Re@WBC - Report on activities and preparation/adoption of documents to enhance research/teaching capacities at the University of Sarajevo

Activities within the Re@WBC project in the last year at the University of Sarajevo coincide with the adoption of the new Law on Higher Education of Canton Sarajevo (adopted in August 2017). The adoption of the new Law resulted in activities to improve the rules and regulations of the University of Sarajevo, starting with the new Statute expected to be adopted in the short period to follow.

For the purpose of this Report we would like to emphasise the activities on the preparation of the following documents (that correspond to requirements from the Re@WBC project activities):

- 2.1. Research activities at the University of Sarajevo are undertaken at 25 faculties and academies and 5 scientific research institutes. Research Service Office is active at the level of Rectorate. In order to improve services to be provided for UNSA researchers and research projects, the UNSA is undertaking activities to establish Centre for Coordination of Research Activities. The centre is entered into the University Statute, and the Senate adopted draft document entitled “Preconditions and Organisational aspects of R&D Centre Establishment” (document in the attachment). Following the public debate, the document is now in procedure to be adopted by the Senate.

- 2.6. The new Law and the Statute foresees the adoption of the Rulebook on Procedures to Acquire Academic Titles with points awarding system (although the UNSA already has the forms that are being used within the procedure of academic career advancement). Preparation of draft of such Rulebook is underway, and will be in adoption procedure after the adoption of the Statute.

- 2.7. Within the Re@WBC project activities, the University of Sarajevo has adopted the Rulebook on Procedures to use Plagiarism Detection Software (document in the attachment).

- 2.8. The UNSA has its Ethics Committee as an advisory Senate Body, with the authority to advise Rector and UNSA academic community on general issues related to ethically correct practices and behaviour at the University. As for the ethics committees to deal with the issues of ethics of research, the UNSA departments mostly have their own ethics committees of experts in respective fields.

- 2.9. The Alumni network of the University of Sarajevo exists since 2015. It currently has 9002 members, which is increase of 40% since October 2016 (6389) when alumni network report is generated for the project. Network data available at https://www.linkedin.com/school/university-of-sarajevo/alumni/

- 3.2. The new website of the University of Sarajevo has been significantly improved. Old website released using Joomla as content management system has been replaced with entirely redesigned and programmed website using Drupal as a platform. New information architecture has been developed (concept, navigational structure, types of content and taxonomies), followed by coding and design (development, Drupal setup, content structuring, categories, navigational, admin interface, responsive web coding HTML5/CSS3 coding for mobile devices (mobile phones and tablets). SEO optimization and analytics has been deployed. Migration of old content has been performed. New website can be seen at www.unsa.ba, while old one can be visited at old.unsa.ba

- 3.6. The intentions are to include the role of a Councillor for “teaching newcomers” within the roles and responsibilities of department vice deans.
- 5.5. The UNSA Research and Arts Council (advisory body of the Senate) adopted the Rulebook on Awarding the UNSA staff for Results in Research and Arts (document in the attachment). This document has been sent to the Senate’s approval. (The usual procedure is for the Senate to adopt the draft document, send it to public debate at the UNSA faculties, and then adopt the final document).

- 5.7. Since 2013, the University of Sarajevo continuously provides trainings for young staff members (researchers and teachers) through a TRAIN Programme (*Training and Research for Academic Newcomers*). The aims of the programme are to improve knowledge and skills of academic staff and researchers within the following three fields: education process (curriculum planning and efficiency of lectures), research (research methodology and information literacy), and communication skills development (networking, team work and similar).

The attached documents are in draft or pre-draft versions and are in procedure of adoption, therefore may be used only for information purposes.

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*UNSA Re@WBC Team*