Основные тренды и перспективы развития современного политологического образования в России

Введение. Содержание образовательных программ высшей школы существенно влияет на качество подготовки будущих специалистов. С началом перехода на новые образовательные стандарты по группе специальностей и направлений подготовки «Политические науки и регионоведение» важно оценить современный и попытаться прогнозировать будущие этапы институциализации политологии в российской высшей школе.

Материалы и методы. В качестве основного метода исследования избран компаративный анализ учебных планов двенадцати ведущих российских и двенадцати западных университетов, а также методы синтеза и аналогии, при помощи которых намечаются компоненты образовательной модели, в большей степени соответствующие современным требованиям, предъявляемым к профессиональным политологам.

Результаты исследования. Политология в российской высшей школе неоправданно позиционируется среди дисциплин гуманитарного цикла, что привлекает к изучению специальности абитуриентов, не желающих изучать количественные методы и получать широкий спектр общественно-научных знаний. Отечественные программы по данной группе специальностей лишены многочисленных компонентов, которые могли бы увеличить шансы выпускников политологических специальностей на рынке труда.

Обсуждение и заключение. В учебные планы политологических специальностей необходимо включать дисциплины, способные сформировать компетенции, соответствующие новым требованиям информационной цивилизации к уровню и содержанию компетенций современного политолога, в числе которых «большие данные» (Big Data), глубокое понимание взаимосвязей Интернета с политической и другими социальными сферами.

Ключевые слова: политические науки, высшее образование, большие данные, Big Data, информационное общество

Ссылка для цитирования:
The content of educational programs of higher education significantly affects the quality of training of future specialists. With the beginning of the transition to new educational standards in the group of specialities and areas of study “Political Science and Regional Studies”, it is important to evaluate the modern one and try to predict the future stages of the institutionalization of political science in Russian higher education.

As the main research method, a comparative analysis of the curricula of twelve leading Russian and twelve western universities, as well as methods of synthesis and analogy, with the help of which the components of the educational model are outlined, which are more consistent with modern requirements for professional political scientists, were selected.

Political science in the Russian higher school is unjustifiably positioned among the disciplines of the humanitarian cycle, which attracts applicants who do not want to study quantitative methods and receive a wide range of social and scientific knowledge to study the specialities. Domestic programs in this group of specialities lack numerous components that could increase the chances of graduates of political science specialities in the labor market.

The curriculum of political science specialities must include disciplines that can form competencies that meet the new requirements of information civilization to the level and content of the competencies of a modern political scientist, including “Big Data”, a deep understanding of the relationship of the Internet with the political and other social spheres.

Keywords: political sciences, higher education, big data, Big Data, information society

For Reference:
Introduction

The content of educational programs of higher education significantly affects the quality of training of future specialists. With the beginning of the transition to new educational standards in the group of specialties and areas of study “Political Science and Regional Studies”, it is important to evaluate the current one and try to predict the future stages of the institutionalization of political science in Russian higher education, to characterize the possible prospects of teaching political science in domestic universities. To solve these problems, it is necessary to answer a number of questions: What will be taught the future scientists? What should be the content of the taught disciplines? Who and how will be taught? These questions go into the plane of practical implementation at each department in Russian universities, which graduates political scientists.

What can be adequate answers to such questions? On the one hand, it is necessary to clearly and fully evaluate the challenges of a modern information civilization, to which a professional political scientist must answer. On the other hand, it would be inexpedient to abandon the accumulated experience in teaching political science both in Russian universities and in Western higher education. Therefore, it is necessary to identify and analyze the specifics of their own Russian experience, as well as enriching it with external experience. Without taking these aspects into account, it is impossible to comprehend the modern and predict the future stages of the institutionalization of political science in Russian higher education.

