight — considering both breakthroughs and dead-ends, and drawing lessons from successes and failures, especially in the translation of Foresight results and recommendations into STI policy measures with substantial impacts. New demands from the policy side will be reviewed, and related to the potential of conventional Foresight approaches to meet these demands and become fruitfully embedded in everyday decision-making.

Leveraging Networks. Networking is a key feature of Foresight processes, to gather intelligence from wider sources, and to engage stakeholders. But the challenges of networking are multifaceted, as we need to bring together members of very different communities — researchers, policy-makers, innovators, industrial leaders, and other stakeholders. We need to address such questions as: How can professional expert network communities be created and/or used for better understanding and shaping of the future? How can different communities be integrated in overarching networks, enhancing development of shared perspectives across, say, different sciences (e.g. natural and social sciences) and technology fields? How can non-expert networks be effectively involved in forward-looking activities?

Grand Opportunities. Foresight-related communities have been increasingly focusing on different kinds of future shocks, X-events, and threats of various kinds. Since “mood matters” there might be more attention paid to the bright sides of the future, including positive “wild cards” and the scope for real progress in responding to some of our persistent Grand Challenges. The Conference will thus discuss the potential for breakthroughs of various kinds that could make people wealthier and happier: human enhancement; sustainable development; new energy, and the like. Accepting that most developments are ambiguous and pose their own ethical dilemmas or risks of abuse, how can Foresight help us maximise the scope for benefits while minimising the most serious of these costs.

Foresight 2.0. This theme will focus more on new methods of Foresight, issues posed concerning their practical use, and the scope for cross-fertilisation of different approaches and platforms. Among these methods we may consider systematic approaches to addressing “wild cards” and “weak signals”, to developing strategic intelligence from semantic analysis and other IT-assisted tools, new approaches to strategic roadmapping, modelling and visualisation, and the like. Such approaches are inherently interesting, but the Conference will be especially concerned by their scope for application to new policy demands and the forthcoming agenda of STI policy.

For more information, please visit our site: <http://issek.hse.ru/en> or contact the organisers at ovmaximova@hse.ru.



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