

Dear Friends and members of the Jean Monnet Network 2.0,

I resume our conversation to address a few points on *content*, while looking forward to the five names for the Steering Committee (SC), who will closely work with me in the constant monitoring of the project and caring for the accomplishment of the diverse outputs. As soon as I receive them, we shall discuss the Dissemination and Outreach Plan for N2, together with other SC responsibilities, as outlined in pages 53 and 60/61 (Deliverable Nr. 4) of the Project Proposal. The SC must oversee a constant flow of project outputs and the parallel and complementary activities to be developed around the central line developed along the six NM; careful attention to the designated persons to be communicated on January 6 is essential. They will play a key role in the Project's expected impact.

**Content:**

1. *Content* is supposed to be delivered and evolve as a continuous dialogue and debate, involving the whole network, during the time of the Project, for which a minimal co-ordination is needed. For helping this, three "content/research co-ordination centres" were conceived in the Proposal, namely: Barcelona (energy & sustainability), Rio (trade & related economic activities) and Lisbon (inequality in the Atlantic Basin). These centres, beyond exerting a co-ordinating role, will hopefully play a leading role in the multiple developments and due accomplishment of the diverse outputs related to each theme.

The last sentences above in no way mean that other N2 members cannot have ideas, proposals, initiatives and concrete, ambitious pursuits on any of the Project's themes. On the contrary, as often stressed, *all centres should contribute to all themes, adding density and different viewpoints to the debates inside the network, and enhancing the outreach of the output throughout the six key nodes of the network.*

I would appreciate if the co-ordinating centres could confirm, as soon as possible, their engagement as originally planned as well as the names of the co-ordinators displayed in the Proposal. The co-ordinators may or not be the same person who will act as the SC representative for that member.

2. *Analysis* of the three themes immediately reveals that they encompass multiple research possibilities; of course, there is no obligation to cover them all, particularly on a specific-centre basis. However, and I re-stress this point, each centre should ideally participate in one (chosen) line belonging to each theme.

In order to organise our future work, I kindly ask each network node<sup>1</sup> to state, until January 14, the subject lines to which they will dedicate their efforts during the project. I urge members to focus on lines that belong to, at least, two different themes. The proposal describes several lines for each theme; member's choices could either be among them or include new research avenues not necessarily mentioned in the Proposal. This poses no problem, *what is mandatory is that chosen lines effectively belong to one of the three broad themes.*

Even if one node does not choose to work in one of the themes, it may be called to participate in the debate or criticism of that theme's output produced by its peers.

I'm aware that most members have a good idea or know already, in a more or less clear way, the subjects they intend to focus their efforts on. I invite all to give a final, serious and deep thought on this matter, during these nearly two weeks, in order to send a list that reasonably reflects the concentration areas each will pursue during the Network's three years. Needless to say, this is not necessarily an irrevocable choice, corrections and changes are allowed during the duration of our work, but this first (let's say) set of subjects should, as of today, give the best possible idea of what will be the concerns of and abilities disposed by each member.

3. *The three* co-ordinators shall have explicit responsibilities to be detailed during this initial phase. They will concentrate basic information about the efforts pursued throughout the network along all lines related to their specific theme. This means that centres developing initiatives on energy & sustainability, for instance, shall keep Barcelona informed of their content, progress and problems and goals. The co-ordinating centre will be responsible for integrating as much as possible all such efforts and promoting -or helping to promote- further endeavours in this direction.

We shall come back to this point in future communications.

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. Let's create a real debate & research community during these three years!

*Renato Flôres*

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<sup>1</sup> *Node, member* and *centre* are used as synonyms in these Communications.