



## COST Action CA15214

**Action Title: An integrative action for multidisciplinary studies on cellular structural networks**

### MC Meeting Minutes

**Third Management Committee Meeting**

**Brussels (COST Association), Belgium**

**30 May 2018, 10:00 – 12:30**

#### 1. Welcome to participants

The participants welcomed by the Chair of the Action, Pavel Hozak. Introduction of the COST administration officer Ange Marie Ina Uwase, the new Grant Holder manager – Michaela Zurkova, and the new WG3 leader – Diana Toivola.

#### 2. Verification of the quorum (presence of two-thirds of the Participating COST Countries)

With the minimum of 2/3 of the parties present, the necessary quorum was reached allowing the Management Committee meeting to officially take place in accordance with Article 8 of the Rules of Procedure for the Management Committee (see [http://www.cost.eu/action\\_management](http://www.cost.eu/action_management)).

Number of Action Parties (countries)	33
Quorum: 2/3 of Action Parties (countries)	22
Number of Parties (countries) present in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> MC meeting	25
Simple majority of Parties (countries) – one vote per country	12

The quorum was reached with 25 out of 33 countries attending.

#### 3. Guest attendance – MC approved the attendance of the Grand Holder manager

Michaela Zurkova (GH) – YES: 25, NO: 0, ABSTAIN: 0

#### 4. Audio recording of the meeting – MC approved to record the MC meeting

YES: 25, NO: 0, ABSTAIN: 0

#### 5. Adoption of agenda

The meeting participants agreed to adopt the draft meeting agenda proposed in the presentation, which they received by e-mail in the following manner:

YES: 25, NO: 0, ABSTAIN: 0

#### 6. Approval of the current MC meeting (due to the late e-COST invitations, the e-voting finished during the second day of the meeting and the invitations were sent after the meeting ended)

YES: 25, NO: 0, ABSTAIN: 0

#### 7. Approval of the minutes proposed concerning the past MC meeting in Frankfurt

YES: 25, NO: 0, ABSTAIN: 0

#### 8. Summary of the past voting





- E-voting on the GP3 budget – ended on 23 April 2018 - YES: 32, NO: 0, ABSTENTION: 1
- E-voting on the temporary lowering the allocated GP3 budget for STSM and ITC grants – ended on 30 April 2018 – YES: 31, NO: 1, ABSTENTION: 1
- E-voting on Work and Budget Plan in e-COST – ended on 30 May 2018 – YES: 32, NO: 1, ABSTENTION: 0.
- 12 STSM Applications for GP2 within the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Call – all below voted for in the following manner – YES: 33, NO: 0, ABSTENTION: 0:

I) Flávia Castro, Portugal

Project: The effect of immunomodulatory nanoparticles on macrophage cytoskeleton dynamics and their impact on cancer cell invasion

Host: Laboratory of Experimental Cancer Research, University of Gent, Belgium

Date: 1. 10. – 29. 12. 2017

Grant: EUR 1650

II) Maurício Soares, Portugal

Project: The interplay between extracellular matrix (ECM) mechanics and intracellular regulation on cellular motility: a mathematical model approach

Host: Ecole Polytechnique, France

Date: 2. 10. – 13. 10. 2017

Grant: EUR 900

III) Danny Kitsberg, Israel

Project: Mapping the changes in the interactome of lamin-A/C induced by matrix elasticity

Host: Max-Planck-Institute for Molecular Physiology, Dortmund, Germany

Date: 6. 11. – 16. 11. 2017

Grant: EUR 1647

IV) Alzbeta Kalendova, Czech Republic

Project: Mechanobiology of plectin-deficient simple epithelia

Host: Center for Medical Physics and Technology, Erlangen, Germany

Date: 16. 10. – 14. 12. 2017

Grant: EUR 1650

V) Anne Bertrand, France

Project: Resolving the organization and structure of nuclear lamins in cardiac dilation mutant

Host: Zurich University, Zurich, Switzerland

Date: 22. 10. – 28. 10. 2017

Grant: EUR 1420

VI) Nuno Saraiva, Portugal

Project: Impact of hGAAP on cell invasion: role of mitochondrial Ca<sup>2+</sup>

Host: King's College, London, United Kingdom

Date: 7. 1. – 1. 13. 2018

Grant: EUR 1030

VII) Miloslava Maninova, Czech Republic

Project: The role of protein TPR in mechanical properties of mammalian nuclei





Host: Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Prague, Czech Republic  
Date: 1. 8. – 1. 27. 2018  
Grant: EUR 1650

