

FabLab and 3D Future: Serbia-Russia cooperation

The GYA Young Scientist Ambassador Program (YSAP)

The GYA Young Scientist Ambassador Mission was successfully completed in Belgrade. Dr. Dmitry Maslov, GYA Member from Ivanovo, Russia, with his colleague Dr. Alexey Kyrianov, Head of the [Novation](#) Centre for Technical Creativity (Ivanovo, Russia) visited [FABelgrade](#) - the first regional conference dedicated to the promotion of digital fabrication and the FabLab concept and its application to STEM, education, design, architecture, robotics, entrepreneurship and sustainable development. The conference was organised by Dr. Ivana Gadjanski, GYA member from Serbia, and co-founder and president of the [Fab Initiative](#).



FABelgrade-2016 brought together representatives of digital fabrication from Slovenia, Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, Croatia, Hungary, Greece, Bulgaria, other countries and of course from Serbia. Russia joined the FabLab movement several years ago. The Novation Centre is the first place in the Ivanovo region where 3D modeling and 3D printing were presented to a wider

audience, including schoolchildren, high school students and teachers. The first fabrication laboratory in the Ivanovo region is [CMIT-Ivanovo and it was founded on the basis of the Novation Centre](#). That is why FABelgrade became an extremely important event for Russian ambassadors to share experiences, create new contacts and to discuss joint projects.

The day prior to the FABelgrade-2016 conference, the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) and the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering of the University of Belgrade hosted a workshop “Why and how to build a FabLab?” Dmitry Maslov took part in the panel discussion where he presented the [Global Young Academy Young Ambassadorship Programme](#), FabLab perspectives in Russia, and practical aspects of digital fabrication in Ivanovo.





Participants of the workshop visited laboratories at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and the Scientific Fab lab.







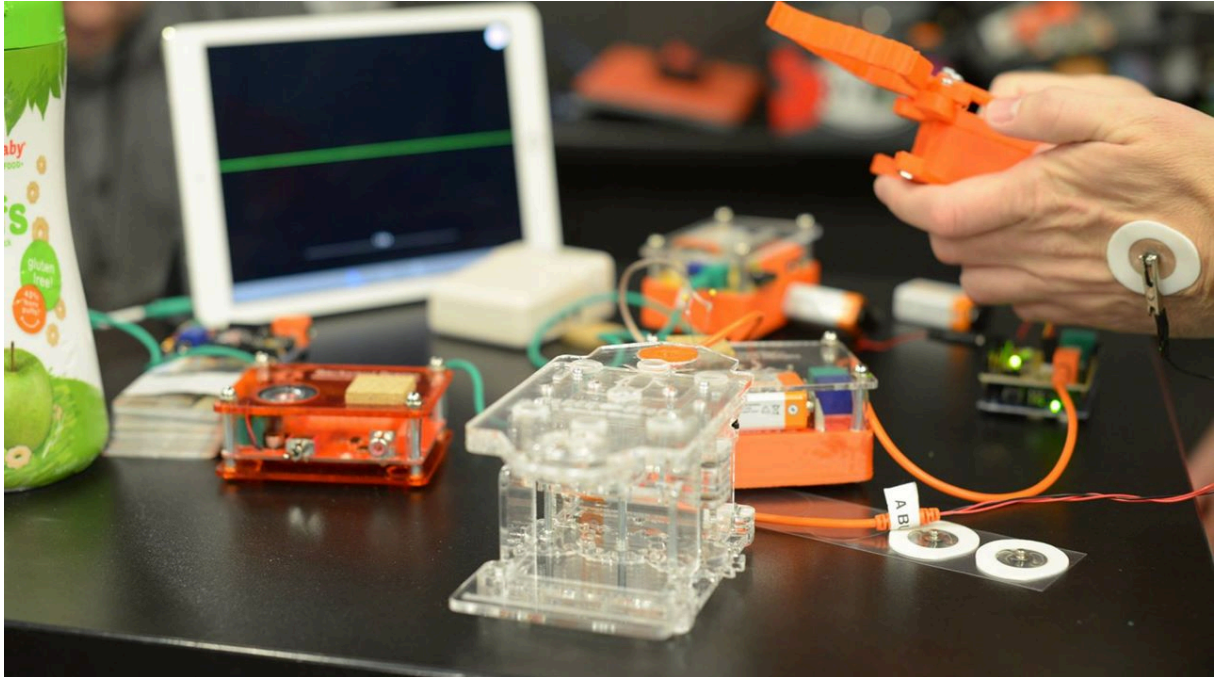
Dr. Djordje Cantrak, assistant professor at the Mechanical Engineering Faculty recorded a special [video message](#) to Russian kids in the Ivanovo region who participated in the “[Mega-QR](#)” innovative contest.

