CONFERENCE

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Achievements and future perspectives of Montenegro

CONCEPT NOTE AND PROGRAMME

16 – 17 May 2017

Bečići, Montenegro

Introduction

The principles of respect for law, integrity and fair competition should be the fundamental elements for the functioning of every education system. Higher education has its own particularities and potential risks, from the number of students, which has grown over the years, to the competition for resources and prestigious places, which increases pressure on higher education institutions and staff.

The University of Montenegro is the only public university in the country. Currently it comprises 21 faculties, colleges and research institutes. In addition, there is one independent public faculty. Two private universities are organised into 18 faculties and an additional 9 private faculties exist independently. Together, they enrol around 25,000 students. Appropriate standards of conduct are already firmly embedded in the profession in most of the higher education institutions in Montenegro. The Code of Ethics at the University in Montenegro was adopted in 2015 in order to meet contemporary challenges. An Ethical Committee at the University deals with violations of moral and professional principals embedded in the Code. However, many surveys and watchdog reports confirm that Montenegro is encountering new challenges and perspectives in the field of academic integrity. The ultimate goal is therefore to fully integrate academic integrity into the culture and operations of the higher education institutions in the country.

Background

The conference will be organised within the action "Strengthen Integrity and Combat Corruption in Higher Education" which is co-funded by the European Union and Council of Europe as part of the European Union – Council of Europe programmatic framework "Horizontal Facility for Western Balkans and Turkey" and is implemented by the Council of Europe Education Department in cooperation with the Council of Europe Programme Office in Podgorica. The overall objective of the action is to strengthen integrity and combat corruption in the higher education system through applying preventive mechanisms based on Council of Europe standards and practices.

Objectives and thematic areas

Building on Council of Europe standards, the conference should serve as a useful platform for presenting and discussing the sustainable policy framework for the implementation and monitoring of ethical standards in higher education. It will also provide an opportunity to assess the impact of the relevant policies and practices at national level, identify gaps, and propose an adequate model based on the presented European and regional experiences and good practices. The intention is to produce conclusions summing up the presentations and the debates thus creating a basis for follow up actions by all concerned.

Practical arrangements of the conference

The two-day conference will be organised on 16-17 May 2017 in Bečići, Montenegro. It will bring together around 100 participants from the national institutions, private/public universities/faculties, student organisations, education policy and research institutes, the academic community, media and international organisations. The conference will involve prominent keynote speakers and researchers from Europe and the region.

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided to and from Montenegrin and English.

Horizontal Facility for Western Balkans and Turkey

Funded
by the European Union
and the Council of Europe

COUNCIL OF EUROPE

EUROPEAN UNION   CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Implemented
by the Council of Europe

http://horizontal-facility-eu.coe.int

2 / 7

Tuesday, 16 May 2017

Arrival of participants (including transfer from the airport to the hotel *Iberostar*, Bečići, Budva as necessary)

12:15 Lunch

13:30 Registration of participants

Official opening of the conference

14:00- 14:40 Welcome remarks:

- **Radmila Vojvodic**, Rector of the University of Montenegro
- **Mubera Kurpejovic**, General Director of the Directorate for Higher Education in the Ministry of Education
- **Vesna Atanasova,** Programme Manager in Council of Europe`s Education Department
- <u>**Moderator:**</u> **Angela Longo**, Head of Operations in Council of Europe Programme Office in Podgorica

Plenary session: Ethics, Transparency and Integrity in Higher Education

14:40 – 15:10 **Muriel Poisson,** Task manager of the International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP-UNESCO)'s project on Ethics and Corruption in Education
Academic corruption

15:10 – 15:40 **Maria Golubeva**, Development Director of the Centre for Public Policy PROVIDUS, Latvia
Code of Ethics in Higher Education

15:40 – 16:10 **Thomas Lancaster**, Associate Dean for Computing and Digital Technologies at Staffordshire University, United Kingdom
Policies for Academic Integrity in South East Europe

16:10 – 16:30 *Coffee break and registration of participants to the workshops*

Parallel Workshops

16:30 – 18:00 **Workshop I** - **Institutional response to academic misconduct**
Facilitator: Muriel Poisson

Workshop II - Mechanisms for effective implementation of Code of Ethics

Horizontal Facility for Western Balkans and Turkey

Funded
by the European Union
and the Council of Europe

EUROPEAN UNION

COUNCIL OF EUROPE

CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Implemented
by the Council of Europe

http://horizontal-facility-eu.coe.int

3 / 7

Facilitator: Maria Golubeva

Workshop III - Approaches in plagiarism prevention
Facilitator: Thomas Lancaster

Wednesday, 17 May 2017

09:00 - 10:00   **Presentation from the groups and discussion**

Plenary session: Academic Integrity - good practices from the region and EU

10:00 - 10:30   **Klemen Miklavic,** Expert of the European Assurance Agency
Policy framework for protection of academic integrity – comparative perspective

