

Dear Friends and members of the Jean Monnet Network 2.0,

I'm glad to inform that the groundwork has been set, everything regarding Network 1.0 seems to be OK with the EC, and Network 2.0 (N2) is in full motion, the first installment being due to be transferred to you during the first quarter of 2020.

In order to co-ordinate actions and output, I present below a few queries for the overall functioning of our several tasks and, after, touch on points that should receive special emphasis during the whole period of the project, some having a novel character, in relation to the usual requirements for Jean Monnet Networks. To better follow what comes I suggest you have in hand the project proposal, especially pages 1-6 and 52-79.

#### **Queries:**

1. *Steering Committee*. I need each of the five groups to name one person for the Steering Committee (SC). These five people will work with me in the constant monitoring of the project and caring for the accomplishment of the diverse outputs. Though, as usual, the SC will meet at least six times during the project, each in one of the Network Meetings (NM), a much more active role is now expected, which will oblige our keeping more frequent exchanges through emails and other communications channels. We must oversee a constant flow of project outputs and parallel and complementary activities to be developed around the central line described by the 6 NM.

I would appreciate to have your chosen names by Monday, January 6, 2020.

2. *Network Meetings*. As proposed in the project, the 6 NM will take place in the following sequence: Brazil (month 5 or 6), Mexico (11 or 12), Morocco (17 or 18), Portugal (23 or 24), Brussels (29 or 30), Spain (34 or 35). It is important that you formally confirm this schedule, until January 6, next year, in which case I shall announce a first meeting in Rio de Janeiro, to take place probably in March 2020.

I remind that meetings now cover the three main themes of the N2, so that *all network members are supposed to be active participants in them* and we shall need a more co-operative work to set the six agendas. Some ideas or research endeavours may continue for more than one meeting, leading to a more substantial output or a more diversified outcome from a single, original issue.

3. *Discussion Papers and other output.* Given the above, it is expected that the N2 site will host a significant number of products, notably Discussion Papers -and likely material- addressing either the 3 themes or work by the network members reasonably related to them. I encourage all those who have already dissemination-prone texts or other material to send it to us to be immediately posted in the website. Materials can also include videos and short films of interviews, participation in panels or other events, provided, again, they guard some relationship with the themes and, preferably, the Network is cited.

The fact that no books have been planned should not exclude the possibility of producing one or two books, on issues deemed of particular interest. This possibility should be evaluated considering available funds and the possibility of partnerships and new, specific supporters (see below).

4. *Associate Members and other partnerships.* It is possible to invite other institutions -ideally in countries not included in the network- as Associate Members, to take part in select meetings and activities. In practical terms, this would involve, in principle, a smart use of the inviting member's funds combined with a contribution from the invitee. In this way, we could enlarge N2's reach and add diversity to some discussions. The same can be attempted, in a more limited fashion, with respect to specific activities that, while keeping a link to the network would be further pursued with an institution outside N2.

I ask all members to think about this modality and its possibilities.

### **Work principles, a few points:**

I. *The interests of the sponsors.* It is worth reminding that all Jean Monnet endeavours aim at, among other things, enlarging the visibility of the EU and the discussion of its positioning in a ever-changing world scene. Care and attention should be given to these two goals, in the design of all member's activities; explicit attention of how the developed idea or project affects, helps, impacts or involves the EU is a dimension not to be missed.

II. *Regular, on time register of activities.* The requirements of the final reports of the Jean Monnet networks are becoming more comprehensive and demanding and it is important to gather, *during the course of the very project*, the whole relevant information related to all kinds of project activities that could make for expected measures, events, output or behaviour. Also, keeping a continuous flow of activities, as close as possible to the framework in the project proposal, is nearly mandatory. This will guarantee a good final report and *avoid reimbursement of funds -in case the project dispositions are considered unfulfilled, something now possible.*

III. *Engagement of different segments of society.* In a classical framework, adopted in the previous network, other segments -notably students and future leaders- were engaged in the project through special sessions during the NM. We should keep this practice, but enlarge it

with other events and happenings targeted to the same public or other segments that could benefit from N2's ideas and results. Use of slots -special panels, joint sessions, etc- in other events is also another option, as well as the delivery of specific interviews, conferences in centres or associations of interest. This is another dimension that is now receiving great attention by the EC and we should make an effort to enhance and diversify our results through multiple communities and audiences.

IV. *Stronger connectivity.* Since preparing our proposal we've been stressing the need and importance of connectivity. Our hub will be the project-site, soon to be ready. We must constantly feed and care for it, and use our own networks to connect it to other institutions, think tanks, actual or potential collaborators and social groups. We're also planning to interconnect the existing Jean Monnet Networks platforms, in order to broaden our debate and generate new synergies, events and perhaps projects! Please, pay great attention to how connectivity could become a main tool in the N2 work and dissemination efforts.

I thank you all for a collaboration that may ensue a great outcome, opening new ventures and responsibilities for our centres. As usual, do contact me on any point, issue or idea you think worth. Cross-communications are also strongly encouraged and let's create a real debate & research community during these three years!

*Renato Flôres*