

TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION ACTIVITY

“Fostering Erasmus+ cooperation projects’ impact and cross-fertilization on social inclusion and civic engagement”

Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna
Bologna, 25th - 27th June 2019

Follow-up

Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna hosted and cooperated to the TCA organized jointly by INDIRE and SEPIE, the Spanish NA, back to back to the celebrations of the XX anniversary of the Bologna Declaration, to contribute to the discussions on how to address the important future challenges for universities and their role in society identified by the high level academic conference.

Why this focus for our TCA? As shown by the 2018 Bologna Implementation Report, one area where further commitment and cooperation are essential is the social dimension of HE. Despite commitments made throughout the Bologna Process, many challenges remain: disadvantaged learners still face barriers to access and succeed in higher education; gender imbalances persist with important societal implications, and lifelong learning is not yet a reality in many countries. Especially in light of the future programming period 2021-2027, when EU cooperation shall influence transformation and change on different levels, increasing their wider impact through cooperation with new actors and differentiation of sectors, we can further build on transnational cooperation projects. Indeed, the main challenge for Strategic Partnerships remain the possibility to reach a wider impact beyond the partnership, beyond the immediate environment. "A project starts when it ends".

The objectives of the TCA being the facilitation and enhancement of cross-fertilization and synergies among results achieved so far by projects, rotated around the main theme of social inclusion and civic engagement within three main topics:

1. Fostering collaboration between HEIs and third sector organizations (community partners and social enterprises) for the benefit of both students and community;
2. HE's role in promoting inclusion of disadvantaged categories and reducing inequality;
3. HE's contribution to the promotion of democracy and intercultural dialogue.

Participants did stress the need to further engage in activities like this, at institutional, national and international levels, especially because global challenges cannot be addressed by national initiatives only. Therefore, it is worth the effort to work jointly both at transnational and especially at interdisciplinary level, since interdisciplinarity in teaching and bottom-up process are crucial in order to help fill the gap between the Higher Education field and the wider society whose

challenges need to be addressed by Higher Education Institutions. Institutions are encouraged to clarify their role in society, starting from their own presentation through their website, which is their shop-window: it should present the analysis of the society they refer to showing the goals and means they aim at and afterwards the social results achieved. Moreover, HEIs can promote democracy and the intercultural dialogue through volunteering services, by teaching social justice, through service learning, by working with students and participating in the Erasmus+ Actions.

The discussions stressed that cooperating in such projects can help learn different languages to communicate with new and diverse actors that have different expectations and inclusion emerged as a possibility of creating an environment to include diversity and the added value it brings. EU cooperation projects emerged as a key factor in building up new contexts and in reinforcing relationships and good practices being implemented at local or national level.

WORKING GROUPS

Showcasing of intellectual outputs and ideas

WG1 - Fostering collaboration between HEIs and third sector organizations (community partners and social enterprises) for the benefit of both students and community.

MODERATOR: Claudia Schneider, *Thüringer Ökoherz e. V.*

SPEAKERS:

- *Jana Nau*, Hochschule für Wirtschaft und Umwelt Nürtingen-Geislingen-Germany, project nr. 2015-1-DE01-KA203-00216, "Social Entrepreneurship for Local Change"
- *Catherine Morel*, Vrije Universiteit Brussel-Belgium, project nr. 2017-1-BE02-KA203-034736, "ENtRANCE"
- *Ninoslav Scukanec Schmidt*, Institute for the Development of Education-Croatia, project nr. 590200-EPP-1-2017-1-DE-EPPKA3-PI-FORWARD, "Towards a European Framework for Community Engagement of Higher Education (TEFCE)"
- *Alžbeta Brozmanová Gregorová*, Matej Bel University-Slovakia, project nr. 2017-1-SK01-KA203-035352, "Service learning in higher education – fostering the third mission of universities and civic engagement of students (SLIHE)"
- *Jarmila Zimmermannová*, Moravian Business College Olomouc (MVSVO)- Czech Republic, project nr. 2016-1-CZ01-KA203-024040, "Spationomy – Spatial Exploration of Economic Data – Methods of Interdisciplinary Analytics"
- *Alessio Cavicchi*, University of Macerata-Italy, project nr. 2017-1-IT02-KA203-036782, "FOODBIZ. University and business learning for new employability paths in food and gastronomy"

WG2 - The role of HE in promoting inclusion of disadvantaged categories and reducing inequality.

MODERATOR: Elena Luppi, *University of Bologna*

SPEAKERS:

- *Encarnacion Postigo Pinazo*, University of Malaga-Spain, project nr. 2015-1-ES01-KA203-015625, "EC+Enhancing communication: research to improve communication for people with special needs and development of ICT resources and tools"
- *Boris Janča*, Masaryk University-Czech Republic, project nr. 2017-1-CZ01-KA203-035609 and 2018-1-CZ01-KA203-048191, "Language Skills of Deaf Students for EU Mobility and Sign Languages Dictionary as a Tool for Language Education" and "European Mobility of Deaf Students – MobiDeafDict"
- *Zuzana Ceresnova*, Slovak University of Technology-Slovakia, project nr. 2015-1-SK01-KA203-008959, "UNIALL Accessibility of Higher Education for Students with Special Needs"

- *Devillé Aleidis*, University of Applied Sciences "Thomas More-Belgium, project nr. 2016-1-BE02-KA203-017365, "InclusiveCampus Life (IC Life)"
- *Elisa Perego*, University of Trieste-Italy, project nr. 2016-1-IT02-KA203-024311, "A Laboratory for the Development of a new Professional Profile"
- *Eva Garea Oya*, Campus universitario,Vigo-Spain, project nr. 2017-1-ES01-KA203-037948, "ILSA: Interlingual Live Subtitling for Access"

WG3 - The contribution of HE to promoting democracy and intercultural dialogue.

MODERATOR: Pilar Aramburuzabala, *Autonomous University of Madrid*

SPEAKERS:

- *Alexandros Triantafyllidis*, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki-Greece, project nr. 2016-1-EL01-KA203-023651, "Supporting University Community pathways for REfugees-migrants"
- *Véronique Simon*, Uppsala university-Sweden, project nr. 2017-1-SE01-KA203-034587, "KINDINMI The Kindergarten as a Factor of Inclusion for Migrant Children and their Families"
- *Andreas Winkler*, Technische Universität Darmstadt-Germany, project nr. 2017-1-DE01-KA203-003580, "EUCRITE - European Centre for Refugee Integration in Higher Education"
- *Troy Wiwczarowski*, Debrecen University-Hungary, project nr. 2017-1-HU01-KA203-035918, "Promoting mindful encounters through intercultural competence and experience"
- *Cristina Stefanelli*, UNIMED-Italy, project nr. 2016-1-IT02-KA203-024430, "inHERE – Higher Education Supporting Refugees in Europe"
- *Ana M^a Manzanos Calavo*, University of Salamanca-Spain, project nr. 2017-1-ES01-KA203-038181 , "Hospitality in European Film"

Rome, 19th July 2019