

Conference on cooperation among HEIs and ministries in the field of mobility (DEV 4.2.3); Steering-Committee Meeting and reporting (DEV 7.6); Financial and Administrative Updating on Erasmus+ Regulation (DEV 5.8.2)

February 13-14, 2019, Aalborg, Denmark

ERASMUS+ MILETUS - Event report

Date: 19-Feb-19

Event description

- Conference on cooperation among HEIs and ministries in the field of mobility (DEV 4.2.3); Steering-Committee Meeting and reporting (DEV 7.6); Financial and Administrative Updating on Erasmus+ Regulation (DEV 5.8.2)
- Place: Aalborg, Denmark
- Date: February 13-14, 2019
- Number of participants: 18 (11 females and 7 males).

As part of the MILETUS project activity, the project meeting in the form of a working conference on cooperation between partner universities and ministries in the field of mobility with a special focus on the virtual and blended mobility programs was held from 13 to 14 February 2019. As an additional part of the project meeting, the Steering Committee meeting (DEV 7.6) and the Consulting session on Financial and Administrative Erasmus+ Regulation (DEV 5.8.2) also took place during this project meeting.

The Department of Materials and Production of the Aalborg University (AAU) was pleased to host this event to support us with organizational matters.

Each Partner Country HEI delegated one-two representatives from the academic and administrative staff to Aalborg. The Programme country partners (EU-universities) and both Ministries (MESU and MEST) also delegated one or two persons to participate in this event. In addition, the representative of TOPCL participated virtually in the Skype session with the implementer of the external project, which took place on 13th February 2019.

The first day of the project meeting **(Day 1, February 13, 2019)** started with the discussion on the results of the second virtual mobility run, which was realized from 15 October to 15 December 2018. In this way, the presentation of the NaUKMA, who was involved as a Virtual Mobility Coordinator for the second virtual mobility run (DEV 3.4.3), opened the discussion round on the implementation and results of the second virtual mobility run.





The subsequent presentation of the EENU aimed at the results of the evaluation of the students learning performance in the second virtual mobility run and the virtual mobility programs in general. The presentations on the supervision and peculiarities of interaction with student's groups during the second virtual mobility run were given by representatives of the NaUKMA represented by the Yuchymenko Family Doctoral School and the PHEI KUH PUA as competent partners in the field of the teaching methodologies for higher education. The representative of PHEI KUA PUA also reported that the results of the second virtual mobility run were presented during the conference "Smart education in smart society: possible ways of adaptation" which was held on 14th February 2019 at the PHEI KUH PUA. The discussion round ended with the presentation of the POLIMI on the survey results of the second virtual mobility run (DEV 5.2.2).

The MILETUS project is always open for the external cooperation with other projects in the field of virtual/blended mobility. During the project meeting in Aalborg the Skype session with the representative of the OpenVM Project (Beuth University of Applied Sciences/Open Universiteit Nederland OU) was held on 13th February 2019. Within the Skype meeting the MILETUS project was presented by the UNS as well as the OpenVM project by the representative of the Open Universiteit Nederland OU. The questions asked by consortium partners regarding the motivation issues and competence profile of the teachers were answered by the external party.

The project meeting on the first day continued with the round table discussion with the Ministries on the perspectives for virtual/blended mobility programs in Serbia and Ukraine (DEV 4.2.3). In this way, the presentation on the national framework for mobility programs in Ukraine and Serbia was given by the representative of UNI. The subsequent round table discussion with the Ministries was moderated by the representatives of the NaUKMA and UNS on the basis of the questions previously prepared by the project partners. Afterwards, the slot for the assessment of the methodological framework developed for the virtual/blended mobility programs (DEV 5.7) was provided by UNS and POLIMI. All participants received the electronic link to the questionnaire and were asked to answer it during the project meeting.

The presentation on the codification and dissemination of the developed methodology for virtual/blended mobility programs (DEV 4.3) was held by the UNS; the nature of the final methodological document and its dissemination opportunities were discussed between the project partners and Ministries. The subsequent discussion on the upgrading of the International Relation Offices at the partner universities (DEV 2.3) was moderated by the WP2-leader NaUKMA.