Materials and methods

To identify the international and nationally specific aspects of the institutionalization of political science education, the article compares the experience of twelve Russian and twelve western universities. The guidelines for choosing universities were two ratings: QS and Shanghai rating, which in the expert community are recognized as the most accurate from a methodological point of view. They also used their own expert opinion of the authors of the article about the universities of those countries in which they worked and work.¹


1. Harvard / Harvard
2. Princeton / Chicago
3. University of Oxford / Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
4. LSE (London School of Economics and Political Science) / Columbia University
5. Sciences Po Paris / Berkeley
6. University of Cambridge / Stanford

¹ Two of the authors of the article have more than 15 years of experience in the Russian State Social University (RSSU), as well as in a number of military universities. G.Yu. Nikiporets-Takigawa has 14 years of experience in leading Tokyo universities, 10 years of experience in leading British universities, experience in cooperation and work with the Higher School of Economics (Moscow), since 2015 he has been working at the Russian State Social University. Three Japanese universities that G.U. are famous for are intentionally added to the sample. In terms of personal teaching experience, Nikiporets-Takigawa is as good as British universities, but structurally close to American universities. This will allow us to give expert opinions on the American experience in institutionalizing political sciences in higher education.
7. The Australian National University / Princeton
8. Stanford / New York University
9. Yale University / Pennsylvania
10. Columbia University / Yale University
11. Johns Hopkins / University of Michigan-Ann Arbor
12. Georgetown / LSE (London School of Economics and Political Science)
14. National University of Singapore / Northwestern University
15. New York University / University of Minnesota
16. Cornell University / University of California
17. University of Chicago / Duke University
18. The University of Tokyo / University of Cambridge
19. Freie University of Berlin / Carnegie Mellon University
20. Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) / University of Texas at Austin

Of the number of Russian universities, the QS rating for political science and international relations in 2015 included only Moscow State University (101–150), and for sociology, the Higher School of Economics (151–200). In 2017, MGIMO became the first university in Russia, Central and Eastern Europe, Central Asia and the BRICS countries to receive five stars in the international QS Stars ranking. A total of 62 universities in the world have five QS Stars, including Harvard, Oxford, Yale, Princeton and Stanford, the University of Pennsylvania and Cornell University, included in the world top 5, top 10 and top 20 international QS ratings [11; fifteen]. In 2015, only the Moscow State University (86) and St. Petersburg State University (301–400) were included in the Shanghai ranking [9].

In 2018, almost the same universities remained in the top twenty of the QS rating, only some of them switched places, so the general sample made in [18] remains relevant:

1. Harvard
2. Stanford University
3. University of Cambridge
4. Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
5. University of California, Berkeley
6. Princeton University
7. University of Oxford
8. Columbia University
9. California Institute of Technology
10. University of Chicago
11. University of California, Los Angeles
12. Cornell University
13. Yale University
14. University of Washington
15. University of California, San Diego
16. University of Pennsylvania
17. University College London
18. Johns Hopkins University
19. Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich
20. Washington University in St. Louis
When compiling a sample of twelve Russian universities, we used the results of the national ranking of universities\(^1\), reference sources, and self-presentation of universities\(^2\). We also took into account such a subjective aspect as the expert opinion of a number of representatives of the domestic political science community, who have a practical opportunity to compare the organization of political science education in the country's leading universities.

On this basis (taking into account quite natural error), an approximate list of the main political science universities in Russia has been compiled. The sample also includes universities that are not in the top ten in any of the two subgroups. It is revealed how political science is fixed as an academic discipline in these universities [18].

**Research result**

The following trends in the study area were clearly shown.

The first trend is the large variability of Russian universities in the process of embedding political science in the range of disciplines taught. Western universities, as a rule, are true to the tradition of defining the place of political science in the system of mainly social Sciences, closely approaching it with sociology and law, while Russian universities often integrate political science into the humanitarian block.

The analysis clearly demonstrates that in the Western academic context, the institutional integration of political science with humanitarian subjects has been implemented only twice. In one case (Tokyo Waseda University), this is due to the need to "attach" unpopular specialities (language) to a more popular faculty (law and political science). The second case (the British University of East Anglia) is associated with the desire to attract an applicant to a very average British University with the help of an extravagant opportunity to get several specialties of the opposite direction at once. The fact that in the end an applicant in this University will not receive any genuine specialty does not bother him.

The idea of political science as a humanitarian discipline is actually a well-established Russian trend, which is fixed in reference materials that are popular among applicants. So, the site «Study.ru»: "among the professional disciplines, future bachelors' study political theory, the political history of Russia and foreign countries, the history of political teachings, modern Russian politics, world politics and international relations, political psychology, and others. A future politician should be a good speaker. Therefore, rhetoric is mandatory. Many universities provide training in developing communication skills. Students practice at the headquarters of political parties and state organizations" [27].

