

Republic of Serbia NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

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Opinion on the Project "National Platform for Knowledge Triangle in Serbia - KNOWTS" 158881-TEMPUS-2009-RS-JPHES

The National Council of the Republic of Serbia (NCHE) was one of the initiators of the idea to give a very high priority to the topic of integration of education, research and innovation as a key driver of the knowledge economy as a topic for a Tempus structural measure, with the idea to contribute in such a way to the achievement of sustainable growth of the country and to strengthening of its position at the world market. Moreover, the NCHE was a consortium member of the Tempus Project KNOWTS - National Platform for Knowledge Triangle in Serbia, trying to contribute actively and directly to the formulation of the Platform for synergy of education, research and innovation, which would raise awareness of the importance of the knowledge triangle in the academic community. Formally, the National Council for Science and Technological Development was incorporated in the Working Team the NCHE (nominated in relation with the Project KNOWTS). It is very important that the President of the National Council for Science and Technological Development Prof. Vera Dondur was an active member of the Team, having in mind the responsibilities of this Council and her personal deep involvement in the subject.

It is the opinion of the NCHE that the Project KNOWTS was very successful and that its main goals were reached. The NCHE discussed and adopted the text of the Platform for synergy of education, research and innovation at its session in June 2013. Besides, in spite of all the problems arising as a consequence of the economic crisis in Serbia, three technology transfer centres have been established at the Universities of Nis, Kragujevac and Novi Sad. It is very important that the Project has helped making closer connections between Universities, research institutions and the industry. The academic and administrative management of the project was precise and efficient, and the atmosphere during the meetings and conferences very stimulating. Also, the mobility activities for staff and students were very well planned and organized.

It is my belief that the results of the Project KNOWTS will have a high degree of sustainability.

Prof. Srdjan Stankovic, President

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