Subject: Feedback on your Progress report
Erasmus Mundus Master’s Degree in Women’s and Gender Studies
Agreement N° 2019-1506
Project N° 610564 (GEMMA)
(please quote in all correspondence)

Dear Prof. Dorothy Kelly,

I am pleased to send you the following feedback on the technical part of your progress report received on 05/11/2021. Please refer as well to our previous letter dated 03/12/2021. The second prefinancing of 2.266.000 (in two instalments; respectively EUR 2.168.000 and EUR 98.000) was transferred to your account on 01/12/2021.

Please follow-up on the below recommendations and provide your feedback in your next report or within the deadline specified below:

1. Feedback on the project implementation

The EACEA is pleased to see that the consortium is progressing according to plan, in spite of the difficulties linked to the Covid 19 pandemic. The consortium builds upon the experience gained within the previous editions and jointly implements all aspects of the GEMMA Master programme. We encourage you to resume your efforts to implement the European Approach for Quality Assurance for Joint Programmes, as this would be a good practice to promote further GEMMA. Please keep us informed about new developments in your next report.

The attractiveness of the GEMMA programme has been again confirmed by the 2nd intake of students, which seems to be the most successful of the 14th previous intakes. The wide network of academic and non-academic associated partners as well as the close link to the world of work ensures a wide geographical outreach and constitute an added value for the project. It can be expected that the additional scholarships under the different geographical
windows will be filled as planned in the Grant Agreement (Annex III). We fully support the targeted promotion envisaged by the consortium for the currently underrepresented Gulf Countries region.

We read in the report that the consortium struggles to involve scholars as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Please keep in mind that in line with our communication sent on 23/03/2020 and the Q&As sent on 13/05/2020, there is the possibility for scholars to teach online. This needs to be authorised by the EACEA upon a derogation request. It is not foreseen to change the minimum requirements for the involvement of scholars in the EMJMDs. The fulfilment of this requirement will be assessed at reporting stage and might have an impact on the overall quality evaluation of the project.

The Agency positively notes your consortium’s comprehensive strategy to adapt the Master programme to recent developments in the field of gender studies.

Furthermore, we acknowledge the success of the open online courses and support the idea of providing remote access to the conferences and seminars of the visiting scholars. This strategy will certainly contribute to the exchange of knowledge in the field and indirectly also to the promotion of the Master.

Overall, we value that the students’ needs, interests and wellbeing is put at the center of the GEMMA consortium’s work. The consortium is committed to continuously reflect and responds to the needs of students and has provided additional support during the pandemic which proved to positively impact students performance and wellbeing. Students’ representatives are satisfactory involved in quality assurance processes and in the consortium governing bodies. Their feedback is taken into account for the improvement of several academic and organizational aspects. The consortium does all the efforts to limit the payment delays to students and to accommodate to specific situations.

Finally, we understood that the consortium committed to revamp the website on a single server different form the universities URL, but this has been delayed due to the global pandemic.

We are looking forward to read in your next report how EACEA advice has been followed in relation to the website revamp and how the consortium will use the results of the employability surveys to improve the quality of teaching.

In accordance with the Grant Agreement and based on the Award Criteria of the call for proposals, your report has been assessed on a scale from 0 to 100. Your mark has been set at 90/100. The purpose of the present rating is to provide intermediate feedback to the EMJMD consortium about its performance to date (scoring is not applicable for 3rd pre-financing technical part).

Please note that after assessment of the final report, projects scoring 80 or higher might be flagged as good practice in the Erasmus+ Project Results Platform. Projects scoring between 0
and 50 will be subject to a reduction of the lump sum contribution to the consortium management costs in accordance with the Grant Agreement, Articles I.14 and II.25.4.

As your project is now online on the Erasmus+ Project Results Platform to ensure transparency and visibility of EU funding, we invite you to update your project data and to upload your project results. Please note that these results will become publicly available only after the validation of your final report by the Agency.

For any questions please do not hesitate to contact Belen.ENCISO@ec.europa.eu.

Yours sincerely,

Philippe Ruffio
Head of Sector

Qualified electronic signature by:
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Philippe Ruffio
Head of Sector

c.c.: (by email) Project Coordinator Prof. Dr Adelina Sánchez Espinosa