Letter of Motivation

Dear members of Selection Committee,

I have been fortunate to find information about Bourses du Gouvernement Français while I was looking for educational opportunities in the field of Optics & Photonics, multidisciplinary research approach and European high-level academic standards. Currently, I am completing the final year of my Bachelor program in Photonics and Optical Informatics (NRU ITMO, Saint-Petersburg), where in my academic curriculum and internship the main emphasis is made on generation, modulation and detection of light, its interactions with different kinds of matter. Being highly motivated and active in my study and practice, I came to a conclusion, that the crucial issue for me as a young researcher is to build educational and career trajectory in supportive academic environment that will fulfil my diligence. Therefore, I am happy to be accepted In two Master programs of Erasmus Mundus project where the main coordinators are French Universities (University of Rennes 1 and Univesite d'Aix-Marseille 3). Both these Master courses are perfectly coincides with my educational and scientific interests: photonic materials, optical communications and imaging systems.

I am confident that my educational and practical background constitutes a good foundation for Master program in the field of Photonics, Optics and Materials Science. My Bachelor studies include wide range of subjects, which have introduced intrinsic properties of light and optical properties of matter: Optical Physics, Fundamentals of Photonics, Electromagnetism and Matter, Optical Materials Science, Solid-State Physics, Chemistry, Quantum Mechanics, Mathematics, Numerical Methods and Information System Theory. I also gained valuable practical skills and obtained hands-on research experience while participating in internship projects, studying absorption and scattering behaviour of nanostructured materials such as dye-polymer composites, which are used for diffractive optical elements and are the subject of my Bachelor research. From this multidisciplinary experience I obtained necessary skills to plan, organise and conduct experiments, correctly analysing scientific data. I also developed an ability to represent results in intelligible form and successfully perform at conferences.

I feel comfortable processing several challenging things at one time. This ability helps me to be successful in study (my current GPA is 4.88 out of 5.00) and acquire extra-curricular knowledge. In order to better understand optical effects observed in my experimental thesis work, I decided to broaden my knowledge related to the studied problem. Hence I devoted my spare time for mastering new-to-me discipline: numerical methods for simulation of amplification and decay of holographic gratings in photopolymers. In order to grasp this knowledge I participated in another research group of my Department led by Professor Veniaminov who specialises on slow diffusion processes. Familiarising myself with his research, solving proposed computational tasks, I achieved a dipper insight into phenomenon investigated in my experimental activity. I think that this experience proves my ability to organize work effectively and achieve goals pursuing clear vision of final result.

I like to work in team and possess friendly attitude towards colleagues and mentors. I always try to deal with challenging organisational tasks because it helps me to train communicational skills and better understand people around. Thus, I received great pleasure working with high school students last summer when I assisted their laboratory classes and led an excursions for them around labs and experimental facilities of our Department. During my internship I was involved in various extra activities and obtained such useful skills as conducting a patent search and writing applications for research grants. Among activities beyond University campus I want to mention my energetic participation in life of a local

English Debating Club and my favorite hobby, which is mountaineering and long-distance walking treks. Through this experience I strengthened my organizational capacity because several times I was responsible for planning of a route for a group.

Being always interested in learning, I have a strong desire for professional development. I believe that my diligence, my practical research experience and organizing abilities, high enthusiasm and interest in Photonics Science and Engineering are most conducive to make me and one of the Master program of University in France an ideal match.

Sincerely thank you for consideration.
Respectfully yours,
Stanislav Didenko