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ERASMUS+ PRINTeL Project

“Change in Classroom: Promoting Innovative Teaching & Learning to Enhance Student Learning Experience in Eastern Partnership Countries”

ONLINE WORKING MEETING WITH EU PARTNERS

07 December 2020

Venue: Zoom Video Conference

Attendees: 5 contact persons and 2 other representatives from EU partner institutions

Working language: English

An online working meeting between PRINTeL Project Management Team and coordinators from 5 EU partner HEIs was held by Zoom in December 7, 2020 aimed at considering the suggestions on additional activities made by A. Budaghyan, the Head of the Project at the 4th Coordination Meeting of PRINTeL Project, as well as for summing up the further discussions.

The Head of the Project once again mentioned that all representatives from PC HEIs were involved in VATL portal development activities, however, it was implemented by the joint efforts of YSU and the Belarusian State University, therefore, there are extra financial means in the Project budget. He emphasized that it is necessary to spend these means targeted and on ensuring the Project continuity. It was also noted that about 100 trainees have been trained in EU partner HEIs in 2018. Active Learning Classrooms furnished with purchased equipment have been already founded in each University, although designed for traditional- face-to-face learning. The situation is thoroughly different conditioned by Covid-19; thus, the strategy should be altered in accordance with new challenges. Currently under these conditions the students and teachers meet in classrooms less frequently. Mr. Budaghyan suggested that EU partners propose their ideas.

J. Lundquist, the Coordinator from Linkopings University remarked that training on *Active Learning in the Flipped Classroom* have been conducted in their University.

The Head of the Project pointed out the main issue – the most effective ways of *Active Learning in the Flipped Classroom* application via online.

Chris Van Keer from Katholieke Universiteit Leuven mentioned that in January-February 2021 it is envisaged to hold discussions in their University on the most effective ways of online learning organization, in which PRINTeL Project participants are also involved.

Maria Pinto, the Coordinator from Porto University noted it is very difficult to define which is the best way of online teaching. For this reason, the best practice patterns should be considered.

All EU coordinators were interested in the participants of the training. In response, Mr. Budaghyan mentioned that they will be those trainees who have already been taken the training in 5 courses.

Joan Tomàs Pujolà, Professor from Barcelona University acknowledged that they would adapt the teaching method of *Active Learning and ICT-enhanced teaching: M-learning and gamification* used by them for practicing online.

Later Mr. Budaghyan mentioned that the relevant budget information has been sent to all EU partner HEIs. The latter can manage the amount according to their organized training. He also noted that it is necessary to carry out training in January-February 2021 and the training syllabus submission deadline is set on December 30, 2020. The Head of the Project emphasized that to avoid further problems programmes and plans should be well grounded.

The partners were interested in the number of participants in each group and Mr. Budaghyan mentioned they should be about 20.

Afterwards, the number of training days and workload were considered. It was decided that the training will last 3 days with 12 hours overall workload and each EU partner HEI will choose its format and relevant content. He highlighted there is 2 months period for best preparations.

There rose a question on the hour convenient for the training since EU and PC are in different time zones. The trainers involved in the training are all active teachers and the training time should fit well with everyone.

Later Mr. Budaghyan covered the issues of the meeting related to the dissemination of innovative methods of T&L and best practices among broad academic community. The role of carrying out annual forums in VATL Portal was marked in terms of raising awareness on implemented Project activities, as well as introducing and disseminating best practices in innovative T&L methods. This is a vital phase for dissemination. The Head of the Project mentioned that these forums should be organized by 5 EU HEIs, which will correspondingly define the basic forum topics related to innovative T&L methods.

It was decided that the forums will be annual, the general information on which will be provided to the wide academic community in advance. The first one-day forum will be held in May 2021. The forums may contain sessions, the moderators of which will be

participants from EU partner HEIs. Mr. Budaghyan also noted that there is enough time until then and the best formats for the forum will be clarified by the time. The formats may be different based on the forum content and corresponding audience.

Kiendl Doris from Graz University mentioned they welcome the idea of forums which may have an open format and participants from other institutions may be involved, too.

The possible online platforms to hold the forum were also covered.

At the end of the meeting the training syllabus submission deadline on December 30, 2020 was once again accentuated.

The Head of the Project once again acknowledged that the Project Management Team is as always open for any question and discussion.