

The Centro per l'Europa Centro-Orientale Balcanica is glad to publish the final Report of dr. Viacheslau Yarashevich, from the Belorussian State University who sent a post-doc mobility period in the Forlì Campus of the University of Bologna from 15.12.2014 to 23.12.2015

1. Academic/research activities carried out at the host university

Undergraduate/MA students: Please list and give a brief description of the courses followed at the host university during the entire duration of your mobility emphasizing on your academic performance and the study outcomes. The answer should be at least 2000 characters.

PhD students: Please list and give a brief description of the courses and/or research work carried out at the host university during the entire duration of your stay abroad emphasizing on your academic performance and/or research outcomes. The answer should be at least 2000 characters.

Post-doctoral fellows and staff: Please give a brief description of the research/academic activities performed at the host university during the entire duration of your stay abroad emphasizing on your performance and the outcomes. The answer should be at least 2000 characters.

As envisaged by the original research activity plan, the focus of my investigation was on the comparative political economy of European and Eurasian integration projects. The results of this research were summarized in the article titled 'Eurasian and European integration in comparative post-communist perspective', which was submitted to the *Communist and Post-communist Studies*, a peer-reviewed international journal managed by Elsevier and edited by a board closely linked to the Center for European and Eurasian Studies of the University of California in US.

On kind suggestion by my supervising Professor Stefano Bianchini, I also made a number of contributions to the Portal on Central Eastern and Balkan Europe (PECOB). Two of them, respectively titled 'Political economy of reforms in Eastern Europe' and 'Political economy of Eurasian integration', were published in PECOBS Papers Series (<http://www.pecob.eu/Political-Economy-Reforms-Eastern-Europe>, <http://www.pecob.eu/Political-Economy-Eurasian-Integration-Paper>), and the third, titled 'EU competitiveness in a globalized world', was set in the Economics section of the Occasional and Working Papers (<http://www.pecob.eu/EU-competitiveness-globalized-world>).

In spring 2015, I gave my Erasmus Mundus WEBB post-doc research some international outreach by attending a seminar on European and Eurasian integration in Austria. Organised by the Joint Vienna Institute in cooperation with the Austrian authorities, it brought together officials from a number of post-socialist countries who heard presentations from various European institutions, as well as from a number of Austrian scholars. I was invited to make a presentation on Belarus' standing in the European Economic Union, which was well received by the audience. In fact, the feedback was so good that I was asked by one of the seminar's organizers, an official from the Austrian national bank, to share my research results once they get published. In January 2016, after receiving a notification from PECOBS on my integration article's publication, I send a respective link to this person and was informed that it was so interesting that I should be invited as a speaker to this year's seminar.

2. Your stay at the host university

Please describe your stay and personal experience at the host university, e.g. academic activities you participated in (congresses, seminars, workshops, etc.) and/or extra-curricular activities you have been involved in (university associations, social or cultural activities, etc.). The answer should

be at least 1000 characters.

Eager to be in direct contact with the Alma Mater's student community, I shared the intermediate results of my post-doc research through open lectures and seminars. Notably, two open lectures on the political economy of Eurasian integration for the students of MIREES (MA in Interdisciplinary Research and Studies on Eastern Europe) were delivered in March and November 2015, which attracted a lot of interest judging by the feedback from both students and professors (see the report by Larena Canterini on <http://www.pecob.eu/Eurasian-Integration>). A series of research seminars for the UniBo's PhD programme in Globalization and International Relations was also conducted in the last weeks of March. The seminars touched upon such themes as 'Globalisation from the other side: a view from ex-USSR', 'Contemporary European geopolitics: Cold War II?', 'Interdependence in Europe: European vs. Eurasian integration', and 'War or peace: uncertain future of globalisation'. As with the MIREES lectures, the seminars received very positive feedback from both students and my UniBo supervisors.

3. Returning to your home country

Please describe how you plan to apply the knowledge and experience acquired during your mobility upon your return to your home country. Will it be fully recognized by your home university or institution? Please comment also on future cooperation activities planned with the host university. The answer should be at least 2000 characters.

The knowledge and experience acquired during my Erasmus Mundus WEBB post-doc at the University of Bologna in Italy in 2015 will by all means be useful for my academic career at my home Belarusian State University in Minsk. Above all, it will be highly relevant in updating my academic courses at the faculty of international relations: the one in Russian titled 'Transition economies' for undergraduate students specializing in world economy, and the other in English titled 'National strategies of East European countries' for postgraduate students specializing in international relations.

I am also using my research results obtained during Erasmus Mundus WEBB post-doc in Italy for drafting high-quality thesis in English for scientific conferences in Belarus, both at my home and other universities. The most imminent such a conference titled 'Innovation economy during globalization: current trends and prospects' will be held in April at the International university MITSO in Minsk, where I plan to discuss the industrialization potential of the Eurasian integration. Finally, I am constantly referring to WEBB post-doc results in my doctorate thesis commenced at the end of 2014. This project focuses on competitiveness of small open economies in the context of post-communist transformation and regional integration, and I hope to use it as the foundation for future cooperation with my host University of Bologna in Italy.

In fact, I was already invited by Prof. Bianchini to join the UniBo's project on EU-China-Russia contemporary relations with a contribution on the Eurasian integration for a book planned to be published in several years' time. The knowledge gained during my Italian WEBB post-doctorate mobility will be indispensable for the success of this new joint research endeavour.