

Kick-Off meeting CONN'COR

The Kick-Off meeting was held in CentraleSupélec the 7th and 8th of November 2024 in Eiffel Building room vi. 255. Attended to this meeting three partner's teams beside CentraleSupélec. Here is the composition of the teams:

Ukrainian team (LPNU) : Prof. Iryna Moroz, Prof. Iryna Yaremchuk, Prof. Oksana Hoholyuk

Polish team (BUT): Prof. Jaroslaw Makal, Prof. Jaroslaw Forenc

Serbian team (UNI): Ass. Prof. Jelena Anastasov, Prof. Goran Djordjevic, Prof. Dejan N. Milic

French local team (CS): Assoc. Professor Emilie Avignon-Meseldzija, Prof. Philippe Benabes, Research Engineer Hanane Meliani, IR delegate Lavinia Stanescu

The Kick-Off meeting agenda is provided below (*KICK_OFF_AGENDA_CONN_COR.pdf*). Each partner was responsible for the presentation of a workpackage or part of the workpackage to launch the discussions:

Day 1: Thursday 7th of November

9h30-12h30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partners presentations (CS, BUT, LPNU, UNI) • Project overview (CS pres.) • Feedbacks from Erasmus French Agency (CS pres.) <p>Discussion on WP1 – Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One PC per country (CS, BUT, LPNU, UNI) • One meeting per month: define the next date <p>Discussion on WP2 – Strengthening the coherence of teaching on a certain set of subjects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of the objective of the workpackage (BUT pres.) • Discussion on possible contents and webinars (CS, BUT, LPNU, UNI) • Work repartition and deadlines (CS, BUT, LPNU, UNI)
12h30-13h30	LUNCH TIME
13h30-17h00	<p>Discussion on WP3 (part 1) – Development of new and modernization of existing selected courses as examples of teachers' collaboration</p> <p>Designing of communication systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective of the task (UNI pres.) • Work repartition and deadlines (CS, BUT, LPNU, UNI) <p>Designing of Electrical networks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective of the task (BUT pres.) • Work repartition and deadlines (CS, BUT, LPNU, UNI)

Day 2: Friday 8th of November

<p>9h30-12h30</p>	<p>Discussion on WP3 (part 2) – Development of new and modernization of existing selected courses as examples of teachers' collaboration</p> <p>Home Compatible Labworks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective of the task (CS pres.) • Work repartition and deadlines (CS, BUT, LPNU, UNI) <p>Introducing research-based teaching</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective of the task (UNI pres.) • Work repartition and deadlines (CS, BUT, LPNU, UNI)
<p>12h30-13h30</p>	<p>LUNCH TIME</p>
<p>13h30-17h00</p>	<p>Discussion on WP4 – Strengthening cooperation with Ukrainian university and use its experience of working and implementing projects under difficult conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective of the task (LPNU pres.) • Work repartition and deadlines (CS, BUT, LPNU, UNI) <p>Discussion on WP5 – Communication and dissemination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective of the task (CS pres.) • Work repartition and deadlines (CS, BUT, LPNU, UNI)

For the sake of simplicity, the report about the Kick-Off meeting will follow the agenda based on each Workpackage discussion.

1. Discussion on WP1-Management

For project overview and to discuss content of WP1, CS presented the slides **WP1_CS_Project_Overview.pptx**

These slides were a quick recall of the project content: workpackages, budgets, partners.

The expected results were summarized in the project proposal and served as basis for discussion for all workpackages.

It has been confirmed here that 80% of the due fund will be provided to each partner as soon as CS receive it. It has been recall that the 20% left will be obtained only after successful evaluation by the French NA.

CS shared the recommendation from the French NA for project improvement in French and English. These recommendations could be summarized as follows:

“WP2: It is mandatory to identify the methodology of selecting courses and students

WP4: It is mandatory to give more details on the organization of meeting between students and partners cooperation in this WP4

WP5: Elaborate a more detailed outline for communication and dissemination

Better explain the role of industrial partner in the communication strategy of the project.”

Globally, members of the team think that these recommendations will be addressed normally when working on the project, but emphasizes that we will have to explain in the final report why and how each recommendation has been followed.

