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CA19141 – Integrating Neandertal Legacy: From Past to Present Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting

October 6th2021
Zagreb, CROATIA
Online meeting (via ZOOM)

Overview of the key details:

Action Chair: Ivor Janković (Croatia)
Action Vice-Chair: Stefano Benazzi (Italy)
WG1 Leader: Katerina Harvati (Germany)
WG1 Substitute Leader: Sorin Hermon (Cyprus)
WG2 Leader: Francesca Romagnoli (Spain)
WG2 Substitute Leader: Trine Kellberg Nielsen (Denmark)
WG3 Leader: Ron Pinhasi (Austria)
WG3 Substitute Leader: Daniel Fernandes (Austria)
WG4 Leader: Sanjin Mihelić (Croatia)
WG4 Substitute Leader: Matija Črešnar (Slovenia)
Science Communication Manager: Tamara Leskovar (Slovenia)
STSM Coordinator: Florent Rivals (Spain)
Grant Holder: Institute for Anthropological Research (Croatia)

Start of the Action: October 15th 2020

First Grant Period: November 1st 2020 – October 31st 2021



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Management Committee Meeting, October 6th 2021

1. Welcome to the participants (Ivor Janković, ACTION CHAIR)

The Management Committee Meeting of COST19141 *Integrating Neandertal Legacy – From Past to Present* (iNEAL) started at 14:00. Ivor Janković, the Action Chair, welcomed the participants of the CA19141 MC meeting which was scheduled as virtual meeting via ZOOM platform, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

2. Verification of the presence of two thirds of the participating COST countries, or, if applicable, a quorum (Ivor Janković, ACTION CHAIR)

Ivor Janković, the Action Chair, confirmed the quorum, the presence of two-thirds of the participating COST countries. The following 20 of 27 countries having accepted the MoU of the Action were represented at the meeting: Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Montenegro, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Republic of Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey and United Kingdom. For the detailed attendance list, please see annex 2.

3. Adoption of the agenda (Ivor Janković, ACTION CHAIR)

The agenda of the meeting (Annex 1) was approved without changes or additions by the members of the Management Committee of CA19141.

4. Approval of the minutes and matters of the last meeting (Ivor Janković, ACTION CHAIR)

The minutes of the previous Management Committee meeting, held on May 3rd 2021 organized virtually via ZOOM platform were approved without changes or additions by the members of the Management Committee of CA19141.



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5. Update from Action Chair, status of COST Action, Grant Period 1 goals, follow up of MoU objectives (Ivor Janković, ACTION CHAIR)

Ivor Janković, the Action Chair, informed the participants on the progress of the implementation of the Grant Period 1 plans, which are:

- Kick off meeting
- MC/WG meeting, Core Group meeting,
- establishing operational WG's,
- defining „missing data” and „missing expertises” (individual WG's),
- inclusion of more members
- creation of templates/platforms for data sharing (WG's individual/combined),
- creation of the website
- first training schools

The Action Chair informed the participants that some of the plans were implemented and some are in progress:

- Kick off meeting held virtually on 15-16 Oct 2020
- 1st joint MC and WGs meeting held virtually on 3-4 May 2021, MC meeting virtually on 6 Oct 2021, WGs meeting in person Tuebingen 11-12 Oct 2021
- WGs had virtual meetings and on-line communication with active discussions
- WGs defined the most pressing issues related to missing expertises and made contacts
- several more members joined the Action and specific WGs (Vice-chair's report)
- WG 1 and 2 had active discussions and created a basic template for data collection. This will be the main topic at the WG meeting in Tuebingen. WG 3 will join the WG 1 and 2 in this effort
- website up and running; newsletter
- WG 2 Training school was held virtually and of WG 4 Training School in person (WG leaders's reports). WG 1 Training school will be held in Tuebingen 13-15 Oct, while the WG 3 Training School is to be held at the beginning of the next GP
- 6 STSM's planned, done/in progress (STSM coordinator's report)
- succesful iNEAL Session at the European Association of Archaeologists meeting (virtual)



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6. Update from the Action vice-chair; inclusion of new members, gender balance, ECI, ITC (Stefano Bennazi, ACTION VICE-CHAIR)

Status of the Action:

Country	Date
Albania	10/10/2020 Confirmed
Austria	17/09/2020 Confirmed
Belgium	19/04/2021 Confirmed
Bulgaria	06/08/2020 Confirmed
Croatia	24/04/2020 Confirmed
Cyprus	21/09/2020 Confirmed
Czech Republic	20/08/2020 Confirmed
Denmark	11/06/2020 Confirmed
France	21/04/2020 Confirmed
Germany	28/04/2020 Confirmed
Greece	22/05/2020 Confirmed
Hungary	24/04/2020 Confirmed
Italy	23/06/2020 Confirmed
Malta	10/09/2020 Confirmed
Montenegro	05/10/2020 Confirmed
Netherlands	21/09/2020 Confirmed
North Macedonia	07/05/2020 Confirmed
Poland	27/05/2020 Confirmed
Portugal	07/10/2020 Confirmed
Romania	13/10/2020 Confirmed
Serbia	11/06/2020 Confirmed
Slovakia	04/12/2020 Confirmed
Slovenia	02/07/2020 Confirmed
Spain	18/06/2020 Confirmed
Switzerland	01/10/2020 Confirmed
Turkey	08/09/2020 Confirmed
United Kingdom	16/10/2020 Confirmed
TOTAL: 27 countries	



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iNEAL in numbers:

All Action Participants	Gender Balance	ECI
Around 70 participants	40% F / 60% M	19%

MC members	39
MC substitute members	13
Other WG members	17

Working Groups	
WG1	8
WG2	31
WG3	13
WG4	12

STSM grantees GP1	Gender Balance	ECI	From ITC countries
6 grantees	33% F / 67% M	50%	17%

Training Schools	Gender Balance	ECI	ITC countries
WG1 TS	73% F / 27% M	0%	18%
WG2 TS	65% F / 35% M	30%	58%
WG4 TS	67% F / 33% M	0%	73%

Working Groups meeting (Tubingen, DE)	Gender Balance	ECI	ITC countries
32 applications	47% F / 53% M	31%	53%





7. Update on the STSM's (Florent Rivals, STSM COORDINATOR)

Completed:

Name	Status	Home institution	STSM title	Host institution	Host name	Dates
Marko Banda	PhD student	University of Zagreb	<i>Understanding Middle Palaeolithic assemblage integrity through taphonomy and site patterning</i>	Universidad Autónoma de Madrid	F. Romagnoli	17/05 to 06/06/2021
Carolin Roeding	PhD student	University of Tübingen	<i>Hominin remains from Vindija</i>	Institute for Quaternary Paleontology and Geology (Zagreb)	J. Mauch Lenardić	19/07 to 27/07/2021
Andrea Zupancich	Postdoc	Sapienza Università di Roma	<i>Neanderthal daily life activities at Romualdova Pećina: insights from the analysis of use-wear and residues on flaked and non-flaked stone tools</i>	Centre for Applied Bioanthropology Institute for Anthropological Research (Zagreb)	I. Janković	23/08 to 03/09/2021
Davide Delpiano	Postdoc	Università di Ferrara	<i>A multi-site and multi-approach analysis of Late Middle Palaeolithic backed tools</i>	Université de Toulouse	N. Valdeyron	5/09 to 12/09/2021

In progress:

Name	Status	Home institution	STSM title	Host institution	Host name	Dates
Owen Alexander Higgins	PhD student	University of Bologna	<i>Improvement of histological and histochemical analysis and use of fossil mammalian dental remains as proxy for environmental and human behavioural data</i>	University of Kent	P. Mahoney	13/09 to 31/10/2021
Giulia Marciani	Postdoc	University of Bologna	<i>Cognigrams of the last Neanderthals and first Sapiens tool behaviour in Italy</i>	University of Tübingen	M. Haidle	3/10 to 29/10/2021





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8. Update on the Training schools (**Francesca Romagnoli, WG2 LEADER, Sanjin Mihelić WG4 LEADER**)

Francesca Romagnoli, WG2 Leader, briefly presented the progress of work of the WG2 (32 members from 19 countries, 5 meetings, collaborations with Wg4 (newsletter, *Neanderthal travel project*), participation in STSMs, presentations in iNEAL session at EAA 2021) and reported on WG2 Training School *Qualitative and quantitative methods for the study of Middle Palaeolithic material culture*:

- organised at Università La Sapienza di Roma and DANTE laboratory, Italy (online), 8-9 July 2021
- 20 trainees from 11 countries
- 5 trainers from 2 countries

Sanjin Mihelić, WG4 Leader reported on WG4 *Training School on valorisation of Neanderthal heritage through the creation of cultural routes*:

- organised at Gallery of the Archaeological Museum Zagreb, Croatia, 27-29 September 2021
- 15 trainees from 11 countries
- 5 trainers from 4 countries

9. Update from the Science Communication Manager (Newsletter, social media etc.) (**Tamara Leskovar, SCIENCE COMMUNICATION MANAGER**)

