



2nd International Newsletter

Dear reader,

Welcome to the REALISE newsletter!

In this second issue we are delighted to present some of our 2nd year activities.

We have been working intensively on the testing phase of the REALISE toolbox in order to produce an effective and helpful handbook for the implementation and enhancement of the staff mobility and its recognition in internationalisation universities strategies.

We want to share with you the results of our last meetings in Coimbra and Berlin which have been keystones for the development of project activities as well as a significant step toward the definition of the final events in Brussels and Ghent.

Finally, we would like to invite you to join us in our training week in Ghent that will improve your skills and competences to face the new challenge of increasing staff mobility.

The REALISE Team



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REALISE PROJECT OVERVIEW

The project pursues 3 SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:

1. Identify and develop innovative practices regarding the implementation of the Erasmus+ programme for staff mobility.
2. Foster the recognition of mobility in the career development of academic, administrative and technical staff in HEIs.
3. Raise institutional awareness about the added value of staff mobility and promote its contribution to HEIs' internationalization strategies.

10 universities from 10 countries are involved in the project:

- Université Paul-Valéry Montpellier, France (Coordinating institution)
- Linköping University, Sweden
- Uniwersytet Warszawski, Poland
- Middlesex University, United Kingdom
- Universitat de Barcelona, Spain
- Universidade de Coimbra, Portugal
- Universiteit Gent, Belgium
- Univerza v Ljubljani, Slovenia
- Humboldt Universität zu Berlin, Germany
- Università degli Studi di Catania, Italy

The 10 universities (and their associated partners) will work together over a three-year period (2016-2019) to deliver constructive outputs:

1. A set of survey tools to assess mobility practices in a number of European countries.
2. A comparative quantitative and qualitative analysis of staff mobility across Europe.



3. A Handbook for improved implementation of the Erasmus+ programme for staff mobility
4. A Training module on how to improve staff mobility activities in European HEIs.
5. The conclusions of the national / European policy dialogue aimed to make innovative recommendations.

The project expects the partners' practices in the implementation and management of the Erasmus+ programme for staff mobility to be durably improved, especially the recognition and promotion of mobility in professional development, and innovative recommendations to be made to a wider range of European HEIs.



REALISE TOOLBOX, TESTING PHASE AND HANDBOOK

By the end of academic year 2016-2017, the REALISE Project team has compiled a Toolbox (available on the REALISE website through this [link](#)) that gathers 11 innovative tools, each related to one or more related actions that have been tested by the Partnership and by the project's Associate Partners.

These tools are gathered under 4 Chapters: Strategic level, Management, Promotion and Dissemination, and Encouragement & Recognition.

The Testing Phase of the Toolbox has run until the end of the year 2018 and each partner has tested and evaluated an average of 4 tools, thus allowing the REALISE team to start the work on the production of the final REALISE Handbook.

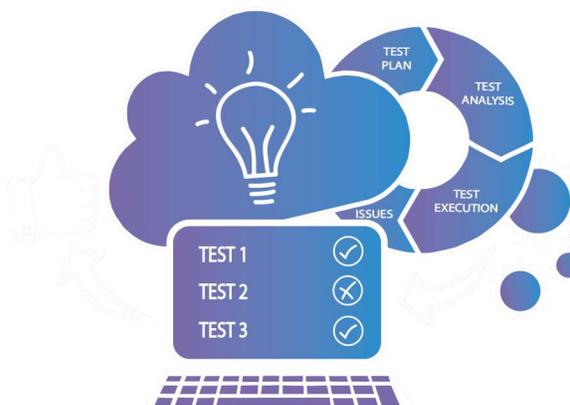
The findings and the return on experience gathered throughout this Testing Phase will enable the production of a Handbook compiling a series of hands-on and ready-to-use actions along with a description of the process used to implement it in the REALISE partner universities and an evaluation of the actions, that will thus allow the readers to have a clear vision of the way they can implement them in their own institution according to their own specificities.

This Handbook will be the main output of the project and will help beneficiaries of the Erasmus+

programme to make the best of the programme's potential, will offer them a set of innovative practices for the implementation of the Erasmus+ programme for staff mobility in their institution, and to propose recommendations to better connect staff mobility activities with institutional strategies.

