

Host Report Short Term Scientific Mission IS1305- 231016-080302

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Period: 23-10-2016 to 28-10-2016

Duration: 5 working days.

COST Action: IS1305

STSM type: Regular (from Slovenia to Germany)

STSM Title: Preparing a questionnaire for a European-wide survey on dictionary use

Guest/STSM applicant: Iztok Kosem, Trojina, Institute for Applied Slovene Studies, Škofja Loka

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Report:

The aim of the STSM of dr. Iztok Kosem was to prepare a pan-european questionnaire on monolingual dictionary use and dictionary culture with Robert Lew, Sascha Wolfer and me. The main part of Iztok is to coordinate more than 28 European partners and to organize all the networking activities which are necessary to put such an demanding project into practice. Iztok contacted more than 30 potential partners. 28 countries have already confirmed their participation.

Aside from these (important) questions of organizing the project, our main goal for our working week together was to prepare the general part of the survey and to select the survey tool. Our common working time was very productive. We discussed very carefully different options to gain an overview about the monolingual dictionary landscape and questions of dictionary culture. At the end, we choosed 13 questions from more established ones like (»What format of monolingual dictionaries did or do you use?«, »What format of monolingual dictionaries do you prefer?«) to more innovative questions like: »Which of the following characteristics do people associate with the leading English dictionary in the UK?« or »Many dictionary projects for English are financed by the public. Is this a good idea?«. Thereby, we tried to focus on questions which are especially interesting for cross-cultural analyses.

As a result of the STSM, we have finished the questionnaire (design as well as content) and planned the next steps. Without this week together, the project would not have been put into practice until the final meeting of EnEL.