10:30 - 11:00   **Pero Sipka**, Director of CEON – Centre for Evaluation in Education and Science
Implementation of academic ethical standards in Serbia with special reference to misconduct in research publishing

11:00 - 11:30   **Discussion**

11:30 - 12:00   **Coffee break**

12:00 - 12:30   **Sonja Bjelobaba,** University of Gothenburg, Sweden
Ways to Promote Academic Integrity and Prevent Plagiarism at the University

12:30 - 13:00   **Mubera Kurpejovic**
Higher education in Montenegro

13:00- 13:30   Discussion and wrap up

13:30   End of the conference, lunch, and departure from the hotel

Horizontal Facility for Western Balkans and Turkey

Funded
by the European Union
and the Council of Europe

COUNCIL OF EUROPE

Implemented
by the Council of Europe

EUROPEAN UNION   CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

http://horizontal-facility-eu.coe.int

4 / 7

<h1 align="center">SPEAKERS BIOGRAPHIES</h1>

Vesna Atanasova
Programme Manager at the Council of Europe`s Education Department

Ms Vesna Atanasova joined the Council of Europe in 2007 and currently manages the education department's actions under the European Union/Council of Europe Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Turkey (Horizontal Facility). She was previously responsible for coordinating the Joint EU/CoE Project "Regional Support for Inclusive Education" from 2012 to 2015.

Before joining the Education Department of the Directorate for Democratic Citizenship and Participation in 2012, she worked in the Council of Europe's Centre of Expertise for Local Government Reform and at the secretariat for the European Committee for Local and Regional Democracy.

She has worked on different programmes on public administration reform and democratic governance with major international organisations, including the European Commission (EAR), USAID, and World Bank projects. Ms. Atanasova holds a PhD degree in diversity management and master's degree in public policy and management from Bologna and Pittsburgh universities.

Muriel Poisson
Task manager of the International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP-UNESCO)'s project on Ethics and Corruption in Education
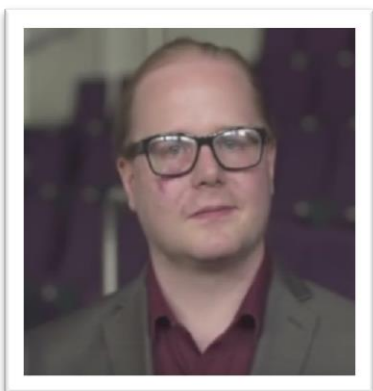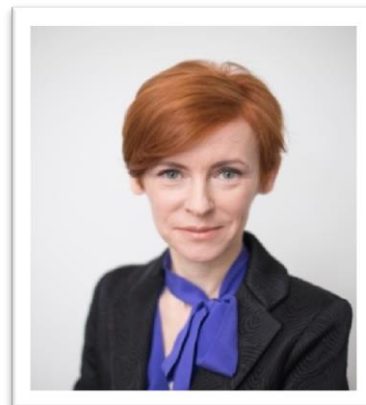
Muriel Poisson is the task manager of the International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP-UNESCO)'s project on Ethics and Corruption in Education. She is responsible for research activities on related topics, e.g. the use of open education data, transparency in the management of pro-poor education incentives, or the design and development of teacher codes of conduct. She trained more than 2,200 people on how to design and implement diagnostic tools aimed at assessing distorted practices in the use of education resources; and on how to design and implement strategies to improve transparency and accountability in education. She also provides technical assistance in the area of transparency and integrity planning, for instance to national teams in charge of the development of an integrity risk assessment, a PETS, or a code of conduct. Finally, she is managing the ETICO information platform, a dynamic clearinghouse on transparency and accountability issues in education. Muriel has authored a number of articles and books, including: 'Corrupt Schools, Corrupt Universities: What Can Be Done?' (UNESCO Publishing).

Horizontal Facility for Western Balkans and Turkey

Funded
by the European Union
and the Council of Europe

EUROPEAN UNION

COUNCIL OF EUROPE

CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Implemented
by the Council of Europe

http://horizontal-facility-eu.coe.int

5 / 7

Maria Golubeva
Development Director of the Centre for Public Policy PROVIDUS

Maria Golubeva is Board member at RHC Consulting (Latvia). She has 14 years' experience in education policy analysis and consultancy, including experience of public administration work and work in the non-profit sector. In 2013-2014, she was a Senior Consultant with ICF International (earlier ICF GHK) in Brussels, leading research and consultancy projects in EU education policy for the European Commission. Her areas of expertise include school reforms, governance and management practices in education, inclusive education, integration of migrants, and education of national minorities. From 2005-2012, she was a Board Member of the international Network of Education Policy Centres, and from 2009-2011, she was a member of the Strategic Analysis Commission established by the President of Latvia. She has a PhD in History from the University of Cambridge.