In short, this Handbook will be addressed to:

- all staff that are potential beneficiaries of the Erasmus+ programme to better grasp mobility activities and take full benefit of it for their professional and career development
- International Relations Offices to better implement, manage and monitor the Erasmus+ programme for staff mobility;
- University management to exploit staff mobility for internationalization and modernization strategies ;
- Policy-makers who can act on the framework legislation for staff mobility.



MEETING COIMBRA + BERLIN



The University of Coimbra hosted the 4th Transnational Meeting of the REALISE project on June 14th and 15th 2018.

During this meeting the partners have made an overview of the state of advancement of the Testing Phase, as this was the first time the partners met again since the publication of the Toolbox.

This meeting was a first step towards the production of the REALISE Handbook which should be published in the month of March 2019.



The University of Humboldt hosted the 5th Transnational Meeting of the project from the 24th to the 26th of October 2018.

This meeting was the opportunity for the partners to discuss the final steps of the Testing Phase of the Toolbox actions and to prepare for the compiling of the information that will constitute the final Handbook.

As the REALISE Project is now in its final year of production, this meeting also focused on laying the foundations of the project's final events: A Staff Training Week will be organized in Ghent (Belgium) from the 14th to the 16th of May 2019. The project's International Closing Conference will take place in Brussels (Belgium) on May 13th 2019.



LATEST DISSEMINATION ACTIONS



REALISE NATIONAL SEMINAR - FRANCE
Université Paul-Valéry Montpellier 3
organized the French REALISE National
Seminar in Paris on January 24th 2018.

This seminar gathered about 50 participants to discuss the results of the Survey that was carried out from March to June 2017 among Higher Education staff and International Relations Offices in the 10 participating countries, was an opportunity to discuss the

Comparative Analysis and to debate on the levers universities have to increase Staff mobility within the Erasmus+ programme and to better their recognition.

A representative of the French Erasmus+ Agency was present to give some elements of context and to compare the legal national framework with a representative of the Norwegian Erasmus+ National Agency, Norway having recently taken reforms regarding teaching obligations for higher education professors.

The debates were rich and productive thanks to the quality of the audience that has been reached: IRO Directors, vice-rectors for International Relations, staff mobility officers, European projects managers and representatives of university Human Resources departments.

This seminar has been very encouraging and fostered further collaboration with French Higher Education institutions in France on the topic of staff mobility.



NEXT STEPS OF THE PROJECT

Next transnational meeting – Ljubljana

The 6th Transnational Meeting of the project will be hosted by the University of Ljubljana from March 27th to March 29th 2019.

On this occasion, partners will discuss the last details before the publication of the REALISE

Handbook and will discuss the last details before the final events of the project: Staff Training Week in Ghent and International Closing Conference in Brussels.

On this occasion, the partners will finalize the workshops that will constitute the Staff Training Week and finalize the list of guests to the International Closing Conference along with logistics issues related to both events.

Final Event in Brussels

The project's Final and Closing Conference will take place in Brussels on May 13th 2019.

This International Conference will bring together the REALISE Partnership, the Associate Partners,

Rectors' Conferences and other Higher Education and Research Networks representatives, national and European policy-makers and stakeholders, representatives of Erasmus+ National Agencies and representatives of the European Commission around the project's outcomes and recommendations.

This Closing Conference will present the results of the project and its main achievements, but also point out the main difficulties and obstacles en

countered that slow down the internationalization process in Higher Education Institutions and thus constraining the increase of staff mobility and its recognition.

Staff Training Week in Ghent

Staff Mobility in the Spotlight: as the REALISE Project Team has entitled the Staff Training Week which aims at offering a training to all interested staff in Europe on the outcomes of the project and thus giving them all the necessary information to implement a strategy aiming at increasing the quality and the recognition of Erasmus+ staff mobility in their institution.

This Training aims at giving universities outside our Project Team the tools to use the REALISE Project's key findings and recommendations and help them build relevant action plans to implement new practices. This Training will be an accelerator in transferring the knowledge developed within the project to non-partner institutions.

A description and the programme of the event can be found on the iMotion platform through [this link](#).

Date of the Training: May 14th to May 16th 2019

Deadline for applying: Monday February 18th 2019

Participation fee: 100€



REALISE

“Realising the potential of the international mobility of staff in higher education”

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