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**Minutes Scientific Committee (enlarged to the participants in the 1st Training Session in Tirana – 21-25
May 2018)**

April 17th 2018

Participants:

Giorgia Bulli, University of Florence
Sheyla Moroni, University of Florence
Silvia Pezzoli, University of Florence
Rudina Rama, University of Tirana
Elisabeta Osmanaj, University of Elbasan
Visar Dizdari, University of Shkoder
Marta Blanco, Complutense University of Madrid
Pablo Alvarez, ISCTE, Lisbon

Topics on the agenda: Preparation of the First Training Meeting in Tirana 21 -25 May 2018. Discussion on the scientific contents and organization of the 5 days training

At 10:00 o'clock the participants start the Skype conference agreed upon via a Doodle Survey. The documents needed for the discussion have been circulated via e-mail and through the management platform BASECAMP adopted by the T@sk project. Documents: 1) “Notes on the activities of the first training session” (produced by Sandro Landucci – UNIFI -after the preparation meeting in Tiran containing the general framework agreed upon in Tirana); 2) “1st Training session in Tirana” – proposal elaborated by the ISCTE team.

The meeting opens with a general discussion on the ISCTE proposal. The members of the Albanian Universities agree on the general contents of the proposal. In their opinion, the suggested theoretical issues for the training are coherent with the updating needs expressed by the 3 Albanian universities after the examination of the Syllabi of the course in Social Work (BA) offered by the EU and the Albanian Universities (the syllabi had been gathered and analyzed during the PREPARATION MEETING in Tirana –March 2018).

The discussion moves to the **evaluation of the compatibility of the issues with the organization constrains.** Rudina Rama underlines the organization difficulties due to the fact that the University of Tirana could not yet open the Bank Account necessary for the receiving of the part of the budget entitled to the University of Tirana. For the other participants this fact is not a problem since there will be no major organization costs for the training activities. Rudina Rama points at the **potential problem of an unbalanced participation** of the Albanian academic staff and of the Albanian associated partners to all sections of the training program of the five days. The training session is opened to all members of the Faculties/Departments which offer courses on Social Work. For some of the Lecturers and Social Workers, however, the attendance to all sections could be

difficult due to academic or working engagement. Visar Dizdari and Elisabeta Osmanaj agree with Rudina Rama.

Rudina Rama suggests that, in order to facilitate an efficient participation, **the main contents of the ISCTE proposal could be rescheduled into two main working blocs:**

- 1st block: 3 days (4 hours in the morning +1 or 2 meetings with the students of Social Work)
- 2nd block: 2 days (4 hours in the morning +1 meeting with the students of Social Work).
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The participants discuss the advantages of this proposal. The rescheduling of the activities would:

- **Be more efficient** (the 1st block could focus on the theoretical foundations of Social Work, on contemporary theories of Social Work and on epistemological issues// the 2nd block could develop – also in a theoretical perspective – the issues related to the role of the Social Workers).
- **Facilitate the decision of the participants** (mainly the Associated partners) **on which courses/workshops to attend.**
- **Leave time to the members of the Steering Committee** (their delegates/ the interested persons) to discuss on the next training sessions¹ during one of the afternoons that are left free.

The participants give Pablo Alvarez the task to formulate a new proposal that takes account of the needs expressed by the Albanian Universities. All members agree that **the main content of the proposal should remain the same** as the original ISCTE scheme.

Pablo Alvarez agrees. He suggests to **indicate in the proposal the scientific responsibilities for each section of the training program**, so as to facilitate the coordination of the works. All participants agree that the **main methodological approach** of the training session will be based on a **discussion among the members in the form of workshops/meetings/small focus groups**. In order to stimulate the highest level of participation in the debates, the **scientific literature will be circulated** among the participants at least 2 weeks before the beginning of the training session. Each institution of the consortium will be responsible for the selection of the relative bibliography. The scientific literature will be sent to Giorgia Bulli or directly uploaded on Basecamp by **May the 7th** (DEADLINE)

The meeting ends at 11:30 with the following commitments:

- Giorgia Bulli will send a template to Pablo Alvarez containing the new structure (two blocks)
- Pablo Alvarez will discuss the rescheduling with the ISCTE team. Afterwards, he will circulate the new proposal (1 or 2 options) to the participants. Once approved, the final program will be uploaded on Basecamp.

¹ Next training Session: Shkoder- 15-19 October 2018. The participants agree to organize the 2 days Albanian Conference on Social Work in the same days where the training session will take place.