











ROUND TABLE ANNOUNCEMENT «ENGINEERING EDUCATION IS THE KEY TO SUBSOIL»

October 31, 2025

MFK «Gorny», Hall №2 at 14:30

Organizers:

- Empress Catherine II Saint Petersburg Mining University
- International Center of Competence in Mining Education under the auspices of UNESCO

Topics for Discussion:

The round table is dedicated to forming a systemic model of strategic interaction between universities and industrial (academic) partners in the context of achieving technological sovereignty and sustainable development of the mineral resource sector. The discussion is focused on building a long-term institutional foundation for cooperation between universities and industrial enterprises, including joint development of practice-oriented curricula, creation and development of joint technological platforms, as well as expanding opportunities for student internships based on real industrial projects.

Special attention is given to Russian-African partnerships in training highly qualified engineering personnel for the mining and oil and gas sectors, capable of ensuring effective development of mineral resources in both regions and the transition from an export-oriented model to the creation of complete technological chains with deep raw material processing.

Outcomes of the Round Table:

Development of comprehensive proposals for the transformation of engineering education integrating fundamental training with applied competencies and real production tasks.

Moderators:

- > Sergey Novikov, Vice-Rector for Academic Partnership Empress Catherine II Saint Petersburg Mining University
- > Olusola Oyewole, Secretary General Association of African Universities (Nigeria)

Speakers:

- > Vladimir Borzenkov, Director General of the International Center of Competence in Mining Education under the auspices of UNESCO
- > Olusola Oyewole, Secretary-General of the Association of African Universities (Nigeria)
- > Dmitry Tananykhin, Vice-Rector for the Implementation of the Pilot Project «Improving the Higher Education System» Empress Catherine II Saint Petersburg Mining University («Training Personnel to Ensure the Country's Technological Sovereignty»)
 - ➤ Eid Amr Ahmed Mohamed, 4th-year student of the Oil and Gas Faculty (Egypt)
 - ➤ Irina Talovina, Head of the Department of Historical and Dynamic Geology, Coordinator of the International Advanced Training Program «Management of Subsoil Use Objects» (International Advanced Training Program: Strategy and Tactics)
 - > Aurelius Omali, Country Coordinator, Consortium of Universities «Subsoil of Africa» (Nigeria)
- > Dmitry Mardashov, Director of the Scientific and Pedagogical Center «Graduate School» Empress Catherine II Saint Petersburg Mining University
- > Zipho Ngkobo, Country Coordinator, Consortium of Universities «Subsoil of Africa» (South Africa)
 - > Sergey Novikov, Vice-Rector for Academic Partnership Empress Catherine II Saint Petersburg Mining University («Readiness of Industrial Enterprises Academic Partners of the Empress Catherine II Saint Petersburg Mining University to Participate in Engineering Personnel Training»)
 - > Victor Kalunga Tshikala , Rector of the University Kalemie, Democratic Republic of Congo
 - ➤ Dmitry Melikhov, General Director of the Morion Group («From Joint Projects to Knowledge Exchange: The Role of Engineering Education in the Development of Extractive Industries»)
 - > Ivan Tarasyuk, Director of the Scientific and Educational Center of Technological Platforms «Sablino-Gorny» («Development of Sectoral Technological Platforms to Form Practical Skills and Experience in Students and Postgraduates»)
 - > Elizaveta Zatsepa, Head of Image Policy Management, International PMS Network (Rosatom International Network)

Summary of Results.