

SHORT TERM SCIENTIFIC MISSION SCIENTIFIC REPORT

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During my stay at UNIL – FORS Lausanne I had the honor and privilege to work with Dr. Michael Ochsner who was my supervisor. The primary reason for organizing the STSM was to discuss and develop a research project based on a survey for setting quality criteria for research in social sciences in Macedonia. Prior to my arrival to Lausanne, my supervisor has sent me relevant literature which assisted me to prepare and organize my stay.

For the duration of the STSM, Dr. Ochsner and I have worked closely on the drafting of our article including structure, literature review, methodology for collecting primary data, the concept of survey and data analysis, comparative analysis of similar surveys conducted at the host institution as well as an approach for drafting potential recommendations. Additionally, we have developed a survey questionnaire with a total of 19 criteria and 63 indicators for the survey. This survey will be distributed in electronic form to social scientists in Macedonia in March 2017. Applying a bottom-up approach, our research will define the key criteria for quality of research in the field. Following the discussions and finalization of the criteria and indicators, I have completed the initial translation in Macedonian language which will be further checked and corrected through the TRAPD method.

Apart from the joint work on the survey development, I had the opportunity to meet several members of the staff at FORS. In that direction, I received a very valuable training from the Head of the team “international surveys” and the specialist for translation at FORS as well as the person in charge of open sources and digital archiving. I was also briefed on a number of on-going research projects at the host institution.

Moreover, on January 30, 2017, Dr. Ochsner has organized a lunch seminar for the staff at FORS at which I had the opportunity to present my research as well as the specifics of our current project. FORS staff has provided me with valuable comments and insight on the topic and methodology of research.

Finally, I would like to emphasize that FORS – Lausanne has provided me an excellent working environment including office, access to all relevant resources including access to databases and the library which I have utilized for the purpose of the project implementation. Next activities for implementation of the acquired knowledge will include: implementation of the designed survey (March 2017), analysis of the collected data and writing an article for a journal. Further efforts will be made to organize a local dissemination event in Macedonia to present research findings and inform the scholars, policy makers, NGOs and the general public.

All foreseen activities in the grant application have been conducted on time and without any delay.

February 6, 2017

Prof. Dr. Mišo Dokmanović

