

SOUSSE TRAINING FEB23

Date: 16 - 19/02/2023 –. GMT+2

Location: University of Sousse

Event called by: WP7 Coordinators

EVENT DESCRIPTION

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS AT THE EVENT:	11
PARTICIPANTS (ORGANISATIONS):	UNISI – Matias Nestore UNISI – Laila Abd El Gawed UMON – Christophe Roux (online) UTM – Asma Noura UTM – Khalifa Harbaoui UTM – Mounir Tibaoui UTM – Samira Mechri UTM – Hanéne Turki UK – Mohamed Sahbi Charradi UK – Marwa Hattab US – Hichem Romdhani US – Lotfi Tarchouna US – Lotfi Belkacem US – Kais Tebessi UCAR - Taher Jallouli USF – Lotfi Sellami USF – Khalil Fendri UGRA – Guadalupe M. Fuentes (online) UGRA – Miguel G. Guindo (online)
EVENT DESCRIPTION:	
<u>Day 1 → INTRODUCTORY SESSION</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Institutional greetings from the Rector of the University of Sousse• Institutional greetings from Prof Verzichelli (remotely), coordinator of the PACTUM project• Introduction by Hichem Romdhani and Prof. Lotfi Tarchouna from the University of Sousse	

- Madame Nouria's presentation invites the audience to think about two problems:
Problem 1, political science and social sciences taught by law professionals | need to reform the teaching of political sciences. Problem 2, employability for young graduates.
Prof. Tarchouna intervenes to state that to improve the political science situation we need to change the system of political science teaching and the teaching attitude, rather than « simply » add new courses.
- A discussion followed about the strong and weak points of the future of political sciences in Tunisia. Prof Samira Mechri, from Tunis El Manar, suggested the importance (when coming to the development of a master's course) of a multilingual and multidisciplinary approach to the master's structure.
- Discussion about the difficulties of being the director of a master's course. Importance of communication for students and to students. Discussion about chances to access the job market given by the master's in social sciences directed and managed by Prof Christophe Roux at the University of Montpellier.

Day 2 → Presentations and discussion between academic professionals and students

- Miguel G. Guindo (online) for UGRA / About master's degree management
Three focus points: management | resources | results.
- In this session a young MA student at the University of Sousse and Nice intervened. who had problems because after his studies in political science, he had not had the chance to apply for PhD in political sciences and he had to take into account a master's course in law. So, he suggests the importance of communicating to students what they can do with the MA they are getting, both in the job market and to move on with their studies.

DAY 3 → Perspective from young professionals and students about master's features and the job market | Conclusive session

- Luca Verzichelli (USiena), wrap-up session and conclusion.



- After the three days of training and discussion, three levels have been identified on which the PACTUM project is expected to achieve the greatest impact:
 1. Students and younger generations.
 2. Academic community and administrative personnel less exposed to internationalization
 3. Citizens and the communities of our “city campuses”.

- Key points identified:
 - Integration (among courses, styles of communication, syllabi, etc.).
 - Innovation (in terms of correct use of all the resources including, for instance, new subjects and activities on ethics, gender studies, human rights, intercultural relations, no-hate relations in academic life, professional skills, etc.).
 - Interaction (all kinds of interaction within our communities).
 - Inter-disciplinarity in terms of knowledge transfer to present to our future students the complexity of social realities we are living.

- **Lotfi Tarchouna and Hichem Romdhami (USousse):**

In relation to the training session, the two representatives of the University of Sousse stated that despite initial uncertainties about the training's outcomes, the partners have had the chance to discuss multiple issues. Professor Tarchouna gave his opinion about what learned during the entire training session, namely: Master's course objectives, how to engage students in the choice of contents and desired outcomes. the work that still can be done to perfect the master's programme, the new job market, and the positions that social science graduates can access. This will have an impact on the courses that will be included in the master's course.

Discussion of innovative teaching methods was included too, to understand to what extent is it possible to keep traditional teaching methods alive.

The participation of local students highlighted learning needs and a need for empirical and practical methods. Also, the need to think about possible strategies to involve professionals and experts in the master's course emerged too, as well as possible paths to overcome linguistic and technological barriers, and possible techniques of interdisciplinary to characterize the PACTUM MA.

- How to keep the master's course on track after the project end and make sure that avenues for cooperation remain open also offered an interesting point for further discussion.

Asma Nouria (University of Tunis El Manar) confirmed what claimed by Prof. Tarchouna and added a remark on the importance for all PACTUM partners to periodically meet in presence to get a better overview of what are the risks or the possible improvements connected to the Master's course.

Luca Verzichelli (University of Siena): raised a point on how to add the Tunisian tradition to our work in political sciences. How to integrate with innovation and interaction.

University of Tunis El Manar: Interdisciplinary and internationalization came out as key



elements for the sustainability of the project. Need to work more on internationalization in the future involving both outgoing and incoming students, as it appears to be the real meaning of exchange. ICM (ERASMUS+) has been discussed as an opportunity to make this exchange joint, international, and interdisciplinary through multiple languages, multiple approaches, and multiple goals. In this context, joint supervision for these courses is something to be rediscussed. **Luca Verzichelli (UniSiena):** An intensive blended mobility is a possibility to consider to integrate transdisciplinary modules like applied statistics.

Fatma Birgui (PhD Student Sousse): remarks on the usefulness to get involved in the PACTUM training session to get a perspective about how to think comparatively across and about different contexts. This is how we can then integrate methodologies with mobility, to teach students to think comparatively.

University of Sousse: In this perspective, local students might be involved in online teaching by European universities as a general and mutual strategy to fill in the gaps that each educative institution has (thus, each University engaged in the project).

- The final part of the meeting is devoted to a review of the future activities. Luca Verzichelli announces that he is going to give a lecture in Kairouan (class of Prof. Gayth Chaouche) on Monday 20 February as a disseminative Pactum Event.
- The representatives from the five Tunisian universities report on the future Summer School schedule. The provisional schedule is the following:

Summer Schools 2023

UTM - 22nd/23rd June: Public policy, gender and culture (three lecturers from UTM, 2 lecturers from EU side).

USF- 6th/8th June: Crisis of representative democracy

US - 3rd/4th July: The Political performance / Performance politique

UCAR- finalize dates (June): Public policy and human rights.

CLOSING ANNOUNCE: Professor Verzichelli was pleased to say that at the end of our training session, he would continue his visit to the Higher Institute of Political and Legal Studies at the University of Kairouan to hold some meetings with the students (in the presence of Prof. Ghaith Chaouch), Prof. Hanen Msakni and with the administrative staff of the Institute to discuss and present PACTUM perspectives.



ATTACHMENTS

	Pictures and attendance sheet
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