VIII) Anders Aufderhorst-Roberts, Netherlands  
Project: Understanding the Role of Intermediate Filament Internal Structure in Cytoskeletal Crosstalk  
Host: Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Göttingen, Germany  
Date: 8. 1. – 28. 1. 2018  
Grant: EUR 1270

IX) Katarzyna Piekarowicz, Wrocław  
Project: Induced pluripotent stem cell differentiation as a tool for modeling laminopathie  
Host: University College London, London, United Kingdom  
Date: 1. 2. – 28. 2. 2018  
Grant: EUR 1650

X) Peter Nanasi, Hungary  
Project: Superresolution Microscopic Analyses of Nuclear Structures  
Host: Light Microscopy Core Facility of the Institute of Molecular Genetics, Czech Republic  
Date: 12. 2. – 25. 2. 2018  
Grant: EUR 1400

XI) Ana Dekanic, Croatia  
Project: Integrin  $\alpha V\beta 3$  and  $\alpha V\beta 5$  Focal Adhesions Analysed by Atomic Force Microscopy  
Host: Biozentrum, University of Basel, Switzerland  
Date: 17. 3 – 30. 3. 2018  
Grant: EUR 1650

XII) Dominik Pinkas, Czech Republic  
Project: AFM studies of mechanical properties of cell nuclei depending on lamin A modifications  
Host: Biozentrum and The Swiss Nanoscience Institute, University of Basel, Switzerland  
Date: 1. 3. – 31. 3. 2018  
Grant: EUR 1650

## 9. Update from the Action Chair and Grant Holder:

- Duration of the Action – 5 Grant Periods. The Action start: 19 October 2016. The end of the Action: 18 October 2020 => Grant Period 5 will run from 1 May 2020 to 19 October 2020 = the last Grant Period is shorter than usual.
- During the meeting the research activities planned for Grant Period 4 will be discussed, which starts from 1 May 2019 – 30 April 2020.
- The Action has 33 COST Full Members and 1 COST Partner Member (Japan), 61 MC Members, 34 MC Substitutes, 66 WG1 Members, 52 WG2 Members, 33 WG3 Members, and 105 WG4 Members. The statistics of the number of WG Members are led apart from the e-COST system due to the system's inability to classify the members as WG members and MC Members at the same time. If looking for working partners, please consult this database of the Work Groups.
- The Action assessment - the numbers of the Work Group Members prove the diversity of the Scientific Activity of the COST Action. Important note that the planned activities have to follow the COST rules. The Action is doing well with supporting events from countries from



Inclusiveness Target Countries as is apparent from Grant Period 1 official assessment, which focuses on the formal aspects of the Action. The COST Administration will ask us to make another assessment after the end of Grant Period 2 to make sure that the participation of most of the countries was achieved.

- The Final Financial Report of GP2 will be ready shortly after the MC Meeting.
- Past activities:

Event type	Title	Date	Location
Conference	Euro-IF 2017: European Intermediate Filament Meeting	14-17 June 2017	Saint Malo
Conference	SCIENCE XPRESSION	25-29 September 2017	A Coruña
MC Meeting	Management Committee Meeting	12 October 2017	Frankfurt
Conference	Molecular aspects of aging and longevity	16-19 October 2017	Athens
WG1,3 Meeting	Biophysics of Cell and Skin in Wound Healing	1 December 2017	Ljubljana
WG1-4 Meeting	Probing the Effects of 3D Bioprinting Processes on Stem Cells' Functional Properties	11-12 February 2018	Thessaloniki
WG1,4 Meeting	Intranuclear Interactions of Lamins and Superresolution Microscopy as a Tool to Study	20-21 March 2018	Vienna
Core Group Meeting	Core group coordination meeting	20 April 2018	Brussels
Training School	Reactive gliosis from mechanobiology and signal transduction to molecular targets and disease pathogenesis	2-6 May 2017	Gothenburg
Training School	The Nuclear Lamina and Nuclear Organization	25-29 June 2017	Yearim – Judean Hills
12 STSMs	-	The period of GP2	
2 ITC Grants	-	The period of GP2	

- Introduction of new calls for STSMs and ITCs. The calls are opened throughout the GP3 and work on the principle of “first come, first served” basis. An email will be sent to advertise the possibility of the ITC grants to the participants from ITC countries.
- **MC agreed on one open call for ITC grants during GP3 and the proposal to email all WG participants about the possibilities of ITC grants:**

YES: 25, NO: 0, ABSTAIN: 0.

