

# MINUTES and MAIN RESULTS of the MEETING

held on 31 August to 01 September 2009 in Berlin, Germany

In this Meeting **99 representatives from 50 partner institutions of 23 European countries** took part, including Belgium, Germany, Denmark, Spain, Ireland, Italy, The Netherlands, Portugal, Luxembourg, Sweden, UK, Iceland, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Turkey. In the Meeting the rectors of the three Bulgarian universities: **Assoc. Prof. DSc. Hristo Beloev**, Rector of the University of Ruse, **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Deshka Markova**, Rector of the Technical University of Gabrovo and **Prof. DSc. Plamen Legkostup**, Rector of the University of Veliko Tarnovo also participated.



## The project meeting was conducted with the following agenda:

- Welcome Address by the **Dr. Jochen Hoenow** – Head of International Office of the University of Applied Sciences - Berlin.
- Welcome Address by the **Mrs. Stefanka Igova** – Deputy Head of the Embassy of the Republic of Bulgaria in Berlin.
- Welcome Address by the **Prof. Reinhard Bauermeister** – DHC of the University of Ruse.
- Presentations of the progress of the separate work packages:
  - WP1 - Management and Coordination  
**Assoc. Prof. Angel Smrikarov**. Discussion.
  - WP2 - Studying the existing situation  
**Prof. Janis Grundspenkis**. Discussion.
  - WP3 - Reorganising teaching and course delivery on the basis of innovative educational technologies  
**Dr. Rebecca Bartlett**. Discussion.

- WP4 - Introducing Research in the Teaching Process  
**Prof. Fernand Vandamme**. Discussion.
- WP5 - Promoting innovations through close cooperation with companies  
**Dr. Markus Helfert**. Discussion.
- WP6 - Quality Assurance  
**Academician Peter Kenderov**. Discussion.
- WP7 - Exploitation of Project Results  
**Mr. Robert Fisher**. Discussion.
- WP8 - Dissemination of Project Results  
**Assoc. Prof. Angel Smrikarov**. Discussion.
- Summary report about completed work and specifying future activities  
**Assoc. Prof. Angel Smrikarov**. Discussion.
- Clarifying some of the financial rules for project work  
**Mrs. Stoyanka Smrikarova**.
- Planning the next meeting.
- Any other business.

The meeting was opened by Prof. Wladimir Bodrow – Subcoordinator of the ETN TRICE at the University of Applied Sciences - Berlin.



The participants in the Meeting бяха поздравени от:

- Dr. JOCHEN HOENOW – Head of International Office of the HTW



- Mrs. STEFANKA IGOVA – Deputy Head of the Embassy of the Republic of Bulgaria in Berlin



**Dear Coordinators and Partners of the  
“TEACHING, RESEARCH AND INNOVATION IN COMPUTING EDUCATION”  
project,  
Dear Hosts and Participants in the International Research Conference on e-  
Learning,  
Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,**

It is my great honour and pleasure to welcome you on behalf of the Embassy of the Republic of Bulgaria in Berlin.

**“The desires create the most significant bridges and lead to the bravest steps”** – these are words of Elias Canetti, the famous German speaking writer and Nobel prize winner, born in Bulgaria in the town of Ruse, who dedicated the first of his autobiography works to his childhood in this remarkable Bulgarian town. After I familiarized myself (even very briefly) with the nature of your work, I think that this is a suitable motto for the TRICE project, coordinated by the University of Ruse.

My generation started its life in years, when the pre-war German radios “Telefunken” were the only means of communication in the homes of many Bulgaria families. The incredible progress in communication and technology, this huge change in a human life span was brought by you – the people, who dared fulfil their dreams.

In the conditions of United Europe the national borders are not an obstacle for the development of European networks and systems and your ambitious project is a consecutive proof for the benefits of the European cooperation. The political message of your work is clear – you took the responsibility of training the young Europeans for the future: not only in such a priority area as the ICT, but also in the practical formation of a common European identity – something which is probably harder and more difficult to achieve than any innovative computer system. Together the academic communities build the solid cooperation structures, the long-lasting forms of dialogue and mutual respect, which are so necessary for the unity of the European Community, and to overcome the distrust and historical prejudice.

This European Thematic Network indisputably lays the foundations for the achievement of another very important goal – to strengthen Europe's position in the conditions of globalization, in a rapidly changing world of reallocation of power, crisis and challenges. The prosperity of our continent can be guaranteed only by means of improvement and synchronization of the educational systems,

investments in research activities, more practical and applicable knowledge. The European “Lifelong Learning” Programme as well as placing the education in the priority aims of many EU countries, including Bulgaria and Germany, are evidence of political will and support.