Maria is co-author of a study on teacher education and training in Western Balkans (published by the European Commission, 2013) and of a study on teachers' codes of conduct for Council of Europe (2016).

Thomas Lancaster
Associate Dean for Computing and Digital Technologies at Staffordshire University

Dr. Thomas Lancaster is Associate Dean for Computing and Digital Technologies at Staffordshire University, United Kingdom. He is an international expert on plagiarism and academic integrity and regularly presents workshops and speaks to the media surrounding those issues.
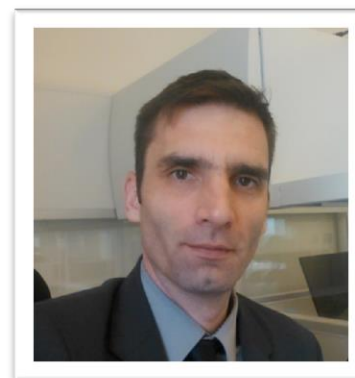
Dr. Lancaster completed his PhD in 2003, looking at methods for using computer software to detect plagiarism and has continued to research the wider issues surrounding student cheating since then. His most cited research has investigated the students paying ghost-writers to complete their essays and assignments, an area known as contract cheating.

Recently, Dr. Lancaster has formed part of the international team on the Council of Europe SEEPPAI project (South East European Project on Policies for Academic Integrity).

Klemen Miklavič
Education Consultant

Dr Klemen Miklavič is an international expert on education with more than 15 years of experience in education policy and reforms, especially in the EU, Western Balkans, Latin America, and Middle East. He worked as an advisor, expert and free-lance researcher for a number of intergovernmental organizations, NGOs and consulting companies such as *Scottish Qualification Authority*, *Council of Europe*, *OSCE Mission in Kosovo*, *Spark, OECD* etc. Currently he is working as an expert for the *European Quality Assurance Agency* and performing consultancy services for KAERUS.

Horizontal Facility for Western Balkans and Turkey

Funded
by the European Union
and the Council of Europe

EUROPEAN UNION

COUNCIL OF EUROPE

CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Implemented
by the Council of Europe

http://horizontal-facility-eu.coe.int

6 / 7

He is also an associate member of the Centre for Educational Policy Studies at the University of Ljubljana. His academic experience extends to research fellowships at the University of Oslo and University of Deusto (Bilbao). He published a number of articles, including: *Meaning and perceptions of higher education in Western Balkans,* Edited volume (Sense Publishers, 2013). *Imagining higher education in European knowledge economy: Discourse and ideas in the communications of the EU*, Edited volume (Peter Lang, 2013). *Academic values against the commodification of higher education. Edited volume* (Springer, 2012). *Reforming higher education in transition between national and international reform initiatives: the case of Slovenia*, journal *European education* (M.E. Sharpe, 2012). *Europeanisation in action: the (re)construction and role of higher education in post-conflict settings*, *Journal of the European higher education area.* (Raabe 2012).

Pero Sipka
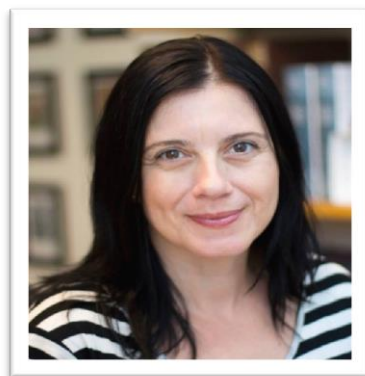### Director of CEON – Centre for Evaluation in Education and Science

Pero Šipka, PhD, has spent most of his career in teaching methodological and informetric courses at the University of Novi Sad, Serbia. From 2002 on, he has been concurrently serving as President at CEON/CEES, a non-for profit research organisation. The basic mission of CEON/CEES is to nationally promote academic practices based on European standards and quality control.

He is the architect and EiC of SCIndeks: the Serbian Citation Index, a platform introducing an open, accountable, fair, and verifiable research evaluation. The focus of both his publishing activities and SCIndeks's evaluation functions is on educating members of HE institutions on how to preserve and further develop academic integrity.

Sonja Bjelobaba
University of Gothenburg

Sonja Bjelobaba is an educational developer at the university unit for pedagogical development and interactive learning (PIL) at the University of Gothenburg as well as an associate professor in Slavonic languages at the Uppsala University.

In Gothenburg, Bjelobaba teaches courses in postgraduate supervision and other courses in teaching and learning in higher education designed for the teaching staff at the University of Gothenburg.

As a project leader for the Academic integrity project at the University of Gothenburg she is especially interested in academic integrity and their policies and other preventive work against plagiarism.