

Short Term Scientific Mission (STSM) Reflections

'Celebrating collaboration' - COST Action 15221 – We ReLaTe

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STSM recipient institution and country International Humanitarian University (Ukraine)

Host institution and country Paris Diderot University (France)

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STSM Title Studying the performance of academic institutional model: a case of Paris Diderot University

The goal of my STSM was to figure out the motivation and perception of the existing centralized institutional model through the teachers' individual lens associated with the cohesion of teaching, learning, research and writing development in the Paris Diderot University.

The most significant thing that I learned from my STSM was ... even with good institutional support in relatively successful academic institutional model, the academic activity including teaching, research, learning and writing can have a lot of challenges, e.g.:

- for early stage teachers, it can be a few information about opportunities for career development, no personal grants for research projects, no support for English writing, and not enough pedagogic programs for young teachers;
- for mid-stage teachers, it includes not enough academic loading and no special service for English proofreading;
- for senior teachers, it comprises the difficulties with appropriate assessment of qualitative teaching results using standard marks (scores), no administrative and IT support for research, too much bureaucracy, no special program for English writing and proofreading, and no special program to improve their managerial skills.

I very much enjoyed by meeting happy colleagues, who came from various countries and continents, and who work gladly in cross-cultural environment of the Paris Diderot University. I was very impressed by hospitality of the Parisians (special thanks to Genevieve and Francoise) and the atmosphere of joy in which they live and work.

My advice to colleagues considering an STSM is ... do not miss the opportunity to conduct your study during the STSM, which will help not only to find new research results, contacts and friends at the host university, but also to study and adopt the best practices from your foreign colleagues to improve your work at the home university.

And finally, I would like to thank this COST Action chairs for the opportunity to plunge into the problem of creating an advanced and effective academic institutional model. With each new case, you understand that there is no perfect model: each model has its own advantages and challenges, its own local features and spirit. However, whatever the institutional model and support, its success depends on employees – teachers, researchers, who daily perform their mission and move our civilization forward.