This setting focuses the applicant on the predominantly humanitarian nature of the specialty. Our experience of working with Russian political science students at the HSE AND RSSU leads to the same conclusions. Most students who study political science at these

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1 So, on the website "Study.ru" for an applicant, the following chain of leading universities with a profile of "political science" is built: 1) Odintsovo branch of MGIMO (UI); 2) HSE; 3) Ranepa; 4) RUDN; 5) REU. G. V. Plekhanov. However, the passing score was taken as a ranking criterion [27].

2 See, for example, self-presentation on the official website of MGIMO in 2013 (no later presentations were found on this website): "In accordance with the data received, it is obvious that the "Big Four" of the leading political science faculties have formed in the country: MGIMO political science faculties, Moscow State University, St. Petersburg State University and the Faculty of Applied Political Science, Higher School of Economics. These faculties traditionally compete for the best applicants. At the same time, competition from other universities is increasing. Among the Moscow universities, in addition to the "Big Four," the first-year political students at the Financial University, RUDN, RGGU and REU have the strongest USE scores. The branches of the RANEP are becoming strong competitors, the Faculty of Comparative Political Studies of the North-West Institute of Management in St. Petersburg looks especially vivid among them. Among regional universities, the most stable indicators are at Kazan and Tomsk Universities" [23].
universities primarily emphasize their humanitarian interests and understanding of the humanitarian component of the political science specialty as one of the decisive factors in choosing it.

However, at Cambridge University, which boasts one of the authors of the article, mounted on non-humanitarian science faculty and taught in such a way as to make students not only scientists, but also experts of wider profile. In the first year, political scientists are taught all the methods used in the social Sciences.

The program of three courses includes the following subjects:

- **first year:**
  - policy;
  - international relations;
  - two disciplines to choose from: sociology, social anthropology, physical (or biological) anthropology, archaeology, social psychology, Mesopotamian and Egyptian culture, Acadian, and Egyptian languages;

- **second year:**
  - history of political doctrines (either from Ancient Greece to the seventeenth century, or the XVIII-XIX centuries.);
  - international organization;
  - comparative policy (including modules on us, African, Central Asian, Chinese, Western and Eastern European policies);
  - essay (approximate analogue of the Russian term paper) on politics and international relations or another discipline;

- **third year:**
  - essay (approximate analogue of the Russian course work) on any topic (students who choose to write an essay, choose three other disciplines; in other cases, students choose four disciplines);
  - politics and international relations;
  - two or three disciplines to choose from: political studies, politics of the world region, international economic policy, security and international development policy, etc.; students can also choose disciplines of other specialties.

In addition, in the Western practice of education, purely humanitarian disciplines at the second or even first level of training are freely combined with social and scientific or even natural science. It is clear that knowledge of a language or languages is not even a bonus in the eyes of the employer. Therefore, only a few universities have purely language faculties that train translators and teachers of language and literature.

Most Western universities offer "combined majors" and Supplement their language majors with "business", "law", "Economics", "international relations" and other social and scientific disciplines.

Cambridge students entering social science majors must study some of them together in the first two years (for example, political science and international relations together with two elective disciplines: sociology, anthropology, archaeology, psychology, etc.) and only in the third year choose a specialization.

For example, former British Prime Minister David Cameron studied Economics with history and philosophy at Oxford, while liberal Democrat leader Nick Clegg studied social

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1 An exception, for example, is Oxbridge (Oxford + Cambridge), since the diplomas of these two universities are of great value in themselves, almost regardless of the specialty in which they are obtained. But this situation is changing and depends on the narrowing of the European labor market for the British.
anthropology with archaeology at Cambridge. In order to enter the University for social and scientific specialties, a thorough mathematical training is required. When applying for political science and other political science (Political Science), it is necessary to show the result in higher mathematics, i.e. not in high school level mathematics, but in mathematics, which is studied for admission to the University on the basis of programs similar to University primary courses. When entering a University for any specialty, the score in mathematics and native language obtained in high school is taken into account, regardless of the choice of specialty, and the better the University, the higher the passing score. With a top three in mathematics and in the native language, you can only enter very mediocre universities, whose diploma is not converted into a workplace in the labor market.

