

LINGUISTIC DIVERSITY IN EUROPEAN MARITIME HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS
MAR-Lang
KA220-HED – COOPERATION PARTNERSHIP IN HIGHER EDUCATION

MAR-Lang project's short-term joint training
Romanian Naval Academy (RNA),
Constanta, Romania
8-12 April 2024

Events' minutes

Event attendees

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The major purpose of the short-term joint training (WP4) was to carry on developing the platform (WP3) with teaching material in maritime French and English uploaded by the IT specialist Andrei Bautu and/or each team member who have become proficient in creating digital material, to exchange good practices among teachers and to get the students to carry on using the platform themselves so that they could give us feedback and discuss the attractiveness of such a platform/such courses to be more competitive on the labour market for graduates.

The training agenda listed the following points:

Monday 8 and Tuesday 9 April 2024

Christelle Nicolas (FMA/ENSM) and Corina Sandiuc (RNA) welcomed the partners and students and said a few words on how important this week was to continue exchanging on the best practices to deliver in November 2024, a platform offering courses which will enable the most learners to learn French and English maritime terminology in an efficient manner with the means (desktop computer, laptop, tablet, mobile phone) of their choice.

It is important to mention at that stage that the group, composed of teachers and students, had a different approach to the platform, teachers being the ones developing the training material and students being on the receiving end. Thus, the feedback from both sides was slightly different and will enable the teachers to deliver training material, both from a quality and aesthetic point of view, very close to what the users will expect and which will help them to be motivated to train on such training material.

The teachers and learners trained on English and French material developed by Corina Sandiuc, Camelia Alibec and Raluca Apostol Mates on “Port and maritime logistics” second module “Port description”. The exercises covered “identifying port characteristics and structure” and “maritime security”. The “learners” worked on the following types of activities:

The feedback was as follows:

- Some photos to illustrate the different teaching material to make it more lively
- Inform the users on the fact they can switch language for instructions (top left corner)
- Include an hyperlink for an online dictionary for general English/French ✓
- Create a review exercise for the vocabulary at the end of each chapter or after several chapters depending on the number of terms studied.

On the whole, the students were rather pleased with the layout (WP3), the type of exercises (WP4), the fact that there’s a glossary (WP2) directly accessible from the teaching material (words highlighted in blue with a direct link to definitions, pronunciation and photos when applicable).

Wednesday 10 April 2024

The students spent the morning in the navigation simulator while the teachers carried on exploring the platform in order to share any thoughts on what the two other partners (LMA and FMA/ENSM) had created as teaching material for their theme. Some thoughts were shared, some suggestions were made. Some material was tested and some errors/mistakes were corrected (WP4).

Thursday 11 April 2024

Andrei Bautu (RNA) (WP3) joined us for a Q&A session and the following was discussed:

- Feasibility of including a link to online dictionaries for French and English general terms ✓
- Platform update which could delete items – won't happen ✓
- Existing guidelines to make it easier for the user to use the platform – it exists in Romanian for a similar platform. Corina Sandiuc will translate what is relevant in English and Christelle Nicolas will then translate in French. Any relevant information related to our platform will be added ✓

Then Andrei Bautu spent some time with each partner to answer some more questions on issues that were met individually (glossary, creating questions...).

Christelle Nicolas then asked the partners to work on the items below related to the platform layout (WP4) and glossary (WP2) which require special attention and caution:

- Deleting of any irrelevant course material which was used to give examples of the kind of exercises which could be used
- Inclusion of key words related to the glossary with the modules title in order to make it clear for the learners what they will learn before starting the module
- Deleting of any word in the glossary which is not relevant to the topic
- Check the glossary against the teaching material to make sure that all the technical words have been identified
- Check for plural forms as these need to be added in order to be identified in the course material

Christelle Nicolas recommended that the **items aforementioned about the glossary be worked on regularly** by the partners as the aim of the project is to get the learners to develop their knowledge of the maritime terms to ease up communication in their job.

The students attended classes in the morning as part of an intercultural immersive educational experience.

Friday 12 April 2024

Assessment day: the teachers and students worked on different types of assessment exercises and it was confirmed that only exercises for assessment purposes will receive a grade. Other exercises for training purposes will not receive a grade although the learner will know about their performance as each exercise has a system of green ticks for right answers and red crosses for wrong answers.

The students and teachers attended a part of the conference CadetNav where the French students gave a presentation.

To plan future event, the participants set deadlines that you can find below:

7 June 2024= TM4 organised online by FMA/ENSM

9-13 September 2024= 3rd and last short-term joint training in Lithuania

Drafted by Christelle Nicolas

On 12/04/2024

Constanta, Romania