

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES 2015

Participation of HEREs in International events

Event title	Place, date	Name of the HERE(s) involved	Description of the main learning outcomes of the event for the HERE(s).
“Higher Education and Vocational Education and Training in the Erasmus+ Partner Countries neighboring the EU: Partnership for socio-economic development”	Istanbul, 10-11 March, 2015	Lusine Fljyan, Samvel Karabekyan, Armen Budaghyan, Sasunik Melikyan (ex-HERE until March 2015)	<p>There is an urgent need for the extension of the strongest opportunities for closer cooperation between higher education and VET for the development of pathways linking VET and higher education.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ strengthening cooperation between VET and HE for regional development; ▪ VET qualifications and NQF: the demands of the labour market; ▪ portability and permeability between VET and HE
Study visit “Institutional structures for the management of internationalisation and mobility”	Berlin, 17-19 May, 2015	Meri Hayrapetyan	<p>It was the opportunity to learn and discuss on the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ institutional strategies and structures for internationalisation and mobility from universities in Berlin, with a special focus on TU Berlin. ▪ different types of mobility and internationalisation approaches: case of Germany ▪ learning about institutional strategies and structures for internationalisation and mobility ▪ making strategic and operational connections with other HEIs

			<p>Study visit learning outcomes: Participants discussed and explored different types of mobility and internationalisation approaches that universities are managing. It helped to better understand how they may be connected strategically and operationally.</p> <p>Relevance of the activity/event for Armenia: The internationalisation of HEIs' is one of the current priorities for the further development of HE in Armenia. Policy and best practice transfer and internalization in the local context is expected in to meet this need.</p>
<p>Study Visit “Organizing International Credit Mobility”</p>	<p>Ghent/Brussels, 10-12 June, 2015</p>	<p>Kristina Tsaturyan, Georgi Chaltikyan</p>	<p>The main learning outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Understand different types of credit mobility (Erasmus exchanges, summer programmes, industry placements, etc) and how they are integrated into/recognised by study programmes, ▪ Understand the application of ECTS to credit mobility and the interplay of the international relations offices and the faculties in this endeavour, ▪ Be able to define what ‘quality mobility’ can mean in its many senses and the tools and mechanisms that can be used to ensure the quality of credit mobility, ▪ Gain insight on student organisations that can support credit mobility (both from a promotional perspective and in assisting with integrating international students), ▪ Be able to cite examples of how institutions support language learning in the context of credit mobility and how this can be optimized,

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Better understand current EU programmes for credit mobility and how Partner countries can participate, ▪ Better understand how National Agencies support credit mobility in Europe.
Seminar “ICT based learning: opportunities for higher education learning and teaching”	Al-Hussein bin Talal University branch, Petra, Jordan; 26- 27 October, 2015	Tatevik Gharibyan, Samvel Karabekyan	<p>HEIs which have already developed some strategies of e-learning and have attempted to mainstream ICT into their teaching and learning processes shared their up to date best practices with HEREs.</p> <p>The themes discussed were related to trends and challenges of e-learning in European HE and the Southern Mediterranean region. Among the highlights were the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ diversity of institutional approaches to e-learning, ▪ use of remote laboratories in e-learning environment, ▪ changing learning methods and approaches, their assessment and quality assurance, ▪ digitalisation of the university: implications for learning, teaching and research.
Conference “Innovating learning and teaching: the next phase of the Bologna Process”	Tbilisi, 3-4 December, 2015	Meri Hayrapetyan, Samvel Karabekyan (chairing group 1 of 7 break-out session), Marta Simonyan	<p>The conference touched the following aspects of innovative learning and teaching:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ multiple dimensions of student-centred learning concept (cases of different countries), ▪ what prevents student-centred learning from becoming a reality, ▪ ways of motivating students to participate more actively in the study process, ▪ ways of using ICT in order to facilitate teaching process.

			<p>Mr Karabekyan was asked to chair and moderate one of the break-out sessions during which the following issues were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ ways in which Bologna structures and instruments can support curriculum design.▪ difficulties in distinguishing the concepts of Learning Outcomes (LOs) and competences (question posed by participant from Ukraine). Explanations, answers, views of participants were part of the discussion. LOs were explained to be the expected achievements formulated by the teacher, whereas the competences are real achievements of students. In this regard, differences between teaching and learning can be defined as methods that lead to LOs vs. activities aimed at achievement of competences.▪ development of transferrable skills strongly depends on appropriate teaching methods and related learning activities that are suggested to students.▪ LLL is an important tool for innovation, PhD students should be trained from very beginning to get the innovative teaching skills. <p>The role of NQF and sectorial frameworks for curriculum development in terms of innovative teaching was also brought about in this break out session.</p>
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Participation of HEREs in Local Events

Event title	Type	Place date	Name of the HERE(s) involved	Number and profile of participants	Description of the main outcomes of the event.
Round-table discussion “Higher Education and Vocational Education”	follow up of Int. event (Istanbul, 10-11 March)	Yerevan, Yerevan Brusov State University of Languages and Social Sciences, 3 April, 2015	Lusine Fljyan, Samvel Karabekyan, Sasoun Melikyan, Armen Budaghyan	28 participants: representatives of higher education institutions and vocational education institutions, policy-makers, representatives of companies and NGOs, representatives of the Ministry of Education and Science of Armenia	During this round-table discussion the participants were acquainted with the current trends of EU and Eastern Neighbourhood in VET and HE and the cooperation practices between these two sectors based on the study of experience in those countries which have expertise in validating prior learning outcomes and qualifications for promoting easy pathways to higher education programmes.
Workshop “Internationalization of Higher Education Institutions:	follow up of Int. events in Berlin and	Armenian State Pedagogical University	Kristina Tsaturyan,	About 30 participants: representatives of HEIs,	The workshop aimed to discuss conceptual approaches to internationalisation of higher education institutions, to identify the problems and challenges of

Opportunities and Tools”	Ghent/Brussels, May/June 2015	after Khachatur Abovyan, 16 September, 2015	Meri Hayrapetyan, Samvel Karabekyan	academic staff and students	internationalisation, to raise awareness on credit mobility options. The event was targeted at the administrative staff of higher education institutions dealing with the internationalization strategies of the universities. The workshop was a platform for sharing ideas and key approaches to the internationalisation of HEIs. Mobility students were also invited to introduce the main challenges they faced before, during and after their academic mobility, as well as effective and ineffective solutions applied to solve these issues.
Seminar and training on Joint Degrees	TAM with the participation of international expert Mr Boas Erez from the University of Bordeaux, France	Yerevan Brusov State University of Languages and Social Sciences, 11-12 November, 2015	Lusine Fljyan	Up to 50 participants: representatives of higher education institutions, policy-makers, representatives of NGOs, the Ministry of Education and Science of Armenia	The first TAM in Armenia was dedicated to learning about the models of establishment of joint degrees, development of quality assurance within joint programmes. TAM European expert Prof. Boas Erez (University of Bordeaux) was invited to deliver a practical training targeted at assisting Armenian higher education institutions in strengthening their international mobility and facilitating structured cooperation with Erasmus+ Programme countries towards the creation of enhanced quality Joint or Multiple Degree Programmes. Participants from

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