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1st INTERNATIONAL PROJECT MEETING IN DARMSTADT

13-16 October 2017

Project "Motivating young Europeans",
number 2017-1-DE02-KA202-004129

The kick-off meeting of the project partners was held from the 13th to 16th of November 2017 in Darmstadt. The coordinating institution of the project is vocational school HEMS (Heinrich-Emanuel-Merck Schule) in Darmstadt.

The meeting was organised by: HEMS (Heinrich-Emanuel-Merck Schule), IHK (Chamber of Industry and Commerce) and Merck KGaA (multinational chemical, pharmaceutical and life sciences company). Participants of the meeting included representatives of the following vocational schools:

- Istituto di Istruzione Superiore di Stato - Brescia, Italy
- PIKC Liepajas Valsts Tehnikums - Liepaja, Latvia
- Zespół Szkół Technicznych - Płock, Poland

Zespół Szkół Technicznych was represented by:

- Agnieszka Stanczyk-Jablonska – project coordinator
- Agata Gazda – English teacher
- Marta Marek-Głowacka – German teacher

The goal of the kick-off meeting was getting to know each other's project teams, fine tuning of the project plan and final assignment of work packages, essential to achieve the main objectives of the project:

- 1) to establish a **transnational vocational training network** that enables learning stays abroad for trainees,
- 2) to exchange self-organized, functional **teaching forms and concepts of web based learning (WBL)**,
- 3) to prepare, test and evaluate a guideline for the preparation, implementation and follow-up of **company investigations**,
- 4) to develop, test and evaluate vocational and intercultural **motivation training for learning stays abroad**.

Furthermore, the organisers introduced ways in which the international partners meeting contributes to fulfilling aims of the project by:

- 1) defining tasks and establishing cooperation between partner institutions.
- 2) giving presentation on WBL used in vocational education in HEMS.
- 3) visiting Merck KGaA company.
- 4) participating in intercultural motivation training.

During the kick-off meeting project partners discussed project management,





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project schedule, number of participants and number of trainees to take part in the learning stay abroad. They also discussed the project budget, tasks and responsibilities of each partner country. It was agreed that Zespół Szkół Technicznych would be responsible for the overall quality management and the evaluation of the project.

The participants visited the partner school – HEMS, as well as Merck KGaA company, which operates within pharmaceutical, chemical and life sciences industries. Merck KGaA also organizes apprenticeships for vocational schools learners in electrical, mechatronics and gastronomy fields. Project partners had also an opportunity to attend workshops in Chamber of Industry and Commerce (IHK) concerning vocational education and training (VET) in Germany, after which the representatives of project partners and the Major of the City Darmstadt signed the Letter of Intent.

Our host institution surprised all the participants with a visit to Johanneskirche, where we could listen to a unique concert of organ music and afterwards had an opportunity to play organs ourselves.

On the last day of the project kick-off meeting all the participants filled in online evaluation form. The results revealed that the meeting had been organized perfectly and had met everybody's expectations.