



Description of the funded research project 1st Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to Support Faculty Members & Researchers and Procure High-Value Research Equipment

ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑΤΑ ΠΡΑΚΤΙΚΗΣ ΑΣΚΗΣΗΣ ΣΤΗΝ ΑΝΩΤΑΤΗ ΕΚΠΑΙΔΕΥΣΗ

α Προγράμματος 2 έτη λογισμός 155.540 Ευρι

ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΜΑΚΕΔΟΝΙΑ ΕΙΔΙΚΟΣ ΛΟΓΑΡΙΑΣΜΟΣ ΚΟΝΔΥΛΙΩΝ ΕΡΕΥΝΑΣ ΑΠΟ

άξονας: Συγκριτ

Δεύτερος άξονας

Title of the research project: Higher Education Work Experience Programmes

Principal Investigator: Sofia Boutsiouki

Reader-friendly title: Hi.Ed.WEP

Scientific Area: Social Sciences

Institution and Country: University of Macedonia, Greece

Host Institution: University of Macedonia

Collaborating Institution(s): -

Project webpage: https://hiedwep.uom.gr/

Budget: 155.540,00 €

Duration: 24 months



























Research Project Synopsis

Hi.Ed.WEP delves into the work experience programmes organised for the students by the specialised structures of the Greek Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). These programmes attempt to help students to interact with the labour market, to test their theoretical knowledge in the real work environment and to acquire the professional experience that is valuable and necessary for their future careers. Hi.Ed.WEP aims at enhancing communication and interaction between HEIs and the social partners in order to maximise their contribution to the design and implementation of work experience programmes. For this reason, the research approach is organised in two axes. The first axis concerns the institutional framework governing the work experience programmes offered by the Greek higher education institutions; the second axis concerns the identification of the perceptions and the conditions of participation of the social partners employers and employees- regarding issues of work experience in tertiary education. Hi.Ed.WEP will perform a comparative approach of the current institutional framework and the specific characteristics of the work experience programmes organised by Greek higher education institutions; at the same time it will designate the degree of their harmonisation with the European institutional context. No similar research project has been realised in Greece before. For this reason, Hi.Ed.WEP can set the foundations for a broader consultation aiming at the institutional and operational enhancement of work experience programmes.



Project originality

Hi.Ed.WEP will conduct a comparative approach of the current institutional framework and the specific characteristics of the work experience programmes organised by Greek higher education institutions; at the same time it will designate the degree of their harmonisation with the European institutional context. In addition, the research process through the exploration of the social partners' perceptions with regard to the particular initiatives will use the findings in order to make concrete recommendations that will enable the world of work to become more active in a wider context of actions related to the transition of young people to the labour market. The particular research project is the first to be realised in Greece. It aspires to set the foundations for a broader consultation aiming at the improvement of the institutional and operational characteristics of the HEIs' work experience programmes and the enhancement of the interaction between universities and social partners, which would increase their effectiveness.



Expected results & Research Project Impact

Hi.Ed.WEP can substantially contribute to a comprehensive understanding of the existing work-based learning framework that is developed and implemented by the Greek higher education institutions, as well as to a more transparent dissemination of good practices. This information can help to the improvement of the quality not only of the work-based learning in higher education, but also of initiatives related to the acquisition of work experience at other levels of education (e.g. apprenticeships) or of similar programmes offered independently by the labour market actors or by public bodies. Hi.Ed.WEP is also expected to induce some economic benefits. An analytical approach to the different dimensions of this issue can contribute to a more effective use of resources (human, material, economic), thus allowing for more, better quality and sustainable placements, as well as for a more stable participation of social partners. The results of the research not only could enhance the development of curricula more closely interconnected with the labour market needs, but could also make work experience programmes an organic part of the students' vocational training and learning planning. Thus, students can be mobilised so as to be able to be integrated smoothly into the labour market as graduates. Concerning the social impact of the Hi.Ed.WEP research project, it will offer the opportunity to social partners to formulate more concrete perceptions and to enhance their feeling of ownership over the programmes, which can be a starting point for them to exercise their social role more proactively.



The importance of this funding

Hi.Ed.WEP funding from H.F.R.I offers research team members, who serve different but interconnected scientific fields, the opportunity to collaborate in an organised way and combine their knowledge, specialised know-how and experience to produce innovative and quality research work. In addition, the opportunity for young researchers participating in the Hi.Ed.WEP team to improve their scientific methodology and research skills through collaboration with other members in order to achieve common research goals is particularly important. The funding from H.F.R.I also offers the opportunity to the research team to publish the results of their research activities by participating in conferences, publishing papers in scientific journals and conference proceedings, and organising conferences. Finally, the financial support of H.F.R.I strengthens the wider recognition of this research project and facilitates cooperation with various bodies.





COMMUNICATION

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