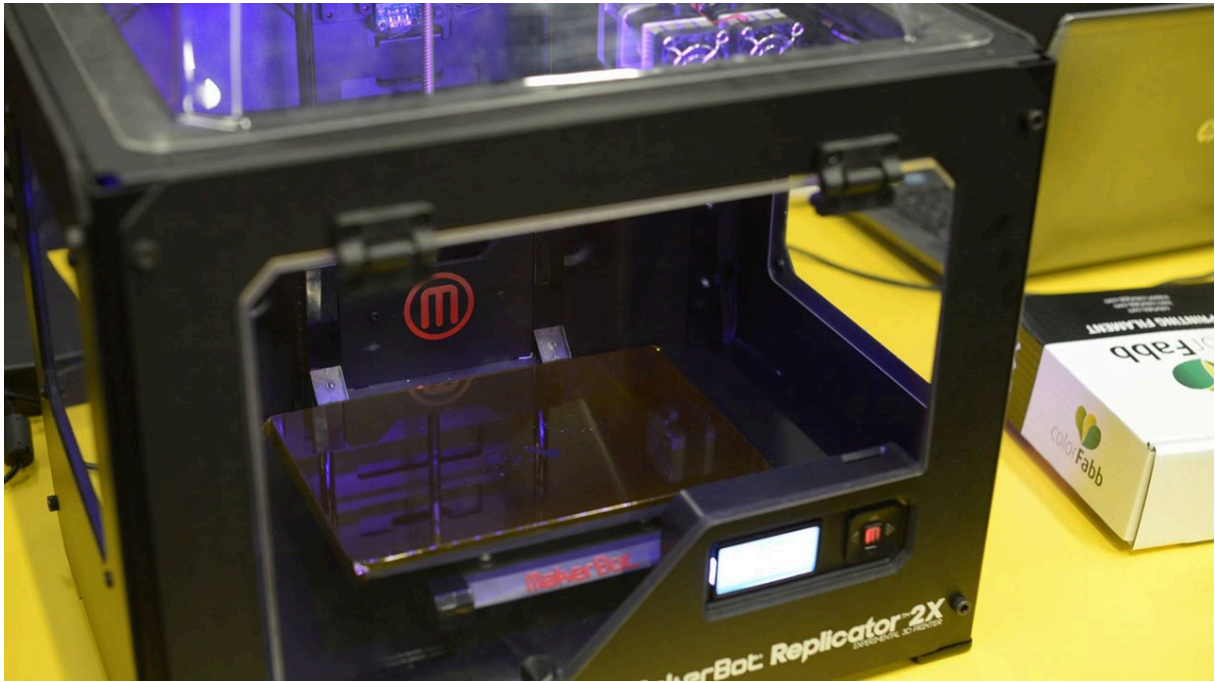
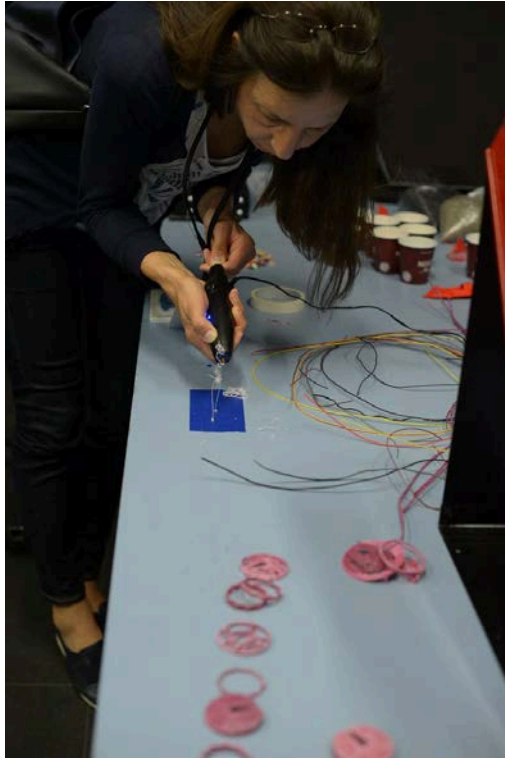
[FABelgrade-2016](#) started on the 14 of May in the House of Youth in Belgrade.

