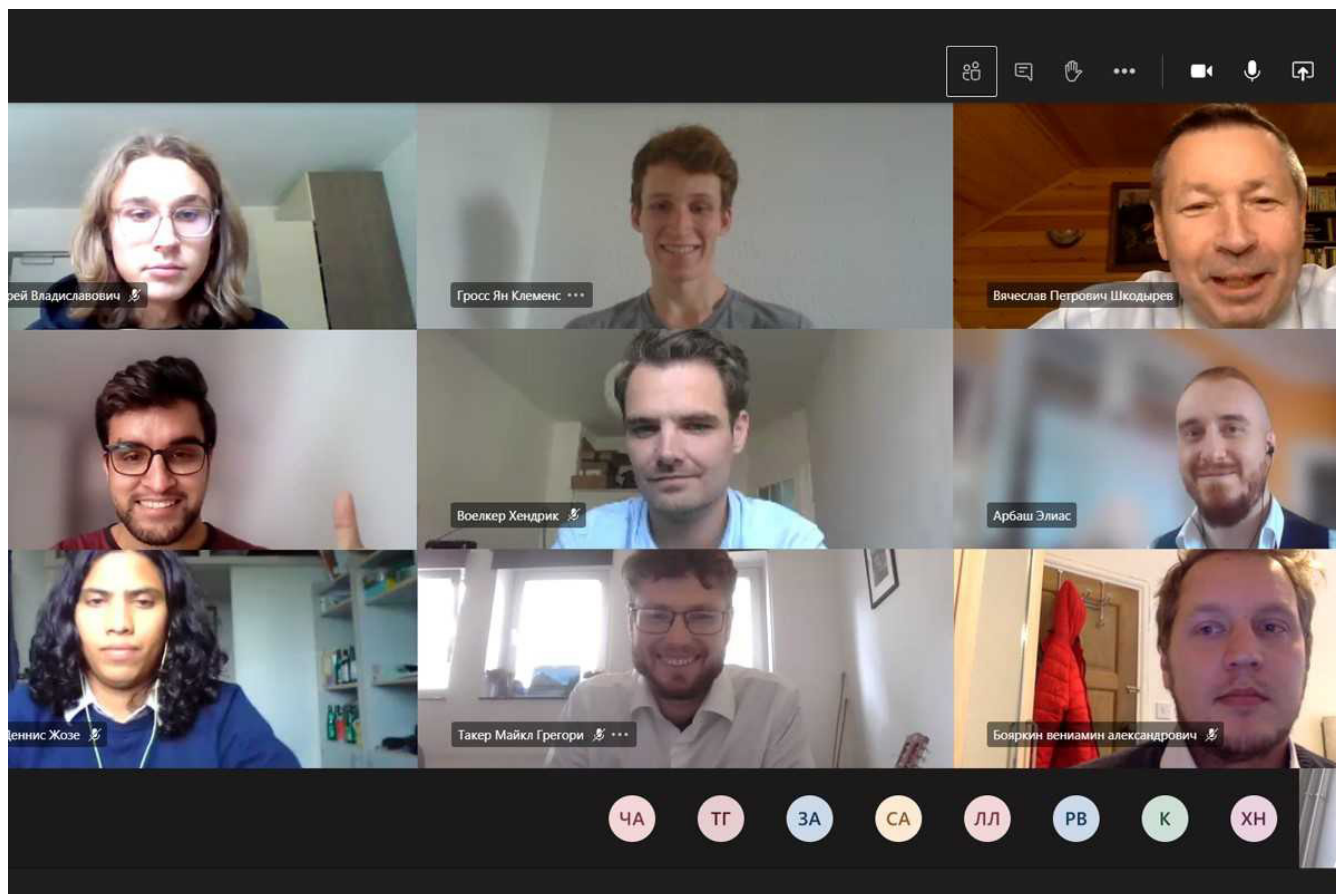


Graduates of the “Intelligent Systems” International Program Defended their Qualification Works Online

On Friday, students of the International Master’s degree program successfully defended their graduation qualifying papers. This year, 11 Master’s degree students from Russia, Germany, Australia, China, India, Pakistan, Syria and Honduras defended online. Vyacheslav SHKODYREV, the head of the program, Director of the School of Cyber-Physical Systems and Control, congratulated the graduates of one of the very first international educational programs by video link. *“It is difficult to overestimate the advantages of the international dual degree program. Some of you, together with a degree from Polytechnic University, will get a degree from Leibniz University of Hanover, and some of you will get a degree from City, University of London. I am very glad that for many years we have been building strong partnerships with the world’s leading universities, to let our students get a unique opportunity to study at two universities concurrently. Despite all the difficulties of this year, primarily related to the Coronavirus pandemic, all of you have coped with the task, become Master’s degree holders at the international level, and everything ahead of you - I am sure - will be successful. Good way!”* Vyacheslav Shkodyrev addressed the students.



This year was not easy for students. The traditional training format had to be replaced by a virtual one. Nevertheless, all academic disciplines were adapted to the new conditions without loss of quality. In addition, all students were able to undergo mandatory research practical training. Some of them shared their impressions about two years of Master's degree program after the defense.

"I would like to note that, in general, I liked the Russian education system, as it gives me the opportunity to build a flexible schedule of training," said a student from Syria Elias ARBASH. *"My Master's degree thesis was dedicated to target tracking with the help of drones or quad-copters. Targets are selected manually by an expert or automatically by artificial intelligence technology. By learning to capture a target over and over again, the robot learns to achieve it more accurately."*

"Best of all I liked courses by Associate Professor V.A. Onufriev on knowledge engineering, Associate Professor E.A. Rodionova on optimization methods, and practical training in software development taught by professor G.F. Malykhina. We have received very essential knowledge in these courses," shared a student from India Bisht LOKESH.

The students yet are to defend their final qualifying papers at Leibniz University of Hanover and City, University of London, after which they will receive two degree certificates concurrently. Anyone interested in studying at a partner university as part of a double degree program can learn more about this at the [relevant section](#) of the SPbPU website.

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