



Tübingen, October 10, 2016

**Minutes of the Second Management Committee Meeting of COST
Action CA15101: “Comparative Analysis of Conspiracy Theories”**

Leuven
September 23, 2016

1. Welcome by Chair

The meeting was officially convened by the Action Chair at 10:03 am.

2. Quorum Call

Countries present at meeting: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, FYR Macedonia.

The quorum is reached.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda (Annex 1) is officially adopted by the MC.

4. Addendum to and Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

These are the additions to the minutes from the first MC meeting by unanimous vote of the MC:

- Karen Douglas is added to the STSM & Conference Grants Subcommittee.
- The MC agrees that deadlines for accepting invitations to meetings can be set; after the deadline has passed, those participants which have not accepted the invitation will not be reimbursed anymore.



5. Update from Action Chair

21 new members were approved by the Core Group via e-vote.

The MC votes unanimously to add researchers Victor Shnirelman (Russia) and Bakar Berekashvili (Georgia) from Near Neighbor Countries (NNC) as members of the Action.

The Action Chair provides additional information on adding new members to the Action and comments on its implications for budget and organization.

The Action Chair discusses the tasks and deliverables for Year 1.

6. Update from Grant Holder

The Grant holder announces a change in Grant Manager for the next year and introduces Marina Lieb who will eventually take over from Annika Brunck.

7. Update from COST Association

COST Science Officer Rossella Magli welcomes the members of the MC and comments on the Action budget for Year 1.

8. Reports from WG and Subcommittee Chairs

Clare Birchall, Chair of WG 1 "Manifestations and Media," reports on the situation and previous work of the Working Group.

Annika Rabo, Chair of WG 2 "Actors and Audiences," reports on the situation and previous work of the Working Group.

The MC votes unanimously to make Nebojša Blanuša the new Chair of Working Group 3 "Causes and Consequences."

Simona Stano, Vice Chair of the Subcommittee on STSMs and Conference Grants issues a call for applications.

The Action Chair and Vice Chair inform the MC that Péter Krekó, the Chair of the Subcommittee on Stakeholder Engagement, is away in the United States for a year



and that Anca Minescu, the Vice Chair of the subcommittee, will function as Chair in the interim period.

Stef Aupers, Chair of the Subcommittee on Dissemination, presents a brief overview of the dissemination strategy for the Action.

9. Budget Report by Vice Chair

The Vice Chair discusses the current budget and the measures that will be taken to ensure that the budget finances the Action activities for Year 1. These measures include:

- The rate for the hotel will be lowered.
- The Turin meeting is shortened to two days (March 23-24, 2017).
- The Training School and Action Conference in Year 2 take place in the same location.

There may be a need to restrict reimbursement for the Turin meeting and probably all following meetings as well. The Core Group will develop models for deciding who gets reimbursed through an e-vote after the expenses for the current conference have been calculated. To save money, members are asked to be economical when they book their travel and accommodation.

10. Training School I in 2017

The first Action training School will be held at the University of Tübingen from July 31 to August 4, 2017, directly after the Action conference (July 28-30, 2017), also at Tübingen. The MC votes unanimously to accept the budget for the summer school at 15,000 €.

11. Future Meetings

The next Action meetings will take place:

- Stakeholder Workshop, Brussels, January 25, 2017
- MC/WG Meeting, Turin, March 23-24, 2017
- MC/WG Meeting and Action Conference, Tübingen, July 28-30, 2017
- Training School (History & Culture), Tübingen, July 31 - August 4, 2017



12. Any Other Business

None.

13. Ending

The Action Chair concluded the meeting at 10:41 am.

Annex A: Agenda



Agenda

Annex B: Attendance List



Attendance List