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Space research scientific and educational project of Moscow State University

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The scientific and educational project of space research has been initiated in Lomonosov Moscow State University to commemorate the 250-th anniversary of Moscow University. This project is aimed to incorporate modern space research in the university and high education, to popularize basics of space physics, and to enhance public interest in space exploration. On 20January, 2005 the First Russian University Satellite "Universitetskiy" was launched into circular polar orbit (inclination 83 deg., altitude 940-980 km). The scientific equipment, as well as the mission control and information receiving center, was designed and developed in Moscow State University. In 2006 the second satellite "Kompas-2" with similar scientific equipment is going to be launched. The scientific program includes measurements of space radiation in different energy channels, and Earth UV luminosity and lightening. A multimedia lectures "Life of Earth in the Solar Atmosphere" containing the basic information and demonstrations of the solar influence on the Earth was created. Also there was created a dozen of special computerized lab exercises based on the experimental quasirealtime data obtained from this satellite. Educational program of the project (both the multimedia lectures and lab exercises) is concentrated to upper high school, middle university and special level for space physics students. The scientific and educational project of Moscow State University is a non-profit project and is open for all interested parties.