

# **REPORT**

**On the meeting of the initiation-coordination  
group for the implementation of the Action Plan  
for Territorial Group II – Eastern Europe UNESCO-  
MOST Programme**

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- On March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2017, the initiation-coordination group for the implementation of the Action Plan for Territorial Group II – Eastern Europe UNESCO-MOST Programme met in Bratislava.
- The participants were: Tomasz Komorowski – representative of the Polish Commission for UNESCO, Zdenek Uherek – president of the Czech Committee for the UNESCO-MOST Programme, Matej Makarovič – president of the Slovenian Committee for the UNESCO-MOST Programme.

- The meeting took place at the Institute of Sociology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences and followed the programme agreed in advance:
  - Welcome address and introduction by the meeting organiser L. Faltan
  - **Action plan for Territorial Group II– Eastern Europe**
  - Methods of implementation of the two proposed conferences for the period 2017-2021.
  - Organisational actors of the conferences
  - Where to look for funds for the conferences
  - Possible dates and locations for the conference

➤ **UNESCO-MOST Schools**

- Identification of opportunities for establishing them in countries of the Territorial Group II
- Is it possible to identify problematic issues in common where the idea of UNESCO-MOST Schools could be applied?
- What are the main points in the implementation of UNESCO-MOST Schools under the conditions in place in our countries?
- **Future Knowledge Laboratory (FKL) and Inclusive (IPL) Policy Lab**

- For the smooth running of the work meetings, its participants received in advance UNESCO materials concerning not only important innovations which were adopted after the UNESCO General Conference in November 2015 and which were gradually reflected in the UNESCO-MOST Programme (innovation of the UNESCO-MOST statute, organisation and negotiation rules, Action Plan UNESCO-MOST, Activation of UNESCO-MOST Schools, implementation of the Future Knowledge Laboratory (FKL) and the Inclusive Policy Lab (IPL)).
- ). Participants received in advance (in the first semester of 2016) a proposal for the Action Plan for Territorial Group II – Eastern Europe, which was subsequently integrated into the overall Action Plan UNESCO-MOST.

- For the needs of discussing the implementation of the Action Plan for Territorial Group II – Eastern Europe, participants received commentaries from the organiser in advance, and possible ways of implementing the programme, as a subject for discussion.
- In his introductory speech, the organiser briefly informed the people present of the course of the innovative processes that UNESCO-MOST is going through, and which had been gradually negotiated at meetings of IGC UNESCO-MOST during the course of 2016; some negotiations will also continue in 2017.

- As far as the block dealing with **the implementation of the Action Plan for Territorial Group II – Eastern Europe**, which has been accepted, the meeting participants agreed as follows:
  - Agreement with the preparation and organisation of two main conferences for Territorial Group II – Eastern Europe. However, this does not prevent initiatives to organise further specialised events at a national or subregional level in harmony with UNESCO-MOST's programme focus.
  - In the case of a conference dealing with the social impact of migration and refugees (following on from a similar conference focused on the Central European area which took place in November 2014 in Bratislava) in the Balkans, it was agreed that the sponsor for its preparation will be the Slovenian UNESCO-MOST commission,
  - "We expect the relevant authorities of Greece, Turkey and Italy to be invited to the conference - cooperation with Territorial Group I - Western Europe and North America"

- In the case of a conference aimed at reflecting on social transformation in the countries of Eastern Europe, the Slovak UNESCO-MOST committee and the Czech UNESCO-MOST committee will work together as sponsors, while being open to co-organising or co-sponsoring role of the national MOST committees or national commissions for UNESCO from other countries, especially from the remaining countries of the initiation-coordination group".
- It is expected that the “migration” conference might come under consideration in 2019 and the “transformation” conference in 2020,

- The basic preparation processes for both conferences were also agreed:
  - Creating a network of partners for preparing both conferences (apart from the sponsors, the whole initiation-coordination group would be involved) – responsible sponsors
  - Programme and content specification of both conferences- responsible sponsors and partners
  - Selection of a location for holding both conferences – responsible sponsors after agreement with partners
  - Addressing potential conference sponsors (Participation UNESCO programmes, Vysehrad fund, national state and non-state resources)
  - Until the end of June 2017, mutual information on the state of the creation of partner networks for both conference and the state of identification of possible conference sponsors

- They pointed out that **the establishment of MOST-Schools** might be meaningful for Territorial Group II – Eastern Europe,
- The implementation of the idea of MOST-Schools in the conditions of Territorial Group II – Eastern Europe, must take into account, however, the following:
  - The need to identify the target group(s) which the MOST-Schools would focus on
  - The fact that in the given country there are various forms of education of a state and private nature focused on different target groups
  - The implementation of MOST-Schools should focus on the area of further education and the acquisition of practical skills which are not provided to a sufficient extent, or can bring something new to the existing system
  - The implementation of the idea of MOST-Schools should lead to close cooperation with existing educational institutions and their specialists on the chosen issue concerned

- The implementation of the idea of MOST-Schools in countries belonging to Territorial Group II – Eastern Europe presupposes:
  - A decision at national level – National UNESCO-MOST committee as an initiator and sponsor of the initiative
  - Obtaining support, including financial support from the relevant state bodies of the country concerned (also presupposed by UNESCO)
  - To join and create a team of experts – a training school – on the chosen issue
  - To carry out practical training by means of courses (summer schools, etc.) on the selected set of problems

- Identifying sets of problems of a social nature. In some Central Europe countries in particular, it is possible to identify some joint or similar set of problems of a social nature, whose resolution could be the subject of cooperation as part of UNESCO-Schools
  - ❖ One of the themes could be “preparation of local leaders”
  - ❖ The sub-theme could be “preparation of local leaders” within Roma communities

- **Future Knowledge Laboratory (FKL) and Inclusive (IPL) Policy Lab**

- In the case of FKL and IPL, the meeting participants perceive this initiative as a certain methodological recommendation which should lead to UNESCO-MOST activities (Action Plans) having an innovative character in looking for solutions to problems and aiming at creating platforms for discussions on solutions with a relevant sphere of decision-making.