

# Science and Research for Cultural Relations

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# WHO IS THE BRITISH COUNCIL?

- We are the UK's international organisation for **cultural relations** and **educational opportunities**
- We work at **arms-length** from the UK government
- We have been around since 1934 and have **offices in over 100 countries** worldwide
- One of our charitable purposes is to *'encourage cultural, **scientific, technological and other educational** cooperation between the UK and other countries'*

[www.britishcouncil.org/education/science](http://www.britishcouncil.org/education/science)

# DEFINING CULTURAL RELATIONS

*“**Reciprocal**, non-coercive transnational interactions between two or more cultures, encompassing a range of activities that are **conducted both by state and non-state actors** within the space of cultural and civil society”*

Wikipedia, April 2018

# CULTURAL RELATIONS OUTCOMES

- Greater connectivity
- Better mutual understanding
- More and deeper relationships
- Mutually beneficial transactions
- Enhanced sustainable dialogue

**Creating friendly knowledge and understanding between countries for long-lasting mutual benefit**

# SCIENCE DIPLOMACY DIMENSIONS

## *Diplomacy for science*

International relations efforts to support science cooperation

## *Science in diplomacy*

Science advice that underpins and guides foreign policy efforts

## *Science for diplomacy*

Cooperation and collaboration in science that has the potential to improve relations between countries



Treaty Series No. 25 (2017)  
Agreement

between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the United States of America on Scientific and Technological Cooperation



# RUSSIA

- **Uninterrupted presence** in Russia since the early 1950s
- Helped to establish in 1959 **a formal UK-USSR Cultural Agreement** on *'relations in the scientific, technological, educational and cultural fields'*
- Supported **exchange of 1000s** of students and researchers between the UK and Russia

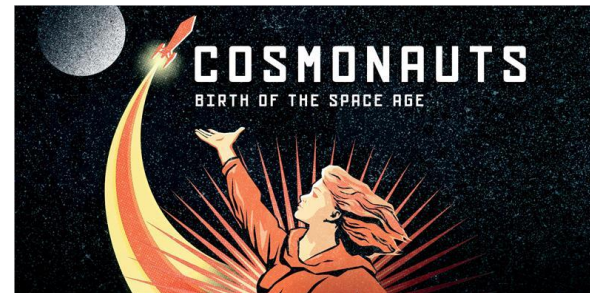


# COSMOS: A SHARED SPACE



*“The 12th of April 1961 was one of the most remarkable days in history, uniting all people in all countries on all continents.”*

Elena Gagarina, July 2011





# British Council ceases activity in Russia

MOSCOW (Reuters) - The British Council said in a statement on Thursday it has been instructed by the Russian foreign ministry to cease activity in Russia and it has cancelled all scheduled events and programmes.



A general view shows the building of All-Russian State Library for Foreign Literature, named after Margarita Rudomino, which houses the British Council in Moscow, Russia March 17, 2018. REUTERS/Gleb Garanich



# HOW WORK WITH RUSSIA CAN CONTINUE

1. Have a **physical presence**, invest in **credibility** ‘on the ground’ and be there for the **long-term**
2. Gain a **deep understanding** of the other side
3. Build on **common strategic aims** and **shared legacies**
4. Celebrate your partner’s **strengths** and **heritage**
5. Work **in partnership** with other (non-state) actors
6. Forget one-size-fits-all approaches and remember that Science programming doesn’t have to be limited to research exchange and collaboration

# FUTURE CALL

- New call for workshop proposals launches today 1 October
- Theme: **Natural and Applied Sciences**
- Proposals need to be different or build upon previous workshops or grants
- Joint funding from Russian Foundation for Basic Research and UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office
- Workshops to be in the UK with up to 15 Russian visitors
- Closing date is 1600 UK time - **30 November 2018**
- Decisions by early January 2019 and workshops to happen June to December 2019

# INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION SERVICES



[education-services.britishcouncil.org/](https://education-services.britishcouncil.org/)

# THANK YOU.



[www.britishcouncil.org/education/science](http://www.britishcouncil.org/education/science)

[www.euraxess.org.uk](http://www.euraxess.org.uk)

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