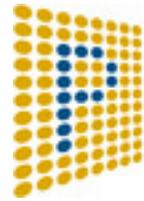




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Governance issues that challenge research in SSH
related to nuclear sector in Slovakia – insights gathered
within the PLATENSO project national level activities

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RICOMET Conference, Bucharest, 1 June 2016

PLATENSO in Slovakia:

- all steps of strategic planning implemented or at least considered
- vision at the EU level found to be unclear
- taking SSH research results into account by the Slovak decisionmakers found very questionable without explicit and enforceable new EU/Int'l Laws
- high attendance in events, but few relevant/meaningful inputs
- some interesting inputs worth EU-wide dissemination and discussion

Table 13 – The overview of strategic issues as identified by the PLATENSO activities in Slovakia.

Problem	Strategic Issue	Specific Target/Aim	Possible Immediate Action	Mid-Term Activities
Recognition of interdisciplinary research in the Slovak Accreditation procedures	Focus on interdisciplinarity in the Accreditation procedures	Ministry of Education and	Preparation of the Proposal to	Communication and negotiations with the
Recognition of interdisciplinary research in the Slovak public finance (research grants) distribution	For public finance			for
Non-existent, resp. very insufficient funding for interdisciplinary research	Public research			for
Low funding for SSH research in Slovakia in general	Supporting SSH appropriate motivation to participate in nuclear issues research		the Government (e.g. so called „state research programmes“)	research programmes / from state
Such schemes of project funding for Slovak research institutions which make it easy for technical research to be funded, and very difficult for SSH research to be funded.	The condition that personnel costs must be limited to 30 % of the budgets of project proposals in order to be eligible in the general grant scheme of APVV/SRDA.	The members of the Board of the Slovak Research and Development Agency (SRDA, in Slovak APVV), and the politicians and authorities who appoint and control them.	To annul, resp. amend ‘the rule/condition to limit personnel costs to 30 % of total costs of research project proposals’ by the decision of the Board of SRDA/APVV.	Foster i. full transparency (inclusive of notifications sent to SSH researchers and institutions), ii. rights of SSH research institutions to influence relevant political decision-making, and iii. public control and accountability of APVV/SRDA Board.
Involvement of Slovak public institutions/agencies in Euratom governance projects	Involvement of Slovak public agencies in Euratom governance projects is much lower than e.g. in the Czech republic (ARGONA, IPPA, JOPRAD, etc.)	JAVYS, JESS, public sector bodies under the Ministry of Economy / Increase of capacities for both active and passive participation in all relevant Euratom Horizon 2020 projects	Note: this is an issue to be discussed mainly outside of the PLATENSO project	Note: this is an issue to be discussed mainly outside of the PLATENSO project

Strategic issues related to interdisciplinarity of SSH research related to nuclear sector in Slovakia

will be presented

at the SENIX Conference (Stockholm, 14 June 2016)

by Gabriel Bianchi

Source: Strategy for research of social, societal and governance issues related to nuclear energy sector development: the Slovak Republic. Annex to the PLATENSO project Deliverable 4.4

Governance of public funds for research (specific strategic issue):

- **Problem (challenge):** Such schemes of project funding for Slovak research institutions which make it easy for technical research to be funded, and very difficult for SSH research to be funded.
- **Issue:** the condition that personnel costs must be limited to 30 % of the budgets of project proposals in order to be eligible in the general grant scheme of the main Slovak research and development support agency (APVV/SRDA).
- **Target:** Slovak decisionmakers (politicians, Board of APVV/SRDA Agency)
- **Possible Immediate Action:** annulling the above mentioned condition
- **Mid-Term Activities:** fostering more transparency, access to decisionmaking by the SSH researchers, and public control.

Governance of involvement of the Slovak state/public sector bodies/institutions in SSH research activities

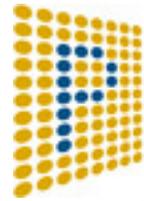
- **Issue:** Involvement of Slovak public agencies in Euratom governance projects is much lower than e.g. in the Czech republic (ARGONA, IPPA, JOPRAD, etc.). *(unclear whether, resp. to what extent this is related to Laws requiring public servants to work only on the agenda explicitly requested by the legislation)*
- **Target:** JAVYS, JESS, public sector bodies under the Ministry of Economy / Increase of capacities for both active and passive participation in all relevant Euratom Horizon 2020 projects *by means of specific new Law(s) or legally binding decisions (at the Slovak national or at the European level?)*
- **Possible Immediate Action, Mid-Term Activities:** an issue to be discussed mainly outside of the PLATENSO project

Concluding remarks:

- interest of Slovak research bodies in ‘PLATENSO platform’ only if there would be specific funding from the European level for SSH research (i.e. without a necessity to compete with technical research project proposals)
- interest of Slovak nuclear sector and political sector bodies in ‘SSH research at the national and European level’, but mainly just to be informed, i.e. not much capacities for a dialogue and/or for taking the research results into account in political decisionmaking
- synergy of three groups of governance issues, related to
 - a) accreditation of interdisciplinary research,
 - b) funding of SSH and interdisciplinary research (vis-à-vis technical research)
 - c) unclear Laws that allow/require public sector bodies to devote capacities to European research projects, both as project partners and ‘research objects’.



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Thank you for your attention!

Comments, questions, statements etc. to:

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