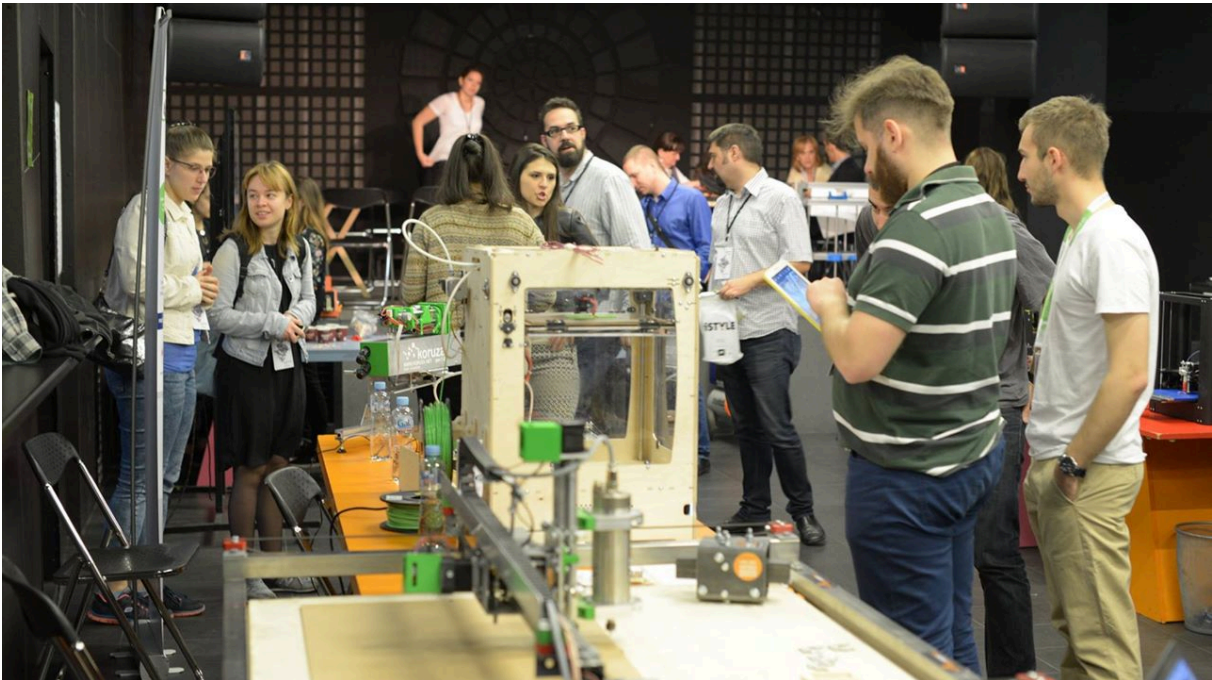
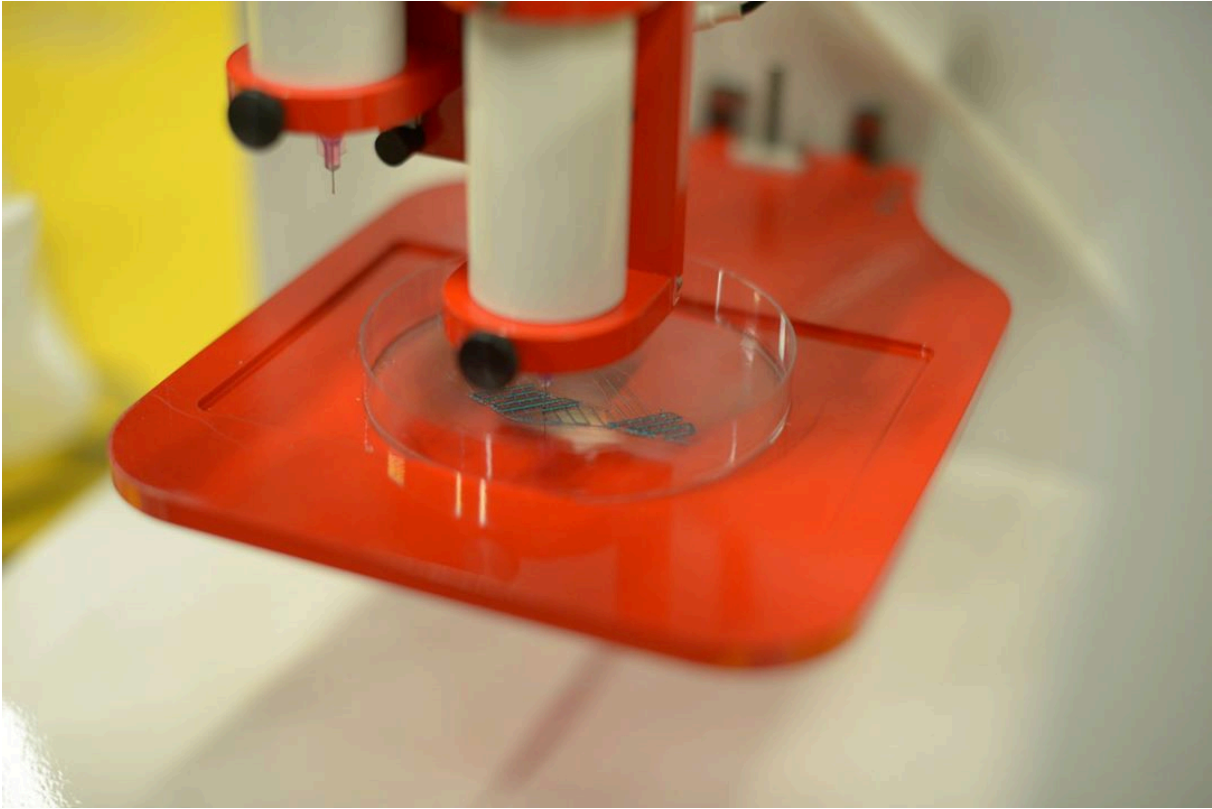




