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*“GRaduates Advancement and Development of University capacities in Albania”*

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**Event title:** Presentation of the Albanian Graduates Report Survey (first draft) and dissemination event.

**Event date:** 11-15 November, 2019

**Event Venue:** Instituto Universitário de Lisboa, ISCTE-IUL

**Event Address:** Av.<sup>a</sup> das Forças Armadas, 1649-026 Lisboa

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### MINUTES 13 - EVENT REPORT

#### Participants:

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Agriculture University of Tirana	AUT-UBT
University of Tirana	UT
University of Arts, Tirana	UART
Polytechnic University of Tirana	PUT
University of Medicine Tirana	UMT
European University of Tirana	UET
POLIS University	U-POLIS
Catholic University "Our Lady of Good Counsel"	UNIZKM
Albanian University	AU
Alma Mater Studiorum Università di Bologna	UNIBO
University of Siena	UNISI
Universitat de Barcelona	UB
ISCTE - Instituto Universitariò de Lisboa	ISCTE-IUL
Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Tirana	CCIT
Consorzio Inter-Universitario AlmaLaurea	ALMALAUREA
Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth	MESY

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## First day

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The first day of the meeting was open by the representative/coordinator of the hosting Institution, Instituto Universitario de Lisboa, Prof. Elsa Cardoso. She mentioned the importance of the Gradua Project and the collaboration with the Albanian Universities, seeing that one of main objectives of the Gradua Project is the statistical analysis of the Albanian Graduates Survey.

Following the speech of the Prof. Elsa Cardoso, the representative of the coordinator organization Agriculture University of Tirana, Prof. Drini Imami introduced the Albanian partners and presented the project state of art and future activities to be taken in 2019 and beginning of 2020 (reporting documents to be sent to coordinator, future meeting, etc).

Following the speech of the Coordinator Institution, the representative of AlmaLaurea, Dr. Dorel Manitiu presented to the Project partners the state of art of the Gradua Platform. On 31<sup>st</sup> of October 2019 AlmaLaurea staff had a Skype conference with representative of new associate partner RASH, who is supposed to host the platform. It was agreed that at the beginning of 2020 to have a new Skype call in order to decide the data on which the transfer of the Gradua platform will take place, from AlmaLaurea server to Rash infrastructure.

Ms. Jona Mulliri from coordinator Institution, Agriculture University of Tirana, started the working session related to the presentation made by each Albanian University present of the meeting, of each Graduates Report Survey based on the data that students filled on the questionnaire present on Gradua Platform.

The presentations started with Agriculture University of Tirana and ended with Albanian University. After each presentation a section was dedicated to “questions and answers” for each report presented by Albanian Universities.

Among the interventions, from European partner Mr. Jaume Fortuny from University of Barcelona put the questions related to Albanian graduates who expressed their intention to work in Public sector.

The discussion was opened, because this aspect come out from different Albanian Universities Report and the Albanian partners replied saying that; from Agriculture University point of view, the majority of students are studying Forestry and Biotechnology, that are specializations that job market is made especially in the Public sector, while the graduates from Economics and Business in Agriculture sector are more interested in private sector. The discussion continued with interventions from European part Ms. Malgorzata Dudko and Mr. Enrico Dongiovanni from AlmaLaurea; Ms. Luisa Mengoni from Almalaura Interuniversity Consortium, specified that probably the Public sector offers more secure jobs and a more solid insurance system than the Private one. From the Graduates report of Polytechnic

University of Tirana, emerged the fact that due to their specialization, the graduates have an approach more close to the private sector than the public one.

Following the entire working day, some specific key words emerged from open discussions: skills and private labour market. From University of Art emerged that maybe there is a necessity to organize some internal survey regarding the specific skills that graduates from University of Arts are requested to have in order to enter in the labour market.

After the presentation made by each Albanian University and open discussion, the Lisbon meeting continue with the feedback given by European Partners.

