



Tübingen, 30. September 2019

**Minutes of the Ninth Management Committee (MC)**  
**and the Eighth Working Group (WG) Meeting**  
**of COST Action CA15101 “Comparative Analysis of Conspiracy Theories”**

**Friday, September 20, 2019, 9:30 to 10:00 a.m.**  
**Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic**

1. **Welcome by Action Chair**

The Action Chair opens the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

2. **Quorum Call**

Countries present at the meeting: Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom, FYR Macedonia.

The quorum is reached.

3. **Adoption of the Agenda**

The Agenda is officially adopted by the MC.

4. **Approval of Minutes from the Previous Meeting**

The minutes are approved unanimously.

5. **Status of the Action**

Action Chair Peter Knight gives an update on the state of the Action.

1. The final deliverables will be presented at the stakeholder workshop in Brussels in April 2020.

2. All action members are invited to send educational material to Ela Drażkiewicz or the grant managers.
3. Action Members are encouraged to recommend stakeholders for the meeting on April 17.
4. The Action was granted a Final Action Dissemination Grant (FAD) in order to create a podcast. For this, the action will collaborate with journalists from the website "The Conversation". Ms. Bligh, one of the responsible journalists, is present at the conference and will interview action members.

## **6. Report by Grant Holder**

The Grant Holder Scientific Representative Michael Butter gives an update on the state of the action.

1. The Action's budget for STSM is already overspent. Thus, no more applications can be considered this grant year.
2. The editing of the handbook in Tübingen is almost finished and the handbook will be sent to Routledge in time for publication in March 2020.

## **7. Accepting New Members & Allocating Budget**

1. Proposed decision on new Action members:
  - Accept as new Action member (applications in previously sent application file):
    - Dan Artus
  - Not accept as new Action member (application file):
    - José Carlos Brandão Tiago de Oliveira because he has no previous research on conspiracy theories

The decision is accepted unanimously.

2. Proposed decision on amending the Work and Budget Plan for Grant Year 4:
  - 1 instead of 2 meetings in Brussels on 17. April 2020:
    - Participants: 40
    - Participants to be reimbursed: 30
    - Hotel flatrate: 120 €
    - Meeting venue: Université Libre de Bruxelles, Solbosch Campus
    - Local organizer: Olivier Klein

The decision is accepted unanimously.

**8. Future Meetings**

- Stakeholder Workshop in Brussels, 17. April 2020

**9. Any Other Business**

No other business.

**10. Action Publications**

The Action Chair gives an update on the Action's publications:

- 1) The *Routledge Handbook on Conspiracy Theories* is on track for publication in March 2020. It will be submitted to the publisher in a few days.
- 2) Routledge book series: Three books published so far, two monographs under contract. The series 'Conspiracy Theories' will be published as long as there are scholars interested in Conspiracy Theories.

**11. Closing**

The Action Chair closes the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

**E-Votes / Written Procedure since the last MC Meeting in Huelva, May 23-24, 2019:**

**June 4, 2019: Podcast Series FAD Grant**

- Application for the EUR 10.000 Final Action Dissemination Grant

**July 7, 2019: New Members Round 13**

- New Members accepted by the MC: Florian Stoeckel, Ognjan Denkovski

**July 22, 2019: Budget Amendment**

- Reallocation of 2.000 € from the overall meeting budget to the ITC budget has been approved.