



M2 GODI, 2018-2019 Winter school  
Feedback by E. Azaryeva

The format of the study suggested by M2 GODI, the joint program UNECONE & Grenoble Alps University, has a number of indisputable advantages, that make it possible to continue education in France, without leaving work in Russia. And the winter school is a priceless experience of immersion in university life, personal communication with professors, international and French students, and, of course, classmates from Russia. By the way, we were incredibly lucky with the group - a great team of interesting, versatile people with very different background and ambitious plans for the future =)

In addition to the hospitable welcome organized by the University, personal acquaintance with the professorial and administrative staff of GODI, lectures in all disciplines and communication with teachers, the program included a study trip Brussels. Together with a group of students from other countries, we visited a European think tank specializing in economics [Brugel](#), the UN refugee agency [UNHCR](#) and the small non-governmental organization [Habbekrats](#). We had the opportunity to learn from those who deal with it firsthand about what these organizations are working on and ask any questions that interest us.

As for me, one of the most unexpected and impressive parts of the winter school program turned out to be the visit to the [Laue-Langevin Institute](#) - one of the world centers for research using neutrons. It is an internationally financed scientific facility, situated on the scientific polygone in Grenoble Alps. The ILL provides one of the most intense neutron sources in the world and the most intense continuous neutron flux in the world in the moderator region. We were not only told about the management structure of this unique organization, but also met the scientists who answered patiently all our questions (and we did have a lot of course =)

Well, about the rest it's even needless to speak! Grenoble is a picturesque city with two thousand years of history, the cradle of the French Revolution, the birthplace of Stendhal and the Silicon Valley of the French Alps. Here are breathtaking views of the mountains, beautiful art galleries and unique archaeological exhibits. During these 14 days of the winter school, we visited 5 cities in 4 European countries, met interesting people from different parts of the world who shared with us their unique professional knowledge and experience. It inspires and motivates to learn and grow.

Time is our most valuable resource, and the winter school is a great opportunity to invest it as sensibly and efficiently as possible.