



National Research University “Higher School of Economics”, St. Petersburg
Russian Political Science Association
With the support of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation Branch in Russia

Sixth Annual International Conference
of the Department of Applied Politics
“The October Readings”

**“What Else Have Not We Learned From Revolutions?
Russia in Global Political Space and Time”**

October 18 - 21, 2017

Dear Colleagues,

Department of applied politics (HSE - St.Petersburg) invites you to its Sixth annual international conference “The October readings”. The central theme of the 2017 conference – “What else have not we learned from revolutions? Russia in global political space and time”. On the hundred years anniversary of the 1917, we propose to discuss Russian legacy of revolutions. We also suggest drawing comparative analysis between Russian experience and political challenges faced by different countries of the contemporary world.

Revolutions, revolutionary social movement and revolutionary ideologies – whether it is the case of the 1917 revolution in Russia or modern revolutions in the countries of the former Soviet Union and Middle East – have a significant impact on the political process in Russia, Europe, America, the BRICS and other regions. However, to what extent and how can we learn lessons from Russian political legacy? What should be taken as the starting point of our analysis? What categories and which philosophical and methodological principles will enable to proceed with a better understanding of the revolutionary experience? How does this experience relate to the problems of political modernity, sovereignty, identity, nationalism, regionalism, human rights, geo- and chronopolitics, other topical issues of international relations and political science? On the one hand, how will the radicalization of political activity in different regions of the world influence Russia? On the other hand, to what extent Russia embraces the opposite tendencies: endurance of traditionalism and conservatism? What are the mechanisms that can transfer political radicalism and conflict into the peaceful co-existence? By posing these questions we mean to attract to our conference specialists from different academic backgrounds and schools. Formulated problems are targeted towards interdisciplinarity and diversity of scientific approaches.

The main areas of discussion at the conference:

1. Current understanding of revolutions. Evolution of the phenomenon of the political revolution in the context of globalization and new technologies of the XXI century;
2. The impact of revolutionary ideas and movements on the formation of political institutions and practices;
3. Radicalism and continuity in the political development: a comparative dimension;
4. What price for the revolution? The political and social costs of radical and revolutionary changes;
5. The Revolution: political and philosophical understanding of the phenomenon;
6. Symbolic dimension of the revolutions;
7. Revolution and nationalism, revolution and religious factor in politics;
8. The phenomenon of revolution in the theory of international relations;
9. A revolutionist or rather a political reformer? About the role of intellectuals and leaders in politics;
10. From “*revolution*” to “*evolution*”: a comparative analysis of peaceful political reforms and transitions.

Political science symposium “The October readings of 2017” will be held at the National Research University Higher School of Economics in St. Petersburg from 18 to 21 October 2017. October 18 – day of the “School of debates” organized for the students. October 19 – the official Opening of the conference as well as Forum of young researchers. 20-21 October – principal part of our international conference.

Conference languages – Russian and English.

The paper presented at the conference, should contain the results of original scientific research carried out with the use of modern research methodology. The submission deadline is **June 1, 2017**. To participate please send the following to october.hse@gmail.com:

1. Your short CV;
2. Abstract of the presentation (3000-7000 characters, including spaces);
3. Booking arrangements: whether you need a hotel reservation, and for which dates.
4. Our Organising committee particularly welcomes the authors submitting their proposals within the panels. In this case, please specify the members of the panel (3-4 people), as well as a suggested Chair and a Discussant of your panel.

After the assessment of the proposals the Organizing committee of the conference will send an invitation to selected participants no later than May 30, 2017.

Conference registration fee is 500 rubles and is due upon arrival to the conference. Best conference papers can be selected for publications in a new scientific journal “Public Policy”. The conference committee does not cover travel and accommodation expenses. We hope to be able to provide participants with partial grants to cover their travel expenses. Further information will be provided for the accepted participants.