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

SITE VISIT TO GEORGIAN PARTNER 3 UNIVERSITIES

ERASMUS+ PRINTeL Project management team’s site visit to 3 partner universities of Georgia – Ilia State University, Georgian State Technical University and Iakob Gogebashvili Telavi State University – was planned to take place on 27-29 June, 2019.

The main objective of the site visit was to get introduced to the performed activities at places, to get acquainted with a number of representatives of the administrative and teaching stuffs involved in the Project and to discuss existing issues.

The first meeting was planned to be carried out at Ilia State University on June 27, in accordance with the defined schedule.

PRINTeL Project Coordinator Armen Budaghyan, Coordinator Mari Santurjyan, Head of the Human Resources Department Ketevan Grigolia, Officer at the same department and Assistant to Head Nino Duchidze, Deputy to the Head of the Development Department Salome Shedania, as well as participant of the Training of Trainers course at the University of Linköping, Professor L. Tsagareli took part in the meeting.

At first, K. Grigolia presented a generalized report on the activities in progress.

Project Coordinator A. Budaghyan presented the commentaries and guaranties summarized after the monitoring of the National ERASMUS+ Office of Georgia. Each of the commentaries and guaranties were discussed in detail and respective solutions were put forth.

Afterwards, the performance plan of the coordination meeting held in Yerevan was presented. K. Grigolia stated that preparation works of the 3rd bulletin of the PRINTeL Project were nearing completion and the responsible person for the VATL was already appointed.

A number of organizational and financial issues were discussed with the Deputy to the Head of the Development Department S. Shedania.

Professor at the School of Arts and Science L. Tsagareli expressed his gratitude for being given the chance to take part in the PRINTeL project and to be trained at Linköping

University. He spoke about the trainings that he delivered and pointed out as well that he was ready to continue on conducting trainings.

Several questions concerning the organisation of the conference to be held in November 2019 at Ilia State University were also discussed.

The second meeting took place at Georgian State University on June 28, 2019. Head of the International Relations and Standards Office Otar Zumburidze, Head of the International Relations Group Nino Zhizhilashvili, other officers of administration, as well as Associate Professor at the Faculty of Transportation and Mechanical Engineering Management Boris Gitolendia were present at the meeting.

O. Zumburidze presented in detail the activities performed within the frame of the PRINTeL project. He mentioned that the participants from their university who were trained at 5 EU partner universities were very contented with the results of the trainings. He reported extensively on the progress of the trainings carried out at their university and the expectations their trainers had in relation to the Project.

A. Budaghyan and M. Santurjyan presented the commentaries and guaranties summarized after the monitoring of the National ERASMUS+ Office of Georgia that were quite minutely discussed and corresponding conclusions were outlined.

The envisaged 3rd meeting was held at Iakob Gogebashvili Telavi State University. The visitors met with TeSaU Vice-Rector Aleksandre Mosiashvili, Head of Administration Mzia Maisuradze, Head of International Relations Office Tamar Aslanishvili and the Project team members. During the meeting, the parties reviewed the activities planned within the frame of the Project and they set the perspectives for enhancing future cooperation.

Project Coordinator A. Budaghyan, in the same way as in the previous 2 meetings, presented the commentaries and guaranties summarized after the monitoring of the National ERASMUS+ Office of Georgia. Each of the commentaries and guaranties were discussed in detail and corresponding action plan in relation to them was determined.

Afterwards, the issue of the reorganization and replenishment of TSDCs with the trained specialists was discussed. Nino Korinteli informed that Tamar Mikeladze trained at the University of Applied Sciences of Graz was appointed as the head of the centre, and corresponding organizational works were already being elaborated.

The question of trainers' training to be held in November at the Catholic University of Leuven was discussed as well.

A. Budaghyan and M. Santurjyan highlighted the importance of meetings oriented at information and experience exchange both in the university and in the framework of other stakeholders. Sophio Arsenishvili expressed her gratitude for having the chance to participate in such trainings organized at high level and to train her colleague lecturers as well. She and Nino Dzamukashvili pointed out that great interest towards the activities performed within the frame of the Project was observed and even the teachers of secondary schools were interested and wished to participate in the trainings.

The Head of Quality Assurance Centre Shalva Tchkadua who was trained at Porto University mentioned about the importance of the application of innovative methods in the university and emphasized the fact that it could help them in the accreditation procedure of their expected educational programmes.

Tamar Aslanishvili as well expressed her gratitude to the Project management team for the organized and effective work. She particularly underlined the fact that the activities of EU partner universities should be elaborated as much as possible in order to maintain the continuity of further actions. The issue of signing joined declarations with the EU partner universities was emphasized.

At the end of the meeting Armen Budaghyan handed certificates to the trained teachers.