

SHORT TERM SCIENTIFIC MISSION (STSM) – SCIENTIFIC REPORT

The STSM applicant submits this report for approval to the STSM coordinator

Action number: IS1308

STSM title: Populism and Passions

STSM start and end date: 18/03/2018 to 24/03/2018

Grantee name: Paolo Cossarini

PURPOSE OF THE STSM/

The STSM's overall purpose was to strengthen the research ties with the host institution, the Department of Culture and Global Studies (CGS) - Aalborg University (DK), and especially with Dr Óscar García Agustín.

CGS and García Agustín are developing a research agenda that, to a large extent, matches with my own. Sharing common research interests on populism and democratic theory, protest movements, the role of emotions in politics, and Spanish politics, both myself and the host institution have been able to carry out a fruitful collaboration over the past few months, which has further developed thanks to the STSM "Populism and passions", within the COST-Action "Populist Political Communication in Europe".

Specifically, the STSM had different specific goals. The first one was the development of grant applications intended to boost our common research interests in the study of populism in Europe and especially its relationship with the affective dimension, and parties communication strategies. The second goal was the participation in the workshop "EXPLORING THE CATALAN CRISIS, WHAT IS NEXT FOR SPAIN?" organized within the research project "Resignifying the Nation: The Catalan (and the Spanish) Questions" hosted by CGS (<https://goo.gl/euvTkn>). Linked to this, the third aim was to meet CGS's staff and obtain feedback on a number of draft papers I am assembling.

Such activities matched the aims of the COST Action "Populist Political Communication in Europe", and were aimed at the advancing into the development of future publications and further activities.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK CARRIED OUT DURING THE STSMS

Over the days spent in the STSM, I have developed a series of activities:

- (1)** Meetings with Óscar García Agustín and other members of the Department of Culture and Global Studies (CGS), including doctoral and postdoctoral staff. The 19th, the 20th, and the 23rd of March.
- (2)** Participating in a workshop on The Spanish/Catalan clash: “EXPLORING THE CATALAN CRISIS, WHAT IS NEXT FOR SPAIN?” organized on the 21st of March within the research project “Resignifying the Nation: The Catalan (and the Spanish) Questions”.
- (3)** A guest lecture on the 22nd of March within the BA courses in ‘Language and International Studies’, and ‘Spanish and International Studies’ – Title of the lecture “Populism and Passion. Mapping the Emotion-politics nexus in Europe”. For this, I have had also the chance to receive helpful advice on the Aalborg pedagogical philosophy grounded on *Problem based Learning* (PBL) method.
- (4)** The development a different Grant Applications together with Óscar García Agustín, on the 19th and 23rd of March, to be submitted to the Carlsberg Foundation, the Independent Research Fund Denmark (DFF), and Horizon 2020, MSCA Fellowship.

DESCRIPTION OF THE MAIN RESULTS OBTAINED

The STSM has represented a fruitful chance to advance in a series of different aspects of my research.

Firstly, in terms of research activities, I have been able to present and receive helpful and constructive feedback on my own research.

Secondly, I have had the chance to meet researchers who share a variety of scientific interests and thus building my networks for potential future research and publications. In this sense, the meetings with Óscar García Agustín and other staff of CGS were particularly productive. As well, the workshop on “EXPLORING THE CATALAN CRISIS, WHAT IS NEXT FOR SPAIN?” has provided the chance to meet researchers from CGS and other foreign institutions.

Moreover, lecturing at Aalborg has also contributed to enhance my teaching experiences, providing the opportunity to offer a master class on my research topics – ‘Populism and passions’.

Overall, thanks to the STSM and the activities I have carried out, I will also have the chance to advance in my research agenda, finishing grant applications, further developing research networks and publication collaborations.

FUTURE COLLABORATIONS (if applicable)

As for collaboration, it is worth stressing a number of significant activities that have been developed during the STSM and will continue in the future.

First of all, as a follow-up of the workshop on “EXPLORING THE CATALAN CRISIS, WHAT IS NEXT FOR SPAIN?”, a proposal for an edited book will be soon submitted to a publishing house.

Furthermore, three different Grant applications will be soon submitted to three different funding bodies – i.e. Carlsberg Foundation, the Independent Research Fund Denmark (DFF), and Horizon 2020 - MSCA Fellowship.

Lastly, Óscar García Agustín and myself have started elaborating a publication new proposal for the study of the political Left in Spain and its relationship with the territorial question. Initial, though promising, talks.

To sum up, thanks to the STSM held at the Department of Culture and Global Studies – Aalborg University, I have had the chance to carry out a series of activities that have enhanced my research profile, contributing to consolidate my future research agenda.