

Editorial

Dear readers,

Spring has finally arrived and we look forward to a busy season until the summer. Since the start of the new year several deadlines have kept us occupied, the most prominent of which was the deadline for handing in project proposals to the European Commission (EC) within the framework of Tempus/4th Call in February this year (altogether, 531 applications were handed in to the EC!).

We also managed to publish the *WUS Austria Review 2009-2010* which provides an overview of our current activities and a selection of our projects, including reports from our local offices in Belgrade, Podgorica, Prishtina and Sarajevo, as well as many personal impressions and comments. Furthermore, we have only recently published a *Manual about Higher Education in South Eastern Europe - University-Economy Partnerships for Enhancing Knowledge Transfer*. You can download these and all other publications from our website (see [here](#)); hard copies can be obtained from our administration office upon request (send an Email to office@wus-austria.org).

Several new projects have started in the last couple of months, *such as* INTERFACE or Competence@University (CUP) of Prishtina:

The project INTERFACE will contribute to ensuring that the targeted Universities (PCU) are able to facilitate the graduates' entrance into the labor market through enhanced partnerships with enterprises; to set up an institutionalized Life Long Learning (LLL) system, and to establish a quality improvement system through coordinated contact with alumni.

Competence@University of Prishtina (CUP) is the follow-up of the Tempus project "Competence" that has been implemented in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia since 2009. CUP addresses the missing link between Higher Education and economy in Kosovo and aims at developing and / or advancing procedures and tools for assessing and improving the match between competences developed by institutions of higher education and those required by the labor market in Kosovo.

In addition we have launched another new project which has already become very dear to us - the "First Children's University in Bosnia and Herzegovina", which is partly financed by the **Robert Bosch Stiftung** and **ERSTE Stiftung**. You will find more detailed information on this particular project in the article below.

We wish you a nice start into the season of spring - check out our [website](#) from time to time and get inspired by the variety of activities and events!

Best regards,

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Thematic Article

Children's University in Bosnia and Herzegovina

WUS Austria has launched a new project which aims at introducing the first Children's University in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH). Apart from WUS Austria the universities in Sarajevo, Banja Luka and Mostar and approximately nine schools from these cities are involved in the project Children's University.

The overall objectives of the action are to provide knowledge transfer for 8-12 year old children and to promote access to higher education for all children without boundaries. Through this project many children experience their first encounter with the university and learn more about their future educational choices. The Children's University aims to increase the interest in science, research and technology from a very young age and engage children in exciting, interactive, real-world learning experiences. This way the children develop knowledge, creativity and personal growth, and they are encouraged to be curious and to think critically. Moreover, this project contributes to facilitating the dialogue between various ethnic and social groups of society and co-operations among different regions in order to strengthen the role of civil society.

Currently WUS Austria is in the process of raising awareness among the ministries and schools in BiH and among the public in BiH and abroad. Moreover, the academic and social programme for the Children's University is going to be prepared. WUS Austria always puts a strong emphasis on the sustainability of its projects and will therefore take necessary measures regarding the monitoring and quality control. Within the framework of this project a close co-operation with the **European Children's University Network - EUCU.NET** will also be established. This network fosters the dialogue between organizers of Children's Universities and supports new projects.

We look forward to implementing this project and will keep you informed on the further development!

Recent News & Events

15.04.2011

PhD@UP Study Visit held in Munich, Germany



Munich, Germany. Within the Tempus Project: "PhD in Food Science and Technology and Creating Capacity for Reforming PhD studies at University of Prishtina", "PhD@UP", the first workshop for Developing the Curricula for the PhD studies, took place at the Technical University of Munich from April 6th - 8th, 2011. [read more](#)

08.04.2011

What to do with the question "What will the Balkans look like in 2020?"



ERSTE Stiftung has published this speech by the Croatian author Boris Buden in its series ERSTE Stiftung Edition. With this speech, Boris Buden opened the Balkan Case Challenge 2010 held in Vienna from 5 to 10 July 2010. [read more](#)

24.03.2011

INTERFACE Kick-off Meeting at the University of Graz



Graz. The kick-off meeting of the Tempus project "INTERFACE – Developing and Setting up Measures for Initiating, Enhancing, and Sustaining Higher Education-Society Cooperation" took place from 17-18 March 2011 at the University of Graz which is also grant holder and project

coordinator.

[read more](#)

21.03.2011

Manual about Higher Education in South Eastern Europe is published



One of the flagship programs of WUS Austria in higher education has been the international case study competition and recruitment event Balkan Case Challenge (BCC). It was in the framework of the Balkan Case Challenge that the idea for this manual was developed.

[read more](#)

03.03.2011

DeLLCO Study Visit at the K.U.Leuven, Belgium



Leuven. The first study visit within the Tempus project “Development of the Lifelong Learning Concept at the University of Montenegro” (DeLLCO) took place in the period from 21st to 25th February 2011 at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (K.U. Leuven). The project is coordinated by the University of Montenegro in partnership with KU Leuven, University of Aarhus, University of Alicante, WUS Austria, and the local partners: Ministry of Education and Science, Chamber of Economy of Montenegro, Centre for Vocational Education and Employment Agency of Montenegro. [read more](#)

17.02.2011

WUS Austria Chairman Wolfgang Benedek celebrates his 60th birthday - congratulations!



WUS Austria contributed to the programme with a short video and some pictures of Wolfgang Benedek including memorable moments with WUS Austria. [read more](#)

08.02.2011

QA@PHEP: Training sessions organized



Prishtina. Within the TEMPUS Project: “Supporting and Developing the Structures for the Quality Assurance at the Private Higher Education Providers in Kosovo”, financed by the European Commission, training sessions were organized for management, administration, teaching staff, students and QA officers of the ten Kosovar private higher education providers, which are project beneficiary. The three days trainings were held during 26th - 28th January 2011, at the premises of four private higher education providers.

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