In addition to brilliant presentations and speakers (like Greg Gage, whose [TED talk](#) has gained about 4 million views), an open workshop was organized where European FabLabs demonstrated their equipment, ideas and products.







FABELgrade gave opportunities to meet very interesting people; including Reed Krum, co-founder of [Kramweisshaar](#), a modern designer, and who gained worldwide fame for his work with Audi and his [installation](#) at Trafalgar Square at the London Design Festival.

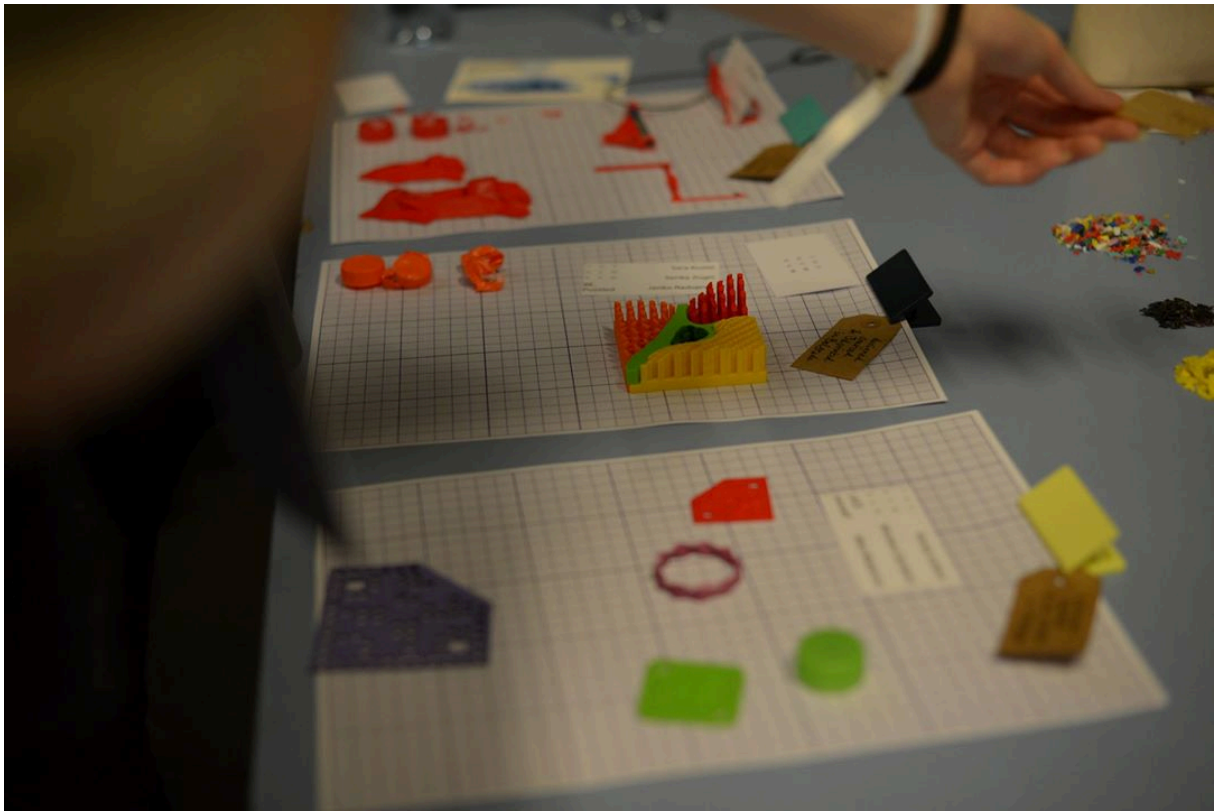


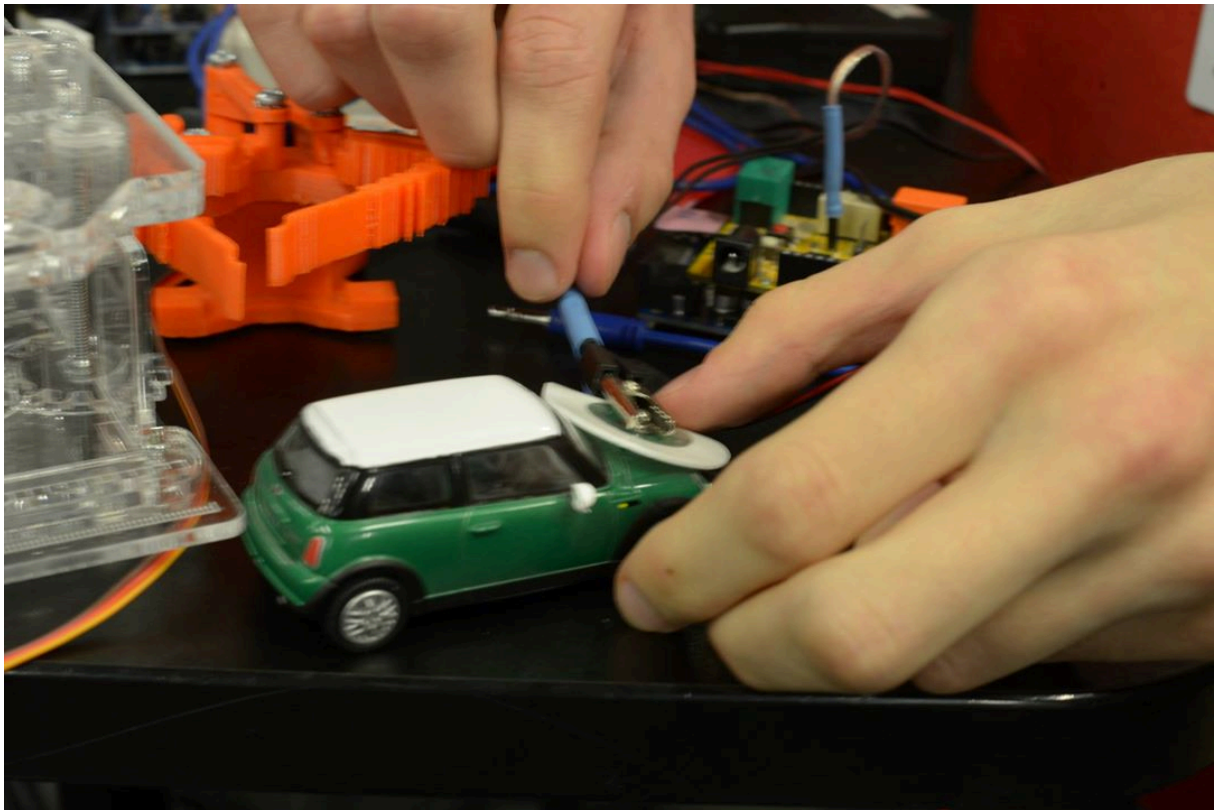
It was nice to meet Andrej Petrovčič from the Kreator Lab of Maribor – the European Youth Capital 2013. The city of Ivanovo, as a two-time finalist of this European contest of youthful cities, has good contact with Maribor since 2011.



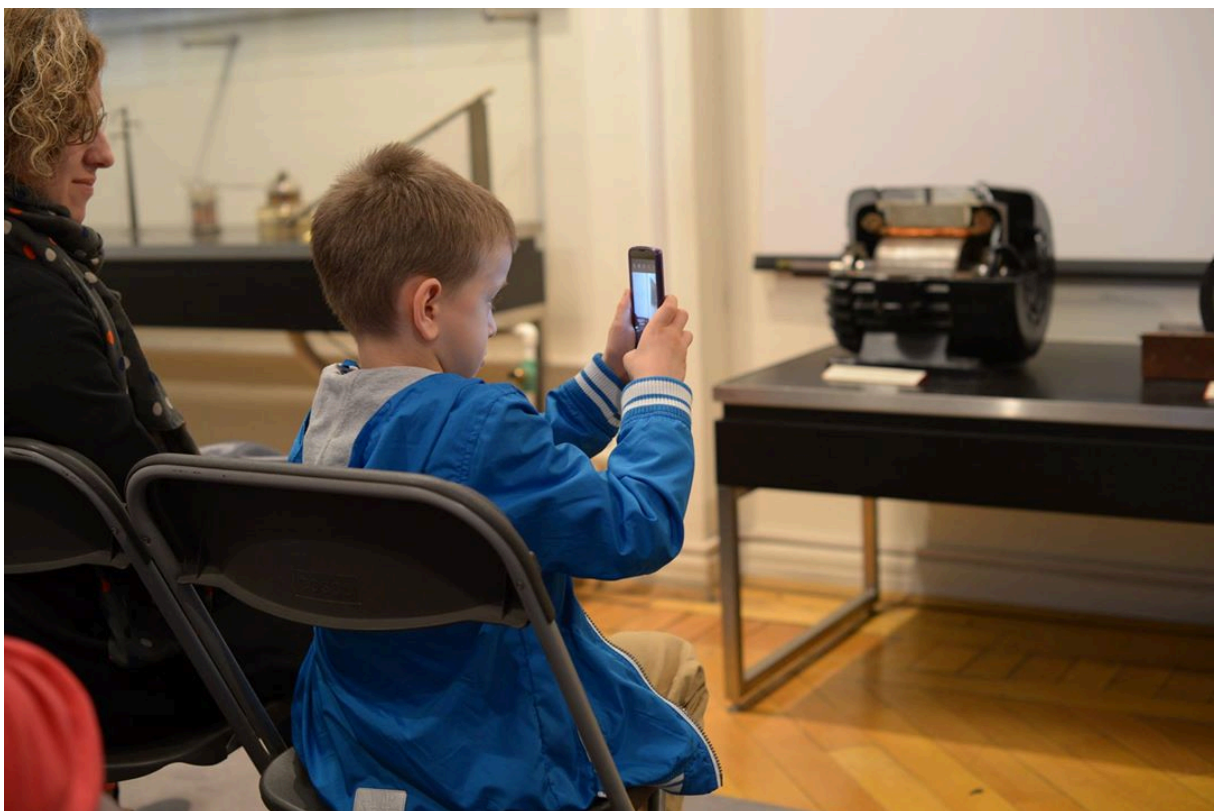
The second day of FABelgrade was dedicated mostly to kids, similar to the profile of the Ivanovo Novation Centre (where 690 kids learn new technology on regular base). A special workshop for schoolchildren was organized by [Kidesign](#). Children from 6 to 13 years learned the basics of 3D-modeling. Innovative approaches and methods of technical education for kids were presented by [RampaLab](#) (Slovenia), [FabSchool](#) (Netherlands), and there are plans to develop these contacts for further cooperation.