Thus, political science is closely intertwined with other social disciplines (Social Sciences), being in equal and complementary relations with them. This practice is most common in Western universities, with very few exceptions. As a result, a Western political scientist acquires a significant number of competencies that make him potentially suitable for employment in various spheres of social activity.

Comparing the Western and Russian experience of institutionalizing political science in higher education, we can conclude that Russian universities do not fully use the interdisciplinary potential of political science, thereby narrowing the range of its pragmatic application. As a result, both applicants and students remain in the dark about the fact that in the modern market of intellectual labor, a political scientist is listed as an almost universal specialist.

Focusing the applicant and the student on both the humanitarian and social-scientific nature of the acquired political science specialty can significantly increase its attractiveness and give the graduate greater confidence in employment prospects.

The second trend, which shows the difference between Western approaches to teaching political science from domestic ones, is that the content of Western educational programs in the specialty "political Science "is more saturated with modules related to new technologies," big data", quantitative methods and other precise tools of political science research. What is the situation in this area in Russian universities?

Mathematical, statistical and information disciplines in Russian universities (compiled by the authors)

Moscow state University, faculty of political science:
• The Internet as a space for political communication
St. Petersburg state University, faculty of political science:
• Mathematical methods for analyzing and modeling political processes
• Software for empirical policy research
• Applied methods in the field of political analysis
HSE (Moscow), Department of political science:
• Logic
• Math and statistics
• Mathematical models of political economy
• Principles of mathematical proof
• Probability theory and mathematical statistics
• Game theory
• Multidimensional statistical analysis in political science
• Probabilistic and statistical models
• Quantitative methods and models for evaluating the effectiveness of the state
• Data analysis in Python
• Analysis of categorical data in statistical packages
• The basics of programming in Python
National research Tomsk state University, faculty of philosophy:
• Applied systems and analysis
• Computer software for political science research (SPSS)
Perm state national research University, faculty of history and political science:
• Logic / mathematical logic
• Informatics
• Concepts of modern natural science
• Methodology and methodology of sociological research
• Information technologies in humanitarian research
• Mathematical methods in historical and political science research
Southern Federal University, Institute of philosophy and socio-political Sciences (Rostov-on-don):
• It is not revealed

The table includes six universities: two classical universities in two Russian capitals (MSU and SPbSU), four national universities (the capital HSE AND three peripheral universities). National universities from different geographical regions were selected for representativeness from peripheral universities. For three universities, the study plans and programs available on the University's website to a third-party researcher were analyzed. for MSU, SPBU, and HSE, reference materials on the specialty "political Science" were used, which are also available to an external user. Disciplines are not divided into mandatory and optional, since the goal was to identify the General capabilities of the University to teach them. The analysis does not claim to be accurate, but allows you to identify trends that have formed.

Discussion

Striking positive attitude of Russian universities to the problems of methodological training of scientists in the use of quantitative, mathematical, statistical methods and information technology, the use of Big Data: a whole package of related disciplines in HSE Perm and the almost complete absence of such in the southern Federal University. It also raises questions that logic, a discipline that organizes theoretical thinking, including thinking directed at modern political science methods, is taught in only two out of six universities.

The situation with the formation of the natural-scientific component of the political science worldview is alarming. However, the discipline that in the last quarter of a century successfully served the purpose of formation of natural-scientific worldview of Russian students, including the political concepts of modern science — almost expelled from Russian universities and is taught only at one University submitted sample Perm, higher school of Economics. With this attitude to the formation of a scientific worldview, students can accept at face value the statement of one of the modern textbooks, according to which the religious concept of creationism and the scientific concept of evolutionism, which explain the process of human appearance in fundamentally different ways, should be expounded "as equivalent scientific theories until a consensus is reached among the majority of scientists of different worldviews" [13, p.38].
The Internet as a special object of political science research as an academic discipline is studied only at MSU.

