

**Report on the
KNOWTS Project : “National Platform for Knowledge Triangle in Serbia”
158881-TEMPUS-2009-RS-JPHES**

I was invited to participate in the KNOWTS Project as an external Advisor, since I had participated in several former TEMPUS projects coordinated by the Faculty of Electronic Engineering of the University of Nis^v, Serbia. I followed the Project from the very beginning, and I attended all Meetings but one.

The team headed by Prof. Ivan Milentijevic, Coordinator of the Project, was indeed successful in bringing to a common round-table, people from the main Serbian Universities, the Ministry of Education, the National Council for Higher Education, the National Council for Science and Technological Development, the Serbian Chamber of Commerce, and the National Commission for Accreditation, among the most relevant participating institutions. To my knowledge this was the first TEMPUS Project at the Serbian national level and it may be considered as a possible “consequence” of former locally oriented projects.

The Management Team did an effective job, not only with respect to the administration of the financial EU-support under the TEMPUS Program, but also combined in a harmonic way, the organization of local and global meetings, visits of the Serbian participants to Centers of Technology Transfer, e.g. in Austria, England, Germany, Portugal, and Spain, as well as visits of the international advisors to the participating Serbian Universities, to receive direct information about the on-going activities to develop, or further develop, Technology Transfer channels, and to contribute reporting on related experiences at the respective home institutions.

From the Report: *“The National Platform for Knowledge Triangle in Serbia has as central theme the integration of education, research and innovation, as key drivers of the knowledge economy, in order to achieve sustainable growth and to strengthen the position of Serbia in the world market. The aim of the Platform for synergy of education, research and innovation is to look for opportunities to encourage positive interaction among these fields, and to raise awareness of the importance of the knowledge triangle in the academic community, as well as to encourage the creation of other strategic documents at national level.”* Two concrete positive steps towards the achievement of these goals can be mentioned: First, the establishment of Technology Transfer Offices at the participating Universities, with a two-sided mission: the development of contacts with the industrial sector to encourage joint work with the Professors on the one side, and to stimulate the research commitment as a non-negligible responsibility of the Professors on the other side. Second, as a closing event of the Project, the organization and realization of an International Conference on Technology Transfer, hosted by the University of Nis^v in June of this year (see <http://knowts.elfak.ni.ac.rs/ictt2013>).

The KNOWTS Project was a very successful national Project in Serbia. It will have consequences both at the national (eventually, international) level in the scope of Technology Transfer, and also at the participating Serbian Universities, particularly with respect to their commitment to Research.

In Asturias, Spain, December the 4th., 2013



Prof. Dr.-Ing. Dr. h.c. Claudio Moraga