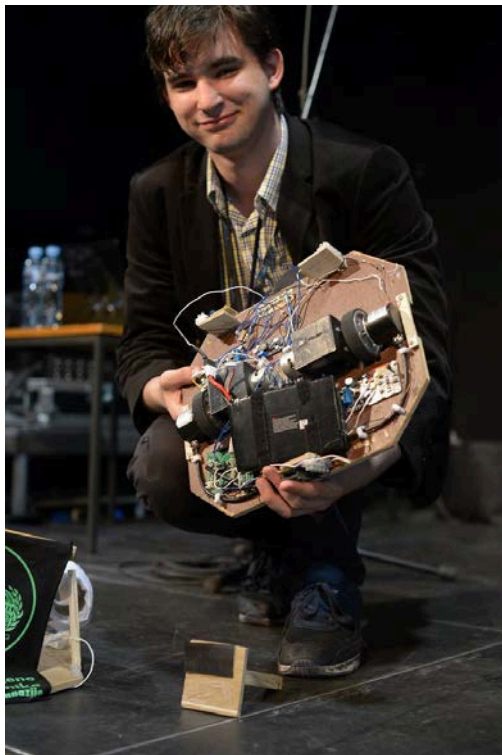
Young Scientists from the Program could not pass by the Museum of Nikola Tesla. At the heart of the museum educational programs for schoolchildren are practical [experiments](#) that use the original models of a great scholar.







At the end of the conference, the student team of Belgrade presented its models, which were made at the university FabLab.





The Serbian mission was completed by participation at the opening of the 60th Technical Fair named "Strong Pulse".







As it was planned before, Russian delegates met colleagues from the “[3D Impuls](#)” laboratory, one of the leading FabLab from Kraljevo – a twin-city of Ivanovo. After the interview for Serbian TV, Dr. Snežana Ćirić Kostić told about the history of “3D Impuls” and plans for further development. Russian partners forwarded official addresses from the Mayor of Ivanovo to the Mayor of Kraljevo. First steps of further cooperation were agreed, including holding an international youth contest on 3D modeling and organizing youth exchange under the Erasmus Plus programme.





Hopefully, the Innovation Week in Belgrade will be a good step for further development of open technical laboratories in Russia and international cooperation between Russia, Serbia and other countries. It is symbolic that the day after GYA ambassadors returned home the FabLab CMIT-Ivanovo was officially opened by the governor of Ivanovo. Video greetings from Belgrade and from different European FabLabs were translated at the opening ceremony.



Russian GYA ambassadors are looking forward for a return visit of Serbian colleagues to Russia, in particular GYA member Dr. Ivana Gadjanski.

Text: Dmitry Maslov

Pictures by Alexey Kiryanov