

The Laboratory delivered an international conference on “Government – Nonprofit Relations and nonprofit sustainability: Russia in comparative context”

November 11-12, 2015 a major international conference on “Government – Nonprofit Relations and nonprofit sustainability: Russia in comparative context” took place at NRU HSE. The event was prepared and delivered by the Laboratory.

The work at the conference was focused on the analysis of cross-sectoral partnership between government and civil society institutions, based on global and Russian country-specific experience and on how such interaction contributes to institutional sustainability of NGOs. (See Conference Agenda)

Government’s impact on nonprofit sustainability operates on more than one level. Therefore the work at the conference was organized to investigate five spheres:

- the conceptual *context*: global trends in social welfare development and the roles of nonprofits in modern welfare systems;
- the sphere of *funding*, which affects both the need for nonprofit services and the resources nonprofits have to respond;
- the sphere of *taxation*, which affects the revenue sources nonprofits can tap and the share of their revenues they can devote to their activities;
- the sphere of *regulation*, which affects the freedom nonprofits enjoy to pursue their missions and the trust that citizens can have in them; and
- the sphere of *access to the policy process*, which affects the extent to which nonprofits can shape the content of policy and not simply implement policies formulated by others without their input.

The conceptual context and *the global trends in social welfare development and the roles of nonprofits in modern welfare systems* were featured in opening addresses delivered by E. Pamfilova, the Ombudswoman for Human Rights in the Russian Federation, and by L. Jakobson, the Director of the International Laboratory for Nonprofit Sector Studies, the Center for Studies of Civil Society and the Nonprofit Sector at NRU HSE as well as in further conference contributions according to the agenda.

The outcomes of the conference will serve to produce publications in international journals indexed in WoS and Scopus, as well as in leading Russian-language academic journals. The Laboratory has already received an invitation from the editorial board of “Issues of Public Policy” to prepare a publication highlighting the most important aspects of the work of the conference.

The event was still one more contribution to the strengthening of the international reputation of NRU HSE as one of the Russian centers of excellence in civil society and nonprofit studies.