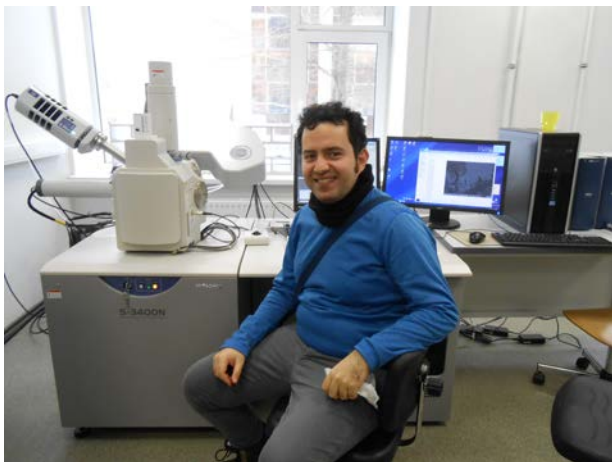


## *My Russian days at SPbSU*

When I think back to my experience in St. Petersburg I immediately nostalgia. Firstly, I want to thank Alexandra A. Khruskina, advisor on international relations, who organized my comfort staying in the student hostel during my visit in St.-Petersburg and helped me to go through visa processing procedure. Among the many beautiful things in the city certainly the one that impressed me the most was the friendliness and the education of the common people. From this experience I learned a lot and worked with very competent people: S.Yu. Yanson, M.Yu. Koreshkova, who helped me to work using the microprobe microscope Hitachi. I want to thank also Mrs. Marina Burnaeva from VNIIOkeangeologia for her help with softwear.

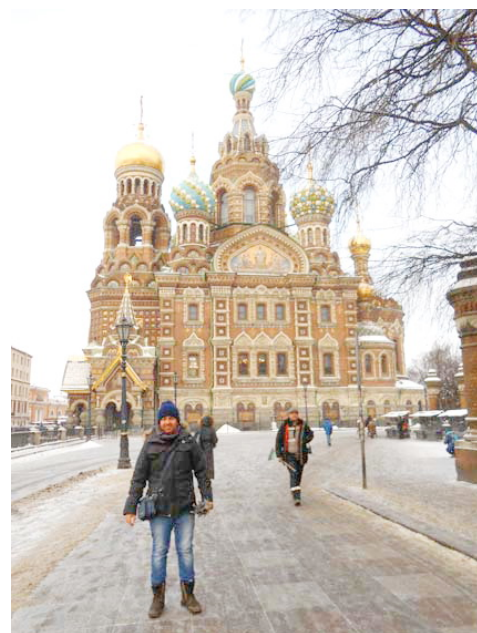


In particular I was impressed by its instrumentation present at the University and in the center of Peterhof (see photo). There the investigations of thin sections of Italian rocks helped me to fulfill Natalia Vlasenko and Vladimir Shilovskih. In the various workshops I had the pleasure of working with valid and very professional technicians, many of them young but already full of experience. Of course I must thank Assistant Professor Natalya Ivanova Krasnova which followed me for the entire period of stay in the city, organized in the best manners both the work with teaching and leisure. The support of

N.I. Krasnova was indispensable, thanks to her I was not ever in trouble, she taught me a lot with patience and with cordiality. I found it very interesting and easy to apply the RHA - Method, an innovative method that allows classifying the rocks according to abundance (atomic %) of the different elements. The method allows classifying rocks in an objective manner using a common language of chemical elements, known in all parts of the world, which allows overcoming the differences in nomenclature of the same rock as bound to different of local names is that of subjective observations.

Finally, a special thought goes to the city, I feel lucky to have had the pleasure of visiting a city so charming and full of history. In the evening, after work, when waiting for the bus at the Universitetskaya emb., on the way to the hostel, I remained spellbound as a child watching the beauty of the different illuminated monuments, with its magnificent outline of the icy Neva River. The Hermitage, Catherine's Palace, the church of St. Isaac, the Church of the Savior on Spilled Blood, the Fortress of Peter and Paul, the Mineralogical Museum are just some of the beautiful sights I have had the pleasure to visit, accompanied by students: Olga Ivatshenkova, Nadya Yerysheva, or employees – Galina V. Barkhudarova who had demonstrated a unique hospitality that made me appreciate even more my stay in St. Petersburg.

I want to thank all the new Russian friends which had made my impression and memories from visit to St.-Petersburg really unforgettable.



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