- The budget for ITC conference grants can be used only for any conference not organized by the Action and ITC members.
- Comment on GP2 Budget – the Action managed to spend the grant effectively during the period. The Scientific Officer reminds everyone that during the GP2, the Action received a top-up, a fixed amount, in the middle of the period to use for ITC grants or for ITC participants. This happened due to COST receiving additional top-up of EUR 6 mil. to support ITC countries, a decision made by the European Council.



- Pavle Andjus asks what happens with unspent money at the end of a Grant Period. The Chair answers the money is lost. The money is used in the next GP, it is deducted from the first 50% of the grant payment of the new GP.

## 10. Monitoring of the Action

Presentation of the Intermediate Financial Report and Final Financial Report.

## 11. Implementation of COST policies

- The Chair stresses the importance of the approved rules of the Action and the implementation of the COST rules: How to Become a Work Group Member, Participants to Be Reimbursed procedure, Selection of Activities procedure.
- The Chair asks for additional comments on the Participants to Be Reimbursed procedure – no comments/questions.
- The Chair mentions the open call for GP4 Activities – a complete list of the activities proposed for the GP4 should be finished within a month after the MC meeting as the organizers need to plan well in advance.
- Yannis Missirlis asks about the communication to MC – emails are sent only to MC Members. Due to the lack of communication of MC Members and MC Substitutes, MC Substitutes do not have all the information. SO adds that there is nothing in the COST rules that stops the communication between MC Members and MC Substitutes. MC voting is aimed only at MC Members, but MC Substitutes can be in Cc. Yannis agrees that would be sufficient. SO continues that the information about calls can be communicated to all - MC Members, MC Substitutes, and Work Group Members. The communication is up to the Action how it organizes itself. Yannis proposes the emails to MC Members should have MC Substitutes added in the Cc. The Chair would prefer to leave the communication as is so there would not be confusion about who is representing each country. Ohad Medalia adds MC Members are responsible for communicating information to their MC Substitutes. Yossef Gruenbaum suggests that in case of Yannis, it is a special case as he is usually attending the meetings instead of the MC Member. Yossef proposes just adding Yannis to the communication.

## 12. A question concerning the issue of imperfect communication among the MC members and their substitutes

=> Proposal to vote – All email communication concerning the Action should be sent to MC members AND MC substitutes – YES: 25, NO: 0, ABSTAIN: 0 (HOWEVER MC members are responsible for the communication with their MC substitutes).

## 13. Pavle Andjus proposes that MC Members, MC Substitutes, and WG Members can propose future activities (in the point 2 of “Selection of Activities Procedure)

YES: 25, NO: 0, ABSTAIN: 0.

SO reminds everyone of the system of approval of future activities. After MC approves of the proposed activities, they are input in e-COST. SO approves the scientific content of the activity and sends it to the finance department for approval. Only after that the meeting is officially encoded in e-COST.



#### 14. Information about the calls open on eurocellnet.eu

All the rules and calls of the Action are published on the web. The Chair comments on GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) in regards to the Database of available techniques page. Information about GDPR will be sent to those mentioned in the database. Post-meeting note – full information about COST GDPR is available here: [http://www.cost.eu/service/privacy\\_policy](http://www.cost.eu/service/privacy_policy)

#### 15. Follow-up of MoU objectives – Progress report of the working groups

Diana Toivola presentation WG1 – description of Work Group 1. A list of the most prominent past activities of WG1, publications, ad-hoc meeting in Ljubljana. A reminder of the possibility of application for a national funding to support this COST Action. An interdisciplinary IF meeting proposed in Turku on June 9-11 in GP4. Planned a technical work shop, companies to visit. A possible problems with the date of the meeting - on the Sunday and Monday of the meeting are celebrated Whit Sunday and Whit Monday in some countries.

Ohad Medalia presentation WG2 – description of Work Group 2 dealing with structure. A proposal of a planned meetings for GP4, announcement of a structural meeting in Zurich on 30-31 August 2019, participants from COST countries will have free participation, more information will be sent out via email. The Chair highlights the importance of Work Group 2 and its crucial role for collaborating with the other Work Groups => encouragement for collaboration of Work Groups with WG2.

Klara Weipoltshammer presentation WG3 – description of Work Group 3 and its past activities. Proposes everyone to put their tools into the database “Eurocellnet”, however lately it starts to be less necessary as the participants of the Action contact each other directly – a good sign. Proposes everyone to promote COST Action and to take care about correct use of the COST logo and/or acknowledgment in their publications. (Further information to be found here - <http://www.cost.eu/media/dissemination-corporate-identity>)

#### **A proposition of a new junior chair of WG3, Katarzyna Piekarowicz, for MC vote:**

YES: 25, NO: 0, ABSTAIN: 0.