Tamara Leskovar, Science Communication Manager, reported on the website of the Action organization, social media engagement and newsletter status (one done, second nearly done). Tamara Leskovar pointed out that communication activities need to be increased to increase visibility of the Action, and asked MC members to send her the content they wish to share on Action's website, social media and in the newsletter:

- news, developments, talks, conferences, publications, projects
- recommendations (publications, talks, webinars)
- selected topics

10. Plans and goals for the next GP (**Ivor Janković, ACTION CHAIR**)

Grant Period 2: 1 Nov 2021 – 31 Oct 2022

- major goals are to define the best data sharing and collecting platform and format (in progress). WGs continue to pursue colleagues with expertises we need (actively being done)



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Grant Period 2 plans:

- one joint MC/WG meeting. Suggested venue is University of Bologna/Ravenna (June 2022). Additional WGs meetings will be held virtually when needed.
- 4 training schools (one for each WG are planned). Tentative venues: University of Bologna/Ravenna (WG1); University of Vienna (WG3); Neanderthal Museum Mettmann (WG4)
- up to 12 STSMs are planned. Preferably topics for all WGs. Special effort needs to be done in order to have more applicants from ITC countries
- WG 4 is additionally planning public lecture, workshop, and a round table towards the end of this grant period

11. Work and budget plan for the GP1 and plans for the GP2 (Morana Jarec, GRANT MANAGER)

Morana Jarec, the Grant Manager, informed the participants of the Work and Budget Plan for the Grant Period 1. Initially, the allocated budget for the Grant Period 1 was 30.498,00 EUR. As the Grant Period 1 was extended to October 31st 2021, the CA19141 received an extra budget of 70.644,50 EUR, so the total budget for the CA19141 Grant period 1 is 101.142,50 EUR.

WBP GP1:

	forecast	to be spent by the end of GP1	actually spent	balance
Meetings				
MC and WGs 1st joint meeting (online)	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
3rd MC meeting (online)	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
2nd WGs meeting, Tübingen, Germany	41.200,00	41.200,00	0,00	0,00
Training Schools				
WG2 Training School (online)	6.600,00	0,00	0,00	6.600,00
WG4 Training School (Zagreb, Croatia)	14.400,00	10.300,00	0,00	4.100,00
WG1 Training School (Tübingen, Germany)	15.450,00	15.450,00	0,00	0,00
Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM) (6)	8.100,00	3.900,00	3.900,00	300,00
COST Action Dissemination				
web site	900,00	0,00	900,00	0,00
graphic design	600,00	0,00	600,00	0,00





printing	300,00	0,00	0,00	300,00
Other Expenses Related to Scientific Activities (OERSA)				
ZOOM licence	124,76	0,00	124,76	0,00
bank fees	275,24	275,24	0,00	0,00
Total Science Expenditure	87.950,00	71.125,24	5.524,76	11.300,00
FSAC 15%	13.192,50			
Total Grant	101.142,50			

The allocated budget for the Grant Period 2 is 149.600,00 EUR. The proposal of the distribution of funds is the following:

Meetings	forecast
MC and WGs joint meeting	47.200,00
MC meeting (online)	0,00
Training Schools	
WG1 Training School	14.700,00
WG2 Training School	14.700,00
WG3 Training School	14.700,00
WG4 Training School	14.700,00
Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM) (12)	14.400,00
ITC Conference grants (3)	3.600,00
Dissemination grants (2)	2.800,00
COST Action Dissemination	
web site	500,00
printing	2.385,00
Other Expenses Related to Scientific Activities (OERSA)	
ZOOM licence	124,76
bank fees	275,24
Total Science Expenditure	130.085,00
FSAC 15%	19.512,75
Total Grant	149.597,75



Members of the MC were asked to vote on the proposed budget for GP2 (1/11/2021 – 31/10/2022), there were no objections and WBP for GP2 was adopted.

Morana Jarec presented major changes in COST rules coming into force on 1 Nov 2021. According to the new rules, Grant Awarding Coordinator needs to be selected. Ivor Janković suggested that Florent Rivals, STSM coordinator takes over the role. Members of the MC were asked to vote on the proposal, there were no objections and Florent Rivals was elected as Grant Awarding Coordinator.