2. Discussion on WP2- Strengthening the coherence of teaching on a certain set of subjects

This workpackage has been presented by BUT (slides *WP2_BUT_Forenc_Makal.pptx*). It is composed of several activities:

Activity R2.1: “Training of teachers for teamwork”:

To the question “teachers’ teamwork or students’ teamwork?” the team has answered “teachers teamwork”. Indeed the students finally have more occasion to practice teamwork than teachers. Also teachers are generally more inclined to stay in their comfort zone should it be mathematics, electronics, physics without interacting with other teacher.

BUT will organize **2 webinars of 4 hours in December 2024**.

Activity R2.2: “Statement, exchange and new propositions on good practices for teaching coherence”:

webinar (max 4h, January 2025), each partner presents their experience on this topic (courses alignment and teachers collaboration) + BUT detailed presentation of the alignment of 3 courses

webinar (max 4h, June 2025), each partner presents the results of course alignment

Webinar in January 4th sharing of experience on courses alignment and teacher’s collaboration.

CS could propose a sharing of experience for the creation of the course “Electronics Systems” involving different fields of Electronics Systems (Sensors, Analog-to-Digital Conversion, Analog Electronics, Digital Electronics).

CS could also provide the experience of the creation of a new labwork with the collaboration of two professors in Electronics and Automatic Control.

Activity R2.3: “Interaction with active and former students including implementation of learning with help of learning assistants”:

For this activity there were many discussions about what is a learning assistant, the possibilities and modalities to hire a learning assistant. Below are the ideas provided during the meeting:

- The motivation of having a learning assistant is because communications between students is better than intergenerational communication professor/student.
- Erasmus+ allows to pay teaching assistant as soon as it is in the framework of the funded project. But the problem can be in the different universities. Some university may not allow the payment of a student.

- In the process of selection of the learning assistant it could be interesting to select one student who did not pass the exam. This student will be motivated to obtain the course credit and will have to interact and make a bridge between the professor and the students. He would be in the position to highlight where are the difficult points in the course from a student point of view.

For this activity, the partners will investigate what are the possibilities in their respective University.

8 learning assistants are supposed to be trained and this training will be reported. each report on the meetings should include: data, duration, list of participants, topics discussed, assistants' remarks, suggestions for the future...

each partner prepares a report on the inclusion of LA in teaching (template provided by BUT).

3. Discussion on WP3 - Development of new and modernization of existing selected courses as examples of teachers' collaboration

For the new course "Design of Communication Systems" (R3.1):

UNI will get the contact of a professor of telecommunication from LPNU to see what are the specific needs for teaching such a course in Lviv right now. Then UNI will create the content of the new course. This new course will be open to students for extra credit and it is difficult to evaluate the number of students which will follow this course at the moment.

Slides presented by UNI: ***WP3_UNI.pptx***

For the new course "Design of Electrical Networks" (R3.3):

Three teachers from BUT will be involved in the creation of this new course. They will also be in collaboration with LPNU for evaluation of the specific needs in teaching such a subject in the current conditions.

For "Home Compatible Labworks" (R3.2):

CS must provide 5 ready-to-be-tested Home Compatible Labworks to the partners. Several projects have been presented through slides to the CONN'COR team, which are at different steps of achievement.

The 3 testing partners asked to make the list of material ready for January and to contact them.

Contact Prof. Iryna Yaremchuk for LPNU.

Contact Prof. Jaroslaw Makal and/or Prof. Jaroslaw Forenc for BUT.

Contact Prof. Dejan N. Milic for UNI.

Slides presented: ***WP3_CS_Home_compatible_Labwork.pptx***

For “Introducing research based teaching” (R3.4a and R3.4b):

From the slides presented by UNI the question was raised “What do we mean exactly by research-based teaching”. Indeed, it can be understood in different ways:

- 1) The last research trends in pedagogy are considered to generate new teaching contents. How to teach the new generation ? How to implement new methods of teaching?
- 2) Based on research results we create a suitable pedagogical content for the students to initiate them to a research topic, hoping to get them interested in research in general. How to build such suitable pedagogical content based on research material? What will bring the students to get interested in research? (having a published paper, developing some theory and prove it correct?)

A first webinar “Teachers trained to prepare projects proposals” will be held the first week of February. For this webinar the teachers must prepare some slides explaining a vision of the topic “Introducing research based teaching” and providing some methodology to illustrate the vision. So they could the question that have been raised to build their proposition.

This first webinar will be held first week of February.

The second webinar will be held after the different teaching actions applying one of the proposed methodology.

The actions planned for the moment by the different partners are:

BUT: The new trends of teaching and last pedagogical innovations will be investigated to see how it could be applied to the students.

