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Report

**Staff Mobility between Royal University of Law and Economics (RULE) and
University of Vigo (UVIGO)**

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Period of Visit: 15th October – 30th October 2018

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Thank!

I. Introduction

DOctoral program in Khmer Universities Strengthening the International Development of Environmental and maritime research (DOCKSIDE) <http://www.dockside-kh.eu/> is a structural project co-funded by Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union. It is created with five objectives such as:

- Strengthen the collaboration between Cambodia and European universities
- Improve the quality and attractiveness of PhD programs in Cambodia
- Scientific cooperation between researchers and PhD students
- Development of multidisciplinary research
- A more international Cambodian and European university

Among these five objectives, the Staff Mobility between Cambodia and European university is one of the activities to reach the objectives of this project, complying with the KA2 Cooperation for innovation and exchange of good practices – Capacity Building in the field of Higher Education. Thus, Royal University of Law and Economics (RULE), one of the partner universities in DOCKSIDE is able to benefit from this project by sending researchers and lecturers to other DOCKSIDE's partners. Particularly, RULE have sent myself, Ms. Dany Channraksmeychhoukroth, Deputy Director of the English Language Based Bachelor of Law Program (ELBBL) to the University of Vigo (UVIGO) from 15th to 30th October 2018. This report will highlight the activities and potential collaborations that happened and will happen in the future.

II. Proposed Purposes and Activities

The visit was initially proposed with two particular purposes: (1) expand the network of research activities and institutional exchange and (2) develop joint training program for various moot court competitions. To achieve the proposed purpose, there were five proposed activities such as:

- Conduct a collaborative research on law of the sea and its related topics;
- Deliver guest lectures on moot court competition or maritime boundary delimitation (optional for the second one);
- Participate in training, seminars or conference (if there is any);
- Discuss on possible collaboration on moot court training between the two universities, and;
- Design a possible co-teaching course for ELBBL program (optional).

III. Actual Activities and Achievements

During my visit at UVIGO, I have been provided an office in the faculty of Law and Economics of UVIGO. I have spent most of my time working on the events that I have to attend as well as researching on the possible opportunity to strengthen the collaboration between RULE and UVIGO. I have been introduced to several faculty members (both full time and part-time) and PhD students who have research interests in commercial contract, intellectual property law, labor law, public international law, environmental law, water law, civil procedure, criminal procedure, and administrative law. By communicating with them, I have learned not only the similarities and differences in legal field but also have understood a lot of thing on cultural, social and economics of Spain. Also, I was able to identify potential collaboration in the future. In addition to my daily activities at my temporary office in UVIGO, I have participated and served as one of the speakers in an International Seminar and two International Congresses.

A. International Seminar on Moot Court Competitions, Speaker, 18th October 2018, UVIGO

I was invited to share about the Moot Court Competitions (see Annex) to the Spanish students as well as exchanged students through Erasmus+ Programme to UVIGO in one of their session on the International Law Seminar coordinated by Assoc. Prof. Annina Burgin Piñeiro and Assoc. Prof. Laura Movilla Pateiro. The students and the faculty members who attended the event found the session to be interesting and informative. One of the significant points that the audiences are particularly interested was on how ELBBL could incorporate moot court competitions into its curriculum and even advanced further to making it a compulsory course for all the third year student. I found my presentation about the moot court competitions to be fruitful as I was informed by one of the faculty members that the students even approached him about the possibility of introducing moot court competitions to UVIGO. To me, this would be one of the big achievements that I have aimed for when I first told by Prof. Francisco Torres about the seminar that I have been invited.



B. International Congress: New Trends in the Competition Law and Industrial Property, Participant, 22nd & 23rd October 2018, UVIGO

Prof. Francisco Torres informed me about the availability of the *International Congress: New Trends in the Competition Law and Industrial Property* since I was in Cambodia. I was excited to have the opportunity to learn new thing despite it was not part of my research field. Although the language used for the Congress was mostly Spanish, I was still able to understand the key discussions in the Congress as I tried to use Google Translate to translate the information provided in the slide presentation as well as carefully observed the way that each speaker conducted their presentation. By attending this Congress, I was able not only to receive updated information in the field of Competition Law and Industrial Property, but also realized that “body language could communicate a lot of information should one carefully pay attention to it.” Among the topics shared by the speakers in the Congress, I found the presentation by Prof. François Dessemontet on the topic “*The Swiss Copyright Revision Bill*” to be the most useful and informative to me for two reasons. First, he conducted his presentation in English, enabling me to understand the topic better compared to other topics. Second, he included exclusively new information reflecting the latest discussion about copyright law in Switzerland and Europe.

