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**EXPERIENCE  
OF THE ST PETERSBURG  
SCHOOL OF CONFERENCE  
INTERPRETING  
AND TRANSLATION IN  
COORDINATING  
THE CURRICULUM  
WITH PEDAGOGICAL ASSISTANCE  
PROVIDED BY THE UN UNDER THE MOU**



The St. Petersburg School of Conference Interpreting and Translation is a young institution. It was established in January 2008 as a response to the growing local and international demand for professional high calibre Russian language conference interpreters and translators.

The School provides non-degree post-graduate vocational training. For this reason the School will accept university graduates (both Russian and foreign) who use Russian as a pivot language of communication.

Two principles — *intensity* and *consistency* — underlie the training process at the School. The course duration is 10 months with 2 additional months of internship in the UN Russian language services for the most successful students, making this one year course very intensive. The School has an extensive program for motivated students with a good aptitude for language mediation who aspire to become professional conference interpreters and translators. Russian economic realities are such that capable and ambitious candidates must achieve a high level of training within a relatively short time, realizing full well that they will need another year to establish themselves properly in the market, entailing additional effort. The intensity of the course and associated high expectations require the concerted efforts of students and trainers, a thoroughly balanced curriculum, and the proper organization of students' self-training.