As for the actual political science disciplines, when comparing curricula, we excluded from the sample the same ones (for example, "Political management" or "History of political teachings") or similar ones (for example, political conflictology and the discipline "Models and technologies of conflict resolution", the disciplines "Political relations and political process in modern Russia" and "Modern politics of Russia") taught in all universities. In table. 2 only those disciplines that are typical for the universities named in the first column are presented. It is the regional universities (Perm, Tomsk, Rostov-on-don) that have a special variety of political science disciplines.

Political science disciplines in Russian universities.

Moscow state University, faculty of political science:
• Political advertising
• Mass communication as a tool for forming public opinion
• Manipulative technologies in politics
• Information and psychological warfare in modern politics
• Modern press service
• Organizing an information campaign
• The Internet as a space for political communication

St. Petersburg state University, faculty of political science:
• Theory and history of political institutions
• Public choice theory
• History of state institutions and public service in Russia
• World political process (XVII-XX centuries.)
• Environmental policy of the state
• Network approach in politics and public administration
• Gender policy
• Political systems in Europe and the United States: a comparative analysis
• Political systems in Latin America
• Protest political behavior in the modern world
• Administrative systems of developed countries
• Communication with the government

HSE (Moscow), Department of political science:
• Economic policy of modern States
• Political communication studies
• Fundamentals of anti-corruption policy
• Political science categories
• Political history of Russia and foreign countries
• Technologies of symbolic politics
• Electoral analysis
• The modern concept of the political
• World Politics and International Relations

National research Tomsk state University, faculty of philosophy:
• Social history of foreign countries
• Religious studies
• Science and politics
• Political history
• Political history of foreign countries
• Political history of the CIS countries
• The ethnopolitical
• Introduction to political philosophy
• Political image-making
• Political communication
• Political entity
• Problems of Russian parliamentarism
• Methods of teaching social science
• Theory of elites and bureaucracy
• Political mythology
• The theory of political cultures
• Political regime

Perm state national research University, faculty of history and political science:
• Politics in the modern world
• Political processes and institutions in Latin America
• Interstate relations of post-Soviet countries
• Political systems of the Baltic States
• Political source studies
• History of world civilizations
• Policy and governance in the EU
• Political processes in the post-Soviet space
• Civil control and expertise in the modern political and managerial process
• Theory and practice of nationalism in the context of political information

Southern Federal University, Institute of philosophy and socio-political Sciences (Rostov-on-don):
• GR management and political lobbying
• Political history of Russia and foreign countries
• Political ideologies
• Political psychology
• The ethnopolitical
• Political communication studies
• Political organization of industrial and post-industrial society
• The electoral system of Russia
• Political PR
• Public administration system in Russia
• The power of the state
• Political rhetoric
• Political power resources
• Political risks of foreign investment in Russia
• History of youth policy abroad
• Nations and nationalism in Europe
• New institutionalism in the social Sciences
• History of world religions
• Civil society in Russia
• National economy and economic practice
• Speech exposure and speech manipulation
Parliamentarism in Russia: lawmaking, parliamentary control, and the status of a Deputy Political semiotics

The third trend is not yet implemented in Russian universities, with the exception of MSU, where the Internet is studied as a special academic discipline "as a space of political communication". We are talking about the need for an adequate response to the challenges of the information society, which must be scientifically understood, including in order to transform educational strategies for training a professional political scientist.

E. S. Zinovieva and A.V. Krutskikh, authors of the Chapter in the new monograph on modern political science, directly characterize "information society as a methodology for analyzing political processes" [26, p. 747]. It is clear that this methodology should be studied by future political scientists specifically as an academic academic discipline. We agree with these authors that the key achievement of the information approach to the study of politics was "a study of the role of information technology in the political process, both domestic and international level, identifying new trends in the sphere of the political, manifested in the information revolution" [26, c. 755].

The information society is a society with increasing opportunities for direct political and civic participation, since "the path from ordinary citizen to political leader is significantly simplified and shortened" [20, p. 50]. On the one hand, this is a positive characteristic of the information society, since protest and social movements are now "inseparably linked with the emergence of independent communication systems based on the Internet and wireless communication" [2], and social networks contribute to the transformation of an ordinary citizen into an active citizen [4; 5; 17, etc.]