Prof. Laura Neri from University of Siena, Italy, delivered a presentation related to the opportunity that data collected and stored on GRADUA platform can be used for evaluation the efficiency of university courses. She presented the case of Siena University, of how the University use the AlmaLaurea data and combined with internal data available at University level can be used for assessing the efficiency of courses.

The next steps done were represented by the feedback given by researchers from AlmaLaurea Interuniversity Consortium and by University of Bologna, Italy.

The researcher in charge with the first feedback of Albanian Graduates reports, Ms. Silvia Galeazzi stressed the importance of cleaning data, exclusion criteria, suggestions for graph, charts and tables, etc. The Albanian partners received before the meeting a first set of suggestions and observation of the first version of reports and they sent a second version of the reports to the European partners. Based on that, Ms. Silvia Galeazzi stressed and underlined the critical point of the reports and presented the comparison between the first and second version of the reports.

To be noticed that after the first round of feedbacks the quality of the reports increased!

This session followed with a session regarding questions and answers that clarified the doubts emerged.

After the presentations made by AlmaLaurea the representatives of University of Bologna, Dr. Laura Anderlucci and Prof, Angela Montanari deliver their presentation related to the statistical analysis.

Among topics, after the presentation, a discussion was open related to the importance of some indicators as response rate, the choice of relevant information for statistical surveys, the potential association

among several dimensions, the choice of the most appropriate representation representative, displaying also the number missing answers to a survey and the importance of collection of “good data” over time. The representatives of University of Bologna presented as “case of study” the use of similar data base as Gradua (the AlmaLaurea’s one) for Academic institution planning – the case of University of Bologna.

## **Second day**

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The second day of the meeting continue with the workshop organized by ISCTE-IUL related to the data visualization.

The representative of Instituto Universitario de Lisboa, prof. Elsa Cardoso and Ms. Maria do Carmo Botelho started the workshop with a theoretical part of “data visualization” topic, with examples and the session ended with a practical example on the case study of data of Agriculture University of Tirana.

The representative of Istituto Universitario de Lisboa, Prof. Elsa Cardoso, deliver a presentation regarding preliminary comparison results.

After some reminders by the representative of the coordinator institution staff to the partners regarding the dissemination activities that should be done by each of them such as seminars to inform and push the students and companies to register in the platform, increasing the social media of the project followers by informing about the project links, and especially asked the staff from Uarts regarding the deadlines about the video presentation of the project. Mr. Guralumi said that he is working with his staff in this regard and in the other meeting he promises to present the video to all the participants and partners.

The meeting ended with bilateral meetings:

During the last day, the Vice Rector of Polytechnic University of Tirana met the Vice Rector for Internationalization of Instituto Universitario de Lisboa to have a discussion about the opportunity to sign a Letter of Intent for future cooperation between their institutions. This represent “spin off” approach that Erasmus+ Projects not only put together the partnership members, but also open new form of cooperation between the Albanian Universities and European Higher Education Organizations also in other fields that are not object of a specific project (cooperation between departments, the possibility of exchange students and staff members, bilateral visits, etc.)

## **Third day**

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During the third day the representatives of AlmaLaurea Interuniversity Consortium had bilateral meeting with different Albanian Universities regarding some problems and clarifications related to the

Gradua platform: access on the platform, visualization, reports, etc. It comes out that starting from this year (2019) new courses are available in Universities (a two year professional course) that is none bachelor none master, and should be added on the Gradua platform. For this, the IT from Agriculture University of Tirana and IT staff from AlmaLaurea are in contact, in order to update the decoding tables.

Last but not least, an interesting discussion was launched by the representatives of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Tirana that have a very good news in terms of **impacts generated by the Project**: the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Tirana is in charge with “accreditation” process of companies who are registered on the platform, by enabling them the access on the Platform. The Chamber of Commerce and Industry mentioned that now are registered 51 companies, are available 10 job offers on the platform and 2 graduates already started the internship due to the new Gradua Platform!

Other discussion on improvement of the graduate profile report was done through Albanian and European partners.