

Event Report: Mov'in Europe Coordinators' Meeting 2016 Brussels

By Florian Heinrichs

1. Event Details

Event Name	Mov'in Europe Coordinators' Meeting 2016
Event Date	01.-04.09.16
Event Place	ESN House (Brussels)
Number of Participants	20
Name Participant	Florian Heinrichs
Role in the Event	Local Mov'in Europe Coordinator

2. Description

The participants arrived on Thursday, September the 1st, to the ESN House in Brussels. The afternoon was dedicated to getting to know each other.

The official part of the MECM began on Friday, September the 2nd. First, Jan, the Mov'in Europe project coordinator, began with an inspirational speech to introduce the importance of promoting mobility and the Mov'in Europe project. Afterwards, the National Coordinators shared the best practices from their countries (cf. 3. Best Practices). In the afternoon, we had Small Sessions regarding different topics to share ideas and gather some input for the Project Team.

On Saturday, 3rd of September, we started with a brainstorming about the definition of the project and to clarify what defines a Mov'in Europe event as such. The most important point is the participation of local students in two classes: the students that have not been abroad, which are the target group, and the ambassadors (former exchange students), who promote mobility as testimonial. Mov'in Europe differs between two different, but connected, approaches on how to promote mobility: Through motivation of the target group to go abroad and through informing them about their mobility opportunities. During the afternoon, we had workshops about different topics like communication, relation to the IROs and on how to organise Mov'in Europe activities. In the end, working groups on different topics were introduced and I joined the WG on Mov'in Europe Workshops.

Sunday, 4th of September, was the day of departures.

3. Best Practices

Country	Best Practices
Portugal	Briefing session for local students
	ESN 2.0: The home section of future exchange students contacts the hosting section
	Erasmus in Schools (with focus on mobility)
	Mobility weeks (including: online campaign, photo contest, ESN 2.0, EiS, presentation of mobility opportunities, debate: future of the European Union, exhibition of testimonials)
Czech Republic	Gets material by their NA to promote mobility (roll-ups, flags, e-materials, t-shirts, printed material, etc.)
	ME during welcome days of local students (including: information by IRO and presenting ESN, practical information, finances abroad, with support of former exchange students and professors of the university from other countries)
Rumania	Mov'in Europe bracelets
Austria	Facebook photo contest (target group: local/former exchange students, prize: free flight to Erasmus destination (up to 200€))

4. To Take Home

Which ideas/concepts/projects would you like to be seen implemented in the Local/National Level.

The meeting showed me the importance of promoting mobility and the Mov'in Europe project for ESN and our society. The development of the project in Germany lies far behind the implementation of the project in other countries.

I liked to see that other countries implemented a local coordinators' community for the Mov'in Europe project, where ideas and best practices are shared.

Fostering the project and building a national ME community could improve the relation to different stakeholders (DAAD, IROs, etc.) and have a lasting impact on student mobility.

Practical tips/ideas to improve the Local/National level.

National level: The most important point is to raise awareness among the German ESN sections. Most sections already promote mobility and organise ME activities without branding them as such. They could benefit from the material and information gathered by the international project team. To raise awareness, I delivered a workshop on Mov'in Europe at the LP West in Bochum and another one at the NP Heidelberg together with Marina (Project Manager).

Local level: I could achieve to raise awareness about the project in my section (ESN Bochum). Our project working group included Mov'in Europe to their scope, we elected a Local Mov'in Europe Coordinator, organised our first ME event and gathered ideas for more ME activities.

TOP: (What was great about the event?)

Learning about the importance of the project, gathering ideas of ME activities and being well received in the international ME community.