On the other hand, the Internet is widely used for state "control and monitoring" of the mindset of citizens around the world [see more retrospective review for different countries: 6; 17; 19]. And here, social networks have a greater potential than the media, acting as an invisible method of control and surveillance. In particular, WikiLeaks in another batch of revelations showed how the CIA spies on citizens using smart TVs. A sniffer is used — a device for analyzing transmitted information that directs information to the depths of the Internet. WikiLeaks found that the amount of this information is very large [25].

Finally, the growth of Internet coverage in many countries of the world has caused the most dangerous of the global challenges of information civilization — cyberterrorism, cyber Jihad, cybercrime in all its forms, including cyberbullying: cyber bullying, Internet bullying [16], as well as crimes against minors: sexualization of children through networks [3] or calls to commit suicide through the game "Blue whale", hacking, etc.

Almost every terrorist act, every protest speech leads to calls to limit the possibility of uncontrolled circulation of content on the Internet. For example, in 2011, during pogroms in the UK, as well as mass Russian anti-government protests, British Prime Minister David Cameron and then President of the Russian Federation Dmitry Medvedev proposed almost the same measure: disable the Internet to prevent mobilization for pogroms, protests and street riots [10].

In Russia, we went further: in 2016, the so-called Spring package was adopted (it entered into force in mid-2018). At the same time, a number of measures have been implemented at the state level to control Internet content and manipulate public opinion through social networks. In a situation where any Russian measures to restrict personal freedoms on the Internet are met with harsh criticism from the Western elite, at home, this elite, if necessary or dangerous, calls for the same. A good example is the reaction of the British authorities to the terrorist attack in London in March 2017. [for more information, see: 18], when political
elites demanded that providers issue private WhatsApp correspondence to the relevant agencies. This lack of strategy in relation to the Internet at the state level and abrupt changes in political decisions regarding its lack of control are to a certain extent due to the fact that the mutual influence of the Internet and politics in the first quarter of the XXI century has been studied by political scientists quite insufficiently. Niall Ferguson is skeptical about the available results of such studies: "the idea that the introduction of humanity to the Internet will lead to the emergence of a utopian world of Internet users, equal in cyberspace, was as unrealistic a fantasy as Luther's dream of "the priesthood of all believers" "[29, p. 49].

These facts clearly show that the information age needs specialists who possess a whole range of professional skills and have a broader professional and personal Outlook. "In order to respond adequately to the non-human growth of information, to use it effectively, to meet the challenges of post-industrial development, a person must acquire qualitatively new abilities, radically transform the essence, image, corporeality and the existing way of interacting with the surrounding multiverse" [31, p. 123-124].

The changes that occur in information and communication mechanisms significantly change both the social world and the world of an individual, and information civilization requires a modern political scientist to thoroughly analyze both the new type of society and the new type of person, as well as the scientific concepts that make sense of both such a society and such a person [28].

The need for a new type of person is due to the deep challenges of information civilization — high-tech and progressive, requiring a developed information consciousness, clear and clear ideas about the threats, risks, challenges and advantages of Informatization in order to be able to respond quickly and adequately to them.

Political science educational programs and strategies, therefore, require significant revision. That is why a whole range of intra-disciplinary and inter-disciplinary areas has been opened in Western universities, while Russian universities are developing and opening up, which specifically analyze the role of the information factor in the development of modern man and society. Among them is information anthropology, the content of which is determined primarily by the content of the key terms that defined its name: anthropology as the doctrine of man and information as a key category for the study of information processes [22].

In a post-industrial society, the most important production resource, product, and service is people’s qualifications, creativity, and professional skills. The main value is no longer muscle strength, energy, and information and knowledge. The principle of meritocracy, based on knowledge associated with new information and communication technologies, has become a distinctive feature of the information society, where education, skills, and awareness are the most important resources for development.

