Целью доклада является обсуждение с российскими коллегами различных видов научных данных из России и российских информационных ресурсов, к которым возможен доступ, но о которых мало знают за рубежом. Мы расскажем, каким образом строится исследовательская работа в Финляндии в области гуманитарных, социальных и экономических наук по проблемам, связанным с Россией и странами Центральной Азии.

На портале RUSSIAinfo.com представлены результаты исследований финских ученых и электронные публикации о России, а также некоторые российские ресурсы. Портал создан и поддерживается Университетом Хельсинки.

Исследования охватывают все новые проблемы, однако некоторые направления представлены недостаточно или мало известны за пределами России. При осуществлении финансирования указывается на то, что исследования по России должны быть сосредоточены, главным образом, на экономических проблемах (информационные технологии, логистика, лесное хозяйство, строительство), на работе новых органов власти и муниципальных органов (законодательная и судебная системы, финансирование и экономическое сотрудничество), управлении рисками, энергетической и экологической политике. Министерство образования Финляндии приняло программу по содействию исследованиям в области русского языка и культуры, которая предусматривает, кроме прочего, обмен учеными и студентами. Проводимые исследования должны быть релевантными развитию российского общества и российской экономики. Их целью должно быть получение знаний о российском культурном пространстве, бизнесе, политике и обществе. Мы хотели бы привлечь наших российских коллег к обсуждению данных тем.

Our aim is to discuss different types of Russian research data and information resources, which are possibly available, but not very well known abroad, with our Russian colleagues. We will tell shortly about the research done in Finland in the field of humanities, social sciences and economics concerning Russia or Central Asia.

In RUSSIAinfo portal it can be found most of the Finnish research results and electronic publications on Russia as well as some Russian resources. Service is established and maintained in University of Helsinki. Since the research find constantly new lines to follow, there are some fields which are not sufficiently represented or which are not well known beyond the Russian border.

As leading funding authorities in Finland have emphasised the main effort in the research of Russia should be laid on economic research (information technology, logistics, forestry, building trade), the new struc-
The Ministry of Education of Finland has launched a programme to advance the studies of the Russian language and culture including the exchange of researchers and students. Research should be relevant to the recent development of the Russian society and economy.

Research should benefit better knowledge about Russian cultural space, business environment, politics, and society. We would appreciate discussion with our Russian colleagues on these themes.

Our aim is to discuss with our Russian colleagues various types of Russian research data and information resources, which are possibly available, but not very well known abroad. We will tell shortly about the research done in Finland in the field of humanities, social sciences and economics concerning Russia and Central Asia.

Most electronic resources on Russia published by Finnish research institutions are compiled at the RUSSIAinfo web service. Some Russian resources can be found there as well. The portal is financed and maintained by the Aleksanteri Institute, University of Helsinki.

The National Library of Finland has long traditions in providing literature, periodicals and archived materials to scholars devoted to Russian studies. The Russian literature collection in the Slavonic library is unique in the western world. Most of the titles are catalogued in library databases. As a whole the Slavonic library is one of the few institutions in the Finnish research infrastructure of global importance.

Finnish scientists mainly use the Russian National Library databases and the Integrum service as their basic information retrieval tools. Integrum is particularly regarded as an essential resource for many scientific purposes. As an example, remarkable results have been achieved in the sphere of contemporary Russian language studies using the Integrum database. Simultaneously there are many other Russian services distributing information for domestic use in Russia. These resources are not properly recognised outside of Russia. They should be introduced more efficiently to the international audience.

Russian studies are broadly supported in many Finnish research institutions. Most developed is in the areas of history, the social sciences, literature and Russian language. Research is scattered and poorly integrated. What relatively small resources exist are coordinated by the Aleksanteri Institute.

Knowledge of the Russian language is not very high in Finland in spite of geographical proximity and the common history of the two countries. In recent years very few schoolchildren choose Russian as a foreign language. The Research Institute of the Finnish Economy has stated that teaching of Russian language and training in the Russian economy should be increased.

Research concerning Finnish language and Finland

Especially interesting topics are the Finno-Ugrian / Uralic peoples, the common history of Finland and Russia, the border problematic, and comparative cultural studies. These are special topics of our basic
research. In this field there exists a long tradition of cooperation between Finland and Russia. Information resources have been created in 1990s (BSU) and at the beginning of 2000s Finno-Ugrian Libraries portal (http://fulr.karelia.ru/).

Bibliographic information about new literature concerning the topic, research projects and electronic materials is highly appreciated.

**Humanitarian and society research on Russia**

Politics, administration, culture, language, social conditions, media, religions, civil society & NGOs, identity, along with legislation in Russia are key fields of contemporary research. Cooperation with Russian scientists is obligatory. Key question concerning this research centres on the research results and their practical implementation.

As the leading funding authorities in Finland have emphasised, the main effort in the research of Russia should be laid on economics (information technology, logistics, forestry, and construction trade), new structures of state and municipal authority (the legislation and court system, financing and economic cooperation), risk management, energy and environmental policy.

The Ministry of Education of Finland has launched a programme to advance the studies of the Russian language and culture including researcher and student exchanges.

One of the foci of recent research is provincial studies and research of every day life, reminiscence, and provincial identity. Very important sources for these are archive materials, memory compilations of various institutions and folklore collections (collective memory, rituals, jargon, anecdotes, local history).

What sources can be provided to researchers? Who are information providers in Russia? Which institutions could act as partners in different parts of Russia?

**Research on Science and technology**

There is growing interest in the EU towards research of health sciences in Russia as well as environmental and energy research. This research carries strong social dimension and cooperation between researchers in other fields is essential. The Finnish Academy has launched a special programme for the purpose- Russia in Flux.

What are the institutions involved in risk management and analytical research of the marketing in Russia? What are the influential channels of information about research results in Russia?

Since scientific research constantly develops new lines of enquiry to follow, there are some fields which are not sufficiently represented or which are not well known outside of Russia.

Foreseeable research objects could take into consideration space technology, energy resources, IT, biotechnology, neuropsychology, and pharmacology. In the basic research Russia is rather a companion than an object of research. The common mission could be identifying ways of utilizing the research results more optimally.

**Sources**

4. VIETS seminar, 30 March 2007, Helsinki, Finland.