

MINUTES of the 13th Meeting of the Commission of the Hubert Curien Partnership Program OSMOSE

Date & Time: November 13th, 2023; 11:00 ~ 13:00

Venue: Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, room MEN 331, 48 rue de Javel, 75015 Paris, France

1. The meeting began with welcome words from Dr. Mathieu Leporini and the introduction of the French delegation. Ms. Lauma Sika and Dr. Maija Bundule gave the opening remarks and introduced the Latvian delegation. See Annex 1 for the lists of members of the delegations of Latvia and France (hereinafter, each individually and both together - Parties).

2. Parties exchanged information on the progress of the mobility projects started in 2023 and in 2022. Each Party provided information about the absorption of the allocated funding in 2023. In 2023, the late notification of results to the French laureates prevented the implementation of mobility programmes in the first half of the year. However, the Parties expressed satisfaction with consumption at the end of the year. These projects resulted in an application to a Horizon Europe programme call (cohort 2023-2024), and an application to the EIC Pathfinder programme (cohort 2022-2023 – not selected for funding). The parties highlighted the importance of the PHC OSMOSE program as a milestone for EU funding programs and acknowledged that submission of joint project proposals to the Calls of Horizon Europe programme is a very good indicator of the excellence of the PHC Osmose projects.

3. Parties jointly expressed their willingness to step up communication with candidates and participants of the supported projects. Joint or separate initiatives are being considered for next year, including webinars before and after the call for applications closes, regular follow-up meetings with the project participants and a reception at the French Embassy/French Institute.

4. Commission decided to continue funding of the 3 (three) mobility projects started in 2023 from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024, which are specified in Annex 2 (List of mobility projects approved for funding for the years 2023-2024).

5. Parties discuss the results of the scientific quality assessment of 12 (twelve) mobility project proposals submitted to the Osmose Programme Joint Call 2023 (Annex 4). Considering the increase in the budget decided by the French side, the decision has been taken to rank the project proposals recommended for approval for implementation in 2024-2025 (list of ranked projects is attached in Annex 3). A decision on the number of projects for implementation in 2024-2025 and the budgets allocated will be taken shortly, once the Latvian side will decide on its contribution to the Joint Call 2023 budget¹.

6. Parties expressed their strong commitment to the Hubert Curien Partnership Program OSMOSE as an important element of bilateral scientific cooperation between France and Latvia. The characteristics of this programme, and in particular the integration of young researchers and the seed funding nature of the programme, were recalled.

7. The Parties agreed on the time schedule for the Osmose Programs' Joint Call 2024:

- Launch of the Joint Call 2024 in Latvia and France – March 1, 2024;
- Deadline for the submission of the mobility project proposal – May 31, 2024;

¹ On December 15th 2023 the Latvian side decided to increase its contribution to Osmose Program Joint Call 2023 budget and allocated funding to a level to support the first 5 (five) project proposals indicated in Annex 3 for implementation in 2024-2025.

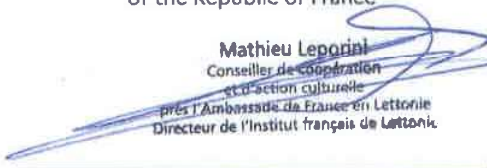
- Project selection commission meeting in Latvia - late October 2024.

8. The Parties have agreed on two additions to the Osmose Programs' Joint Call 2024:

- to include in the project evaluation criteria a question regarding the future plans of the project partners;
- to emphasize in the Call text an invitation to submit a project proposal particularly in social sciences or humanities to ensure the diversity of applicants.

The Minutes, the annexes of which are an integral part, was drawn up in English in two copies, on November 13th, 2023 in Paris.

For the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of France


Mathieu Leporini
Conseiller de coopération
et d'action culturelle
près l'Ambassade de France en Lettonie
Directeur de l'Institut français de Lettonie

Mathieu Leporini

For the Ministry of Education and Science of
the Republic of Latvia


Lauma Sika

Lauma Sika

Annex 1: List of meeting participants

Latvian delegation:

- **Lauma Sika**
Deputy Director, Department of Higher Education, Science and Innovation,
Ministry of Education and Science (Republic of Latvia)
- **Dr. Linda Vecbiškēna**
Project Manager, Department of Higher Education, Science and Innovation,
Ministry of Education and Science (Republic of Latvia)
- **Dr. Maija Bundule**
Head of International Research Program Unit,
International Cooperation Program and Project Department, Latvian Council of Science
- **Elza Zeidlere**
Senior Expert, International Cooperation Program and Project Department,
Latvian Council of Science
- **Laura Štokmane-Guillopé**
Cultural and Scientific Attachée, Embassy of Latvia in France

French delegation:

- **Dr. Mathieu Leporini**
Scientific and Cultural Counsellor, Embassy of France in Latvia,
Director of the French Institut in Latvia
- **Solal Canqueteau**
Scientific Attaché, Embassy of France in Latvia
- **Kristiana Stoitseva**
Project Manager, Strategy, Expertise and Management of International Cooperation Programmes
Department, Delegation for European and International Affairs (DAEI)
- **Prof. Denis Rolland**
Expert, Ministry of Higher Education and Research (French Republic)
Ministry of Higher Education and Research (French Republic)
- **Solveig Gathelier**
Expert, Department for Higher Education and Research
Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (French Republic)