Skilled work with Internet data is part of the political scientist's profession. Many Russian universities have taken up programs to teach students of different specialties the specifics of working with big data. Thus, THE Higher school of Economics has set an ambitious goal of mass training in data analysis since 2017.¹

In 2012, Cambridge and Oxford universities introduced programs that offer students and faculty training in the basics of programming, data processing, and the use of big data for scientific and methodological purposes. As part of the course on analyzing and predicting political and social processes using Big Data, students can: study the capabilities

¹ For example, description of the program "Introduction to data analysis" of the Higher school of Economics [14].
and limitations of Big Data; understand what types of tasks are solved using Big Data; learn how to create technical tasks for Big Data based on real projects; to know the principles of forming a team for Big Data (the number of employees, the competence of performers); to study the types of visualization of Big Data results and types of analytical reports; and to gain skills in organizing the prevention of political conflicts based on Big Data and using communication in social networks. The result is specialists who are ready to solve a wide range of tasks for monitoring, analyzing and predicting social and political processes.

The organization of training in the use of Big Data in political science research is determined not only by this technology itself, but also by a number of "near-technological" processes. A future political scientist should clearly understand that starting with Big Data, Data Mining and data collection, it is necessary to answer fundamental questions in relation to a specific subject of research:

- where to search (on which mobile Internet platforms, whether only in Twitter, Vkontakte, Telegram, Facebook, etc., in their combinations, or in General everywhere where there is open information);
- what to look for (posts and comments or just comments);
- when to search;
- what to look for;
- how to filter out unnecessary data;
- how to visualize results.

The first three questions – where, what, and when – are the most complex and fundamentally affecting the search methodology; and if the first two can be solved in advance, then the question "when" requires constant daily monitoring of the political agenda.

All other questions are technical in nature. So, the "machine" that will help answer the question "what to look for" can only be a personal computer, preferably a powerful one, as well as a programmer who will set up parsing (automatic parsing) and will constantly rebuild it for the needs of the researcher.

Starting the research, the political scientist should understand that this is an unloved topic for any customer who usually wants cheap (preferably free), but all at once. In this sense, the customer will be disappointed — Big Data requires a system developed by IT specialists who constantly complicate and configure this system for research needs, i.e. customize it in close cooperation with research analysts. Therefore, saving on software for a political science project that is based on Big Data is not possible.

The answer to the question "how to weed out excess" depends on the cost of the server where the data is stored. If it is not very expensive, you cannot throw anything away, but take everything that is open.

Finally, everything that concerns visualization depends on the customer, on how well they are guided by what they ordered. If it is not enough, then it is necessary to give out results in the most colorful, simple and understandable form; and if the customer still understands what Big Data is and what they need it for, then you can seriously cooperate and not think about the beauty and clarity of the images.

A significant role in the considered process is played by problems that at first glance are not directly related to the research process, but significantly affect its result. Therefore, the preparation of a political scientist for analytical work with political information should include the formation of his skills for working with customers, knowledge of the psychology of official communication, etc., which requires the inclusion of appropriate special disciplines in the training plans for political scientists.
We have described Big Data as a methodology of political science research that a political scientist should master. However, in the educational process, big data should also be presented as an object of political science study. More and more researchers are analyzing them in the political aspect. For example, Freeman believes that this technology, as well as other new technologies, can turn into a weapon of destruction: "the Analysis of" big data "now allows you to identify a person or group that can be destroyed by a drone" [30, p. 9]. He also points out that "big data is a great way to identify potential spies" [30, p. 15]. A. M. Slaughter, on the other hand, points to the contribution of Big Data to the formation of a system of goods and services: "Users today voluntarily sign up to give up their rights to this data in exchange for wonderful free goods and services provided by large technology companies" [24, p. 4]. Russian researcher E. Kuznetsov points to the connection of Big Data with artificial intelligence (AI) and emphasizes the role of this connection in the development of modern science: "in the next decade, the AI + Big Data bundle will begin to verify "harmony" by correlations across the entire spectrum of scientific data" [12, p. 87]. Thus, there are a number of approaches to understanding the political role of Big Data in the modern world, and future political scientists know these approaches.

**Conclusion**

The process of transition of political science education to new standards requires understanding the future stage of institutionalization of political science in Russian higher education. A comparative analysis of the features of political science education in Russian and Western universities has revealed some emerging trends. In particular, Russian political science is characterized by the desire to fit it into the humanitarian block, while Western universities are uncharacteristically opposed to the Humanities and social Sciences.

The challenges of information civilization are pushing us to restructure the structure of political science education in order to better master quantitative research methods, study the information society, the Internet and politics, and learn how to work with Big Data.

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