

# REPORT - HSE STUDENT'S WEEK

**DATE: - June 10-17, 2024**

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We had the distinct honor of visiting HSE University in St. Petersburg, Russia, as a scholarship recipient for a week-long cultural program named HSE student's week. This report outlines our experiences, observations, and the insights that we gained during this enriching visit.

HSE University (National Research University Higher School of Economics) in St. Petersburg is one of Russia's leading institutions for education and research. It offers a dynamic academic environment, with a strong emphasis on international collaboration and cultural exchange. On 10<sup>th</sup> of June, at the HSE building the opening ceremony was conducted and welcoming remarks were stated by Anna Tyshetskaya, Director HSE Campus and the ceremony was moderated by Manoj Sharma, Vice president HSE campus.

## • **Objectives of the Visit**

- To Provide a Global Outlook in the fields of social and computer sciences on a scholarship basis.
- To participate in cultural exchange activities.
- To explore the academic environment and Russia's Cultural capital – St. Petersburg.
- To engage with students and faculty, gaining insights into Russian culture and education.

- To look for potential collaborative opportunities between Delhi University and HSE University.



### ● Lectures and Field Visits

- Social Science track had its opening remarks by Alexander Sorokin, Dean of Social Sciences who gave us a broad structure about various programmes in the undergraduate and post graduate level.
- Lectures conducted by the Social Sciences professors involved varied topics from youth cultures and spaces in contemporary Russia to field visits in the New Holland, Laboratory for Social and Cognitive informatics. In terms of growing geopolitical context, interesting topics like “Eurasia in Global Context, Rise of Digital Politics, Ethno-Territorial Conflicts in Post-Soviet Space along were discussed with some elective courses involving topics about Data and AI.
- Along with this we had several in-class competitions where we had freedom to put up our creative ideas in order to solve a given problem.
- Elaborating about computer sciences track there were very accurate lessons on various topics explained in a very practical manner like collaborations and multidisciplinary projects in arts and culture.
- Modern drug discovery Modern drug discovery workflows combine advanced computational techniques with high-throughput screening to identify potential drug candidates efficiently. These workflows prioritize target specificity, pharmacokinetics, and safety profiles to accelerate the development of novel therapies.
- Bioinformatics integrates biological data with computational methods to analyze and interpret complex biological phenomena. Machine learning involves algorithms that enable computers to learn from and make predictions or decisions based on data without explicit programming.



## • *Cultural Exchange Activities*

During the program, we engaged in various cultural activities designed to showcase the rich heritage of Russia and promote cross-cultural understanding. Some of the key activities included:

- **City Tours:** Guided tours of St. Petersburg, including visits to the Hermitage Museum, Peterhof Palace, and the Church of the Savior on Spilled Blood, offered a glimpse into the city's historical and cultural landmarks.
- **Cultural Performances:** We attended traditional Russian dance and music performances, in the opening ceremony which highlighted the country's vibrant cultural traditions.
- **In the closing ceremony** we were welcomed to traditional dinner in the Village 'SHUVALOVKA' where we enjoyed Traditional Music with native instruments where I Anjali Baghel was asked to give a short conclusion of our experiences on the stage representing the Indian students community there.





- ***Interaction with Students and Faculty***

Engaging with the students and faculty at HSE University was a highlight of our visit. These interactions provided valuable insights into the Russian educational system and student life. Notable experiences include:

- **Student Discussions:** Informal discussions with students revealed their perspectives on education, career aspirations, and cultural identity. We get to know so many dimensions about the culture, ethics and values which the students there cherishes and looks forward to implement them perfectly in their lives.
- **Faculty Meetings:** Meetings with faculty members facilitated an exchange of academic ideas and methodologies, highlighting potential areas for collaborative research. We asked for their contacts in order to be in connect with them. They were totally willing to share with us extra knowledge. After the lectures sometimes we used to have several minutes of discussions and thus solving our each and every query.

- ***Potential Collaborative Opportunities***

Based on our visit, several potential areas for collaboration between Delhi University and HSE University can be identified:

- Student Exchange Programs: Establishing reciprocal student exchange programs to foster cross-cultural learning and academic growth. Delhi University serves as a testimony to India's huge diversity and having such joint exchange programmes can culminate for better soft-relations between both the universities and countries.
- Joint Research Projects: Collaborative research initiatives in fields such as economics, political science, and cultural studies. Dean of social sciences already stated us that they were working on some kind of research projects along with PGDAV college professors. Expanding these joint research projects can result into better research culture in the University.
- Organised joint workshops to share knowledge and expertise.

At last, we would like to thank Delhi University International Relations office team for providing us with such an enriching and one time opportunity where we get the moment to represent our university, our country, its ethics, cultures and values. These memories and learnings will be in our hearts always.