During the coffee and lunch break I mingled with other participants and discussed about various issues. One of the fascinating conversations focused on commercial arbitration where Prof. François Dessemontet and Mr. Christian Herrera (attorney at law) shared about their views and experiences in the practices of commercial arbitration in Switzerland and Spain. I was delighted to find out that Prof. François Dessemontet that I talked to is one of the prominent scholars in commercial arbitration whom I have been reading his writings and encouraged my students to use his opinions in our memoranda for the Willem C. Vis East International Commercial Arbitration Moot. He also advised Mr. Christian Herrera and I to advance our future career in this area of law.



C. International Congress of Teaching Innovation, Speaker, 24th October 2018, UVIGO

I am honored to have the opportunity to share about the organization of the legal education and moot court competitions in Asia in general and Cambodia specifically. I have spent a lot of time preparing for my speech in this Congress, as I wanted to give the participants, mostly professors and practitioners from Europe, a descriptive and inclusive details about the legal education in Asia specifically Cambodia. I noticed that the participants were interested in my presentation although it conducted in English. I have received four questions from Prof. Alejandro Garro, senior research scholar and adjunct professor of Columbia University and Prof. Jerónimo Maíllo, one of the coordinators of the European Law Moot Court. The questions centered on the development and organizations of the seven moot court competitions participated by ELBBL.

In addition to my presentation, I also acquired new information about the European Law Moot Court and I have discussed with Prof. Jerónimo Maíllo about the possibility of sending Cambodian students to participate in this competition in the near future. We also exchanged views on the challenges faced by our students when participating in the moot court competitions.



D. Other Activities

During my visit at UVIGO, I had a meeting with Assoc. Prof. Annina Burgin Piñeiro and Assoc. Prof. Laura Movilla Pateiro about what we could do in the near future to strengthen our collaborations. In particular, we have discussed about an organization of seminar or workshop in the field of public international law. Also, Assoc. Prof. Annina Burgin Piñeiro suggested that she could discuss with her

networks about other supports that they could do for the advancement of the teaching and researching of public international law in RULE and other universities in Cambodia.

Added to the activities mentioned earlier, colleagues from UVIGO had also brought other visiting professors and I to visit natural and historical places in Baiona. Moreover, we enjoyed the wonderful view of the Duero River and the Atlantic Ocean while we were on the top of a mountain. I have also did a solo trip to Santiago de Compostela and Porto (Portugal) during my weekend there.



IV. Potential Future Collaborations

Through my participation in this staff mobility, there are four potential future collaborations.

- Potential future collaboration with Assoc. Prof. Annina Burgin Piñeiro and Assoc. Prof. Laura Movilla Pateiro, experts in the field of Public International Law for conducting seminar and/or intensive course. They also suggested on expanding the possible collaboration between RULE and other networks that they have.
- Potential future collaboration with Prof. Francisco Torres, an expert in the field of Commercial Contract for conducting seminar and/or intensive course.
- Welcome to submit an article in the Review on Cooperative Societies and Social Economy with the focuses on “A brief summary of Cambodian Law on Agricultural Cooperative” or related topics in the cooperative society in Cambodia.
- Potential future collaboration in staff mobility between the two universities specifically assisting faculty members or researchers from UVIGO to identify the relevant stakeholders in Cambodia to collaborate on their research or other academic purposes.

V. Conclusion

DOCKSIDE Project has served as one of the platforms to bring together scholars and researchers to discuss and learn from each other on how to develop a better standard of higher education specifically for Cambodian universities. Particularly, the staff mobility program that I have participated has provided RULE a lot of useful information and networks. At the same time, it has strengthened the cooperation between RULE and UVIGO. We could foresee future collaboration between our two universities in various academic activities, ranging from seminar to research. Beyond the cooperation between RULE and UVIGO, it has opened up the opportunity for RULE to contact with other potential partners in Europe.

As for me, participating in this project has inspired me to work harder in developing the legal education in my home country as well as to reach out more to potential partners. I have also acquired in-depth information about the DOCKSIDE project, encouraging me to engage more with its activities directly and indirectly. Therefore, I am strongly advocating on increasing the numbers of staff motility between RULE and DOCKSIDE Project's partner universities in Europe and between DOCKSIDE Project's partners in Cambodia and Europe.

To reach out to the DOCKSIDE Network: <http://www.dockside-kh.eu/emr-platform-dockside/>

DISCLAIMER

“This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication [communication] reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.”

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR

MOOT COURT COMPETITIONS



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DOctoral program in Khmer universities Strengthening the International Development of
Environmental and maritime research
(DOCKSIDE)

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Date & Venue

18-10-2018. 12:00-13:15

AULA A209. FACULDADE DE CIENCIAS XURÍDICAS E DO TRABALLO. VIGO

Topics

Organization, coaching and monitoring in MOOTS competitions

Coordination:

Laura Movilla Pateiro. Associate Prof. International Public Law. UVigo

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