Milos Pekny presentation WG4 – description of Work Group 4 and its past activities. Encourages everyone to apply for STSMs. The introduction of the GRC conference and its specific sessions to be held on 24-29 June. Proposes the Action participants to co-fund COST within their country if possible.

#### 16. Scientific Planning

Future activities in GP3 – the future GP3 activities have been approved. Summary of the GP3 activities. The Chair asks the organizers or the meetings to always provide sufficient information about the meetings and discuss the content of the meetings with the relevant WG leaders. MC will vote on how to place the future rest of the budget for STSMs. The Chair proposes to put as much as possible to STSMs. No training schools planned for GP3.

Budget for GP3 – presented in the presentation. A note - if an event is co-organized with COST, ITC grants cannot be used for the event.

Meeting in Montenegro – Pavle Andjus mentions the originally planned EuroCellNet participation with the meeting in Montenegro. The EuroCellNet participation had to be cancelled as the location of the meeting did not comply with the COST rules (Montenegro is a COST country, but hasn't signed the EuroCellNet Memorandum of Understanding) => Pavle Andjus proposes to still support this



meeting by approving it as a dissemination meeting and thus reimbursing one speaker-disseminator from the Action.

**A proposal to have a dissemination meeting in Montenegro:**

YES: 25, NO: 0, ABSTAIN: 0

The dissemination meeting in Montenegro is approved by MC.

Pavle proposes Yannis Missirlis to be a good candidate as a disseminator at the meeting, however the Chair answers MC needs to decide the rules for the choice of the speaker at dissemination meetings of the Action first. (The audio excerpt from the dissemination meeting discussion can be found on the EuroCellNet Intranet in “GP3 – MC meeting in Brussels” – <https://eurocellnet.eu/data>) The SO reminds that dissemination meetings have their specific Financial Rules and budget, not the same for the meetings in general.

Suggestions - The Vice Chair proposes to organize training schools for GP4. Yannis Missirlis asks where the more specific information about the planned meetings are. The Chair answers they were distributed via MC email communication. The information will be provided to Yannis.

Evaluation criteria of future activities - Rui Travasso suggests more WG meetings should be organized and consequently new collaboration among the participants should be supported. A suggestion to add more to the ITC budget to improve on scientific excellence of the WG meetings. The Chair suggests this can be achieved mainly by MC Members to actively participate. The SO also suggests this can be improved already in the evaluation process of the future activities by improving on the evaluation criteria. Different weights can be assigned to different types of activities and their content. The Chair agrees the evaluation process can be further developed.

Plan for GP4 - Reminder of the open call for GP4 event proposals, presentations of the already proposed meetings – Pavel Hozak, Ohad Medalia, Klara Weipoltshammer, Ryszard Rzepecki, Diana Toivola.

## 17. Update from the COST Association

The SO welcomes MC. She praises the good development of the Action and requests using the maximum of the budget => a correction can be made with the amendment of the budget. She also comments on the third way of voting, which can be done electronically via e-COST. Reminds everyone the system of voting – 1) vote at an Action MC meeting and 2) written procedure (e-vote) (further information in Vademecum, section 2, 2.1 - [www.cost.eu/download/COSTVademecum](http://www.cost.eu/download/COSTVademecum)). Asks to not acknowledge COST when COST should not be acknowledged, COST does not want to be affiliated with activities they did not support financially (further information here - <http://www.cost.eu/module/download/63810>). Mentions the need of the submission of the online MFA report. Suggests to improve COST reports by mentioning what the findings were of each activity and the scientific content. A question about Final Action Dissemination Grant for the Action publications – it has to be proposed six months before the end of the Action the latest.

## 18. AOB

Elly Hol – input about the importance of dissemination – shares Twitter link and encourages everyone to disseminate the information about the COST Action.

## 19. Location and Date of Next Meeting





Next MC Meeting in May 2019 – a proposal to have the meeting joined with the next IF meeting in Turku (to be further developed).

## **20. Summary of MC decisions**

## **21. Closing**

The meeting closed at 12:30.

*Prepared by: Michaela Zurkova*

*Approved by Action Chair: Pavel Hozak*

### **List of Annexes**

**Annex 1:** Participants List

**Annex 2:** Presentation from the Action Chair



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**COST Association**  
Avenue Louise 149 | 1050 Brussels, Belgium  
t: +32 (0)2 533 3800 | f: +32 (0)2 533 3890  
office@cost.eu | www.cost.eu