UNI: Previous experiments in photocurrent variations due to building vibrations will be introduced to the students. They will collect more data and participate in the research activities.

LPNU: Prof. Oksana Hoholyuk contribution webinar with her students, which can be discussed during the webinars:

The training of electrical engineering students through research is aimed at developing their professional and scientific competences, creative thinking and the ability to solve complex technical problems.

Bachelor's students are actively involved in the following forms of research:

1. Student competitions in theoretical and general electrical engineering.

This allows them to deepen their knowledge of the main disciplines, develop their skills in analyzing and solving problems, and also helps to increase their interest in the chosen specialty.

2. Preparation of scientific articles in co-authorship with supervisors.

Students gain knowledge of the methodology of scientific research, learn to work with scientific literature, formulate the results of their research and present them in the form of articles and abstracts.

3. Presentations at student and scientific conferences.

This provides an opportunity to present the results of your research, receive constructive feedback from other participants and gain experience in public speaking.

At the master's and postgraduate levels, the educational process is integrated with research activities through specialized disciplines, in particular:

1. "Research and seminars on their topics".

Students work in detail on topical issues of their master's theses, learn how to plan experiments, analyze data and summarize results.

2. "Research Seminar in Electric Power Engineering, Electrical Engineering and Electromechanics".

This course is aimed at deepening knowledge in highly specialized topics and provides a platform for discussing research results, developing critical thinking and professional growth.

CS: A new course will be implemented in the frame of the "Integrated Circuits and Systems" Master in CentraleSupélec. The number of students is 24 and the name of the teaching module will be called "CAD2 – Research based teaching". Two professors will be giving this course and the number of hours is 24 hours.

Presented slides by UNI: *WP3_UNI_research-based-teaching.pptx*

4. Discussion on WP4 - Strengthening cooperation with Ukrainian university and use its experience of working and implementing projects under difficult conditions

The presentation made by LPNU recalled every expected results of this workpackage (slides *WP4_LPNU.pptx*). These expected results and propositions made by the different partners are listed below:

R4.1 Fluent communications established among Ukrainian students and their colleagues from France, Poland and Serbia. Notes and recordings on mutual online meetings available on the project website.

12 virtual meetings are organized between students with a total participation of 150 students. 12 ideas have been provided for the virtual meetings.

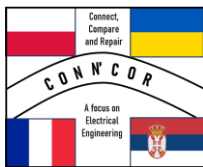
To make these meetings less intimidating for the students, the IR delegate from CS suggested to start every meeting with an icebreaker.

Also it has been discussed that probably twelve meetings for each group of students is too much. A suggestion is to make the students choose three topics among the twelve.

To get the students for these meetings, CS will propose a project together with a discussion with Ukrainians students.

R4.2a Screen recording of presentations of projects realized in the past by each participant.

In this task it is proposed to present 12 projects realized in the past by the partners and to have at least 50 teachers participating in online meetings.



2024-1-FR01-KA220-HED-000250882
Kick-Off Meeting CONN'COR Project
7-8 nov. 2024 @CentraleSupélec



provide a survey (at least 90% of participants satisfied with information received)

download presentations of projects at least 50 times until M12

To make the proposition achievable it has been decided that every country should present 3 projects and have 13 teachers participating, leading to a total of 52 attendants.

R4.2b List of reliable partners of four universities with contact information.

The meaning of “reliable partners” has been discussed. It can be understood as “well known” or “internationally recognized”. So it has been decided to suggest some “well known” partners and “internationally recognized” partners depending on potential complementarity or identical field of activities.

R4.3a Teachers trained to prepare project proposals. Training material available on the project website.

The proposition is to give 8 lectures. Each country gives 2 lectures.

R4.3b Joint project proposal prepared by four universities. Project application ready to be submitted.

One joint project proposal finished and ready to be submitted.

QAB confirmed the high quality of the proposal

R4.4a Online lectures given to partners' teachers and students on some experiences in conducting HE under war conditions. Screen recording of the lectures available on the project website.

At least 6 lectures given to teachers and students from CS, BUT and UNI

participation of 30 teachers and 100 students (at least)

provide a survey showing that for at least 90% of participants this kind of event is useful

download lectures at least 200 times until M12

The detailed content of the 6 lectures has been provided by LPNU (slides **WP4_LPNU.pptx**)

R4.4b Teachers of CS, UNI and BUT became familiar with the way of realization of projects during the war. Presentations available on the project website.