The working meeting with the Ministries ended with the presentation of the representative of the MNAU regarding the agreement with the rectorates of the language for the writing of the Master theses and to what extend this issue is relevant for the project country universities. Given that Ukrainian and Serbian universities have become autonomous in the educational process under national law, such a decision should be taken at the institutional level according to the internal institutional regulations. Moreover, all partner country HEIs have used their autonomy in this matter and English as well as other languages such as e.g. German are included or can be included upon special demand (e.g. application of the student) for the writing of the Master theses.

The first day of the project meeting concluded with the financial consulting on the current issues of the project realisation and project partner reporting.





The **second day** of the project meeting **(Day 2, February 14, 2019)** started with the presentation on the Problem-Based Learning (PBL) approach to the student's project works carried out by the host university. The PBL approach adopted in the MILETUS virtual mobility programmes has successfully established as an educational methodology at the AAU, and the host university has been pleased to share with the consortium partners its experience and expertise in this field.

Firstly, the presentation of the principles of the PBL approach and the interdisciplinarity of the research problem was given by the AAU representative. Secondly, the innovative "Smart Production Lab" as a result of the PBL approach was demonstrated to the participants. The Bachelor and Master students of the AAU then presented their own project work and showed how the PBL approach is used in the preparation of their papers. All questions of the consortium partners were answered; the matter of introducing the PBL approach at the partner universities and in particular its applicability for the virtual mobility programmes was discussed among the consortium partners.

The Steering Committee meeting (DEV 7.6) combined the important components such as preparation for the real phase of the MUILETUS mobility program for the PhD students (DEV 3.5.2-3.5.6), project management reporting and financial consulting (DEV 5.8.2).

The matter of preparation for the real mobility of PhD students highlighted the second day of the project meeting. In view of the diversity of the Partner countries (Serbia and Ukraine) and the differences in national law of both countries, the project meeting was urgently needed before the start of the real phase to discuss important aspects such as financing mechanism, organisational and preparatory issues among the project partners.

Within the project management reporting of the TUHH, the current status of the MILETUS project implementation as well as planned and achieved results and future activities of the project were presented. Particular attention was paid to feedback on the monitoring visit of the National Erasmus+ Office in Serbia. The concluding financial consulting summarized the current status of the project budget with special focus on future project activities and the disbursement of the project budget in the last project period. The outcomes as well as the necessary measures were discussed among the project partners.

The project meeting was concluded with a final discussion on the prospects for the coming months.

We would like to thank all participants for investing their time and conceptual discussions.





Photographs from the event



Image 1-5. Working conference between partner HEIs and Ministries: Assessment of the second virtual mobility run and presentations of the supervisors (first day of the project meeting)







Image 6. Working conference between partner HEIs and Ministries: Introduction of the MILETUS project and short intervention of the external project (first day of the project meeting)



Image 7-8. Working conference between partner HEIs and Ministries: Round table discussion with the Ministries (first day of the project meeting)







Image 9-14. Working conference between partner HEIs and Ministries: Preliminary assessment of the developed methodological recommendations (first day of the project meeting)







Image 15-16. Working conference between partner HEIs and Ministries: Presentations of the project partners Upgrading of the IROs and Agreement with rectorate (first day of the project meeting)



Image 17. PBL approach to students project works: Interdisciplinary of the "real" research problem Presentation of the AAU (second day of the project meeting)









Image 18-20. Demonstration of the "Smart Production Lab" (AAU) (second day of the project meeting)



Image 21. PBL approach to students project works: Presentations of own reasearch projects by Bachelor's and Master's students (AAU) (second day of the project meeting)







Image 22-26. Steering Committee Meeting: Project management reporting, Financial consulting (second day of the project meeting)







Image 27. Participants of the MILETUS project meeting in Aalborg (13-14 February 2019).

List of Obligatory Annexes:

- Agenda of the Event
- Attendance List of participants
- Presentations from the event