And finally I would like to present special gratitude on behalf of the Bulgarian Embassy in Berlin to the **Project Coordinators**, to the rectors of the three Bulgarian universities: **Assoc. Prof. DSc. Hristo Beloev**, rector of the University of Ruse, **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Deshka Markova**, rector of the Technical University of Gabrovo and Prof. DSc. Plamen Legkostup, rector of the University of Veliko Tarnovo, as well as to the managers of the partner institutions in Berlin – **Prof. Dr. Michael Heinke**, president of the University of Applied Sciences and Economy, **Doctor Honoris Causa Mr. Bernd Voigt**, executive director of „COMHARD” Ltd and **Doctor Honoris Causa Mr. Artur Speer**, executive director of „Artur Speer” Academy, **Mr. Robert Fischer** – Chair of the Organizing Committee and **Prof. Wladimir Bodrow**, Chair of the Programme Committee, for their remarkable contribution to the development of the cooperation between Bulgaria and Germany! I also present special gratitude to **Doctor Honoris Causa Prof. Dr. Reinhard Bauermeister**, vice rector of the university of Lessing and a big friend of Bulgaria and the University of Ruse!

The Embassy of the Republic of Bulgaria in Federal Republic of Germany wishes all TRICE project partners and participants in the International conference a successful work!

- Dr.rer.pol. Dr. h.c. mult. REINHARD BAUERMEISTER – Vice Rector of the Lessing University in Berlin



**Magnificence's,  
Dear colleagues,  
Dear Ladies and Gentlemen**

In no other city in the world did the division of Europe in East and West become more apparent than in Berlin. Today, this city is the symbol of reunification and consolidation throughout the continent. In the year 20 after the destruction of the wall and the overcome of the separation initiated by the East-German citizens in what is remembered to be the “peaceful revolution” it is our pleasure to great you, members of the European Thematic Network “Teaching, Research and Innovation in Computing Education” such as the participants of the “E-Learning International Conference” here in Germanys old and new capital Berlin.

Personally, I am privileged not only to be networked here in Germany but also to have strong ties to Bulgaria, where I was honored as Doctor Honoris Causa in Sophia and later in Ruse and where I now lecture as guest professor of the German-Bulgarian inter-universal European Center on the subject of European History and Politics at the in the ‚Angel Kanchev‘ University of Ruse. I am grateful for being able, as a member of the Bulgarian University, to take part at this international conference here today and the next days to come.

Let me take the opportunity and inform you that our German Chancellor, Mrs. Dr. Angela Merkel, has accepted the “honorary doctorate” kindly granted to her by the University of Ruse and has by doing so herself shown her respect to this institution, which is also the coordination center of the European Thematic Network “Teaching, Research and Innovation in Computing Education”.

The reasons and the objectives under which we unite here are of great importance to the impact of development of the knowledge-based society in this still young millennium. Please be assured of my continuous assistance during the coming event, and as chairman of the Berlin Science Organization with all its interdisciplinary working, skilled scientists I speak not only for myself but also for my colleagues if I assure you our full support and readiness to bring in all competence for the benefit of our common ambition in the following days to come whenever to your convenience.

I also welcome you, top ranking scientists of no less than 24 nations having joined us here from near and far.

I hope that besides your valuable presence at the ERASMUS convention and the E-Learning Conference, you find a little spare time to discover Berlin as our always revolving city for yourself.

Thank you and once again: welcome in Berlin.



The Coordinator of the ETN familiarized the audience with the Management and Coordination of the project.



Prof. Janis Grundspenkis reported about the studying the existing situation.



Dr. Rebecca Bartlett told about reorganising teaching and course delivery on the basis of innovative educational technologies.



Prof. Fernand Vandamme presented about introducing research in the teaching process.



Dr. Markus Helfert reported about promoting innovations through close cooperation with companies.



Academician Peter Kenderov told about quality assurance of the project.



Mr. Robert Fisher presented about exploitation of project results.



Prof. Wladimir Bodrow informed about the organising student's European-job-factory.



The Coordinator of the ETN presented a detailed report about the completed work and marked the forthcoming activities.



Mrs. Stoyanka Smrikarova as manager of the ETN TRICE gave some detailed explanations about financial rules for project work.



During the coffee breaks the Meeting participants exchanged interesting thoughts and ideas.



It was decided that the next meeting and CompSysTech'10 conference will be held in Sofia, Bulgaria on 17 and 18 June 2010.