12. AOB – voting (Morana Jarec, GRANT MANAGER)

12.1. Members of the MC were asked to vote on shortening the period for submitting reimbursement claims (1 week instead of 30 days) after the events in Tübingen and STSMs because of deadline for submitting the Final Financial Report (deadline 30 Nov 2021):

- Working Groups meeting in Tübingen, deadline 20 Oct 2021, instead of 30 days after the event (20 Nov)
- Training School in Tübingen, deadline 23 Oct 2021, instead of 30 days after the event (23 Nov)
- STSMs (G. Marciani), deadline 5 Nov 2021, instead of 30 days after the STSM (29 Nov)
- STSM (O. A. Higgins), deadline 8 Nov 2021, instead of 30 days after the STSM (30 Nov)

There were no objections and proposal was adopted.

12.2. Members of the MC were asked to vote on giving the mandate to the Core Group for evaluation and selection of ITC conference grant and dissemination meeting grant grantees

There were no objections and proposal was adopted.

13. Summary of MC decisions and closing (Ivor Janković, ACTION CHAIR)

MC adopted the agenda of the meeting, minutes of the previous MC meeting, Work and Budget Plan for Grant Period 2, elected Florent Rivals as Grant Awarding Coordinator, shortened the period of submitting the reimbursement claims to 1 week and gave mandate to the Core Group for evaluation and selection of ITC conference grant and dissemination meeting grant grantees.

The Management Committee Meeting of COST19141 *Integrating Neandertal Legacy – From Past to Present* (iNEAL) ended at 15:35.





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Minutes prepared by:

Morana Jarec, Grant Manager

Annexes:

1. Agenda of the Management Committee Meeting
2. Attendance list



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ANNEX 1

COST Action CA19141

Action Title: Integrating Neandertal Legacy: From Past to Present

Agenda

Management Committee Meeting

ZOOM, Zagreb, Croatia

October 6, 2021 14:00

1. Welcome to the participants (Ivor Janković, ACTION CHAIR, 3 min)
2. Verification of the presence of two thirds of the participating COST countries, or, if applicable, a quorum (2 min)
3. Adoption of the Agenda (1 min)
4. Approval of the minutes and matters of the last meeting (2 min)
5. Update from Action Chair, status of COST Action, Grant Period 1 goals, follow up of MoU objectives (Ivor Janković, Action Chair, 10 min)
6. Update from the Action vice-chair; inclusion of new members, gender balance, ECI, ITC (Stefano Bennazi, Action Vice –chair, 5 min)
7. Update on the STSM's (Florent Rivals, STSM coordinator) (5 min)
8. Update on the Training schools (Francesca Romagnoli, WG 2 leader (5 min), Sanjin Mihelić WG 4 leader (5 min))
9. Update from the Science Communication Manager (Newsletter, social media etc.) (Tamara Leskovar, Science Communication Manager, 5 min)
10. Plans and goals for the next GP (Ivor Janković, Action Chair, 10 min)
11. Work and budget plan for the 1st GP and plans for the 2nd GP (Morana Jarec, Grant Manager, 5 min)
12. AOB (2 min):
 - voting on the shorter period for submission of reports and documents for reimbursement for the GP1
 - voting on giving the mandate to the CG for evaluation and selection of ITC conference grant and dissemination meeting grant grantees
13. Summary of MC decisions and closing (Ivor Janković, ACTION CHAIR, 5 min)



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ANNEX 2

Name (Original Name),User Email,Total Duration (Minutes),Guest
Morana Jarec,morana.jarec@inantro.hr,136,No
Damian Stefański,,6,Yes
Maria Gurova,gurova.maria@gmail.com,97,Yes
Paraskevi Elefanti,,105,Yes
HR Ivor Jankovic,,113,Yes
Irka Hajdas,,97,Yes
Andrei Dorian,,94,Yes
Leskovar# Tamara,tamara.leskovar@ff.uni-lj.si,95,Yes
Florent Rivals,florent.rivals@icrea.cat,94,Yes
Telmo Pereira,tpereira@autonoma.pt,95,Yes
ME Srđan Delić,,92,Yes
f.romagnoli,,94,Yes
FR Anna Degioanni,,94,Yes
Nemergut,,94,Yes
Daniel Fernandes,daniel.fernandes@univie.ac.at,93,Yes
Stefano benazzi,,109,Yes
Sanjin Mihelić,,93,Yes
Damian
Stefański,damian.stefanski@ma.krakow.pl,93,Yes
Bojana Mihailovic,salitrena@gmail.com,92,Yes
TR-Parisa Göker (Parisa Göker),,89,Yes
Hub Zwart,zwart@esphil.eur.nl,89,Yes
Kate Britton (UoA),,91,Yes
Katerina Harvati,,88,Yes
Jean-Luc Voisin,,88,Yes
Mester,,88,Yes
paweł valde-nowak,,80,Yes
Ron Pinhasi,ron.pinhasi@univie.ac.at,44,Yes



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