

**Minutes
Management Committee Meeting**

COST Action no. IC1207

**Action Title: Parsing and multi-word expressions. Towards linguistic
precision and computational efficiency in natural language processing
(PARSEME)**

Valletta, Malta 19.03.2015

Note: several points below refer to the slides of the opening session in Malta (19/03/2015) downloadable at: <http://typo.uni-konstanz.de/parseme/images/Meeting/2015-03-19-Malta-meeting/PlenaryOpening/2015-03-19-Malta-plenary-session.pdf>

1. Welcome to participants
Checking the quorum: 24 out of 30 member countries are represented.
2. Adoption of agenda - **vote: 24 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining**
3. Approval of minutes and matters arising of last meeting - **vote: 24 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining**
The minutes are downloadable at: <http://typo.uni-konstanz.de/parseme/index.php/2-general/99-mc-meeting-8-september-2014-frankfurt-a-m-germany>
4. Update from the Action Chair
 - a. Status of Action, including participating countries
The action is constantly growing, we now have 187 members. For the first time we had to refuse invitations to our events (60 for Prague and 17 for Valletta). See also slides from the opening session (pp. 4-5).
 - b. Action budget status
We have spent 58% of our budget (97,991 EUR out of 169,175 EUR for science expenditure). With the estimated budget for Malta, and the dissemination and administration costs we will come close to 98% of our yearly budget (we are not allowed to overspend!). See also slides from the opening session, p. 10.
 - c. STSM status and new applications
Year 2: planned budget - 20,516 € (12 STSMs), effective budget - 16,852 € (9 STSMs, 5 finished)
5. Promotion of gender balance and of Early Stage Researchers (ESR)
women: 49% (47% in 2014), ESRs: 50% (48% in 2014)
6. Update from the Grant Holder
We have signed an annex to the Work and Budget Plan for year 2 - COST association accepted our new budget summary and provided a financial contribution of **6611 €** (an equivalent of cancelled Haifa meeting costs). Total amount increased from 187 940 euro to 194 551 euro.
Revised budget:
 - Meetings: 98500 (before 107250)
 - Training Schools: 41775 (before 33160)
 - STSMs: 26400 (before 20516)

- Dissemination: 1500
- OERSA: 1000
- FSAC: 25376 (before 24513)

Our Intermediate Financial Report has been approved by COST. We are waiting for the 2nd instalment.

7. Update from the COST Association

- New reporting rules for COST actions
 - reporting periods at months 18 (September 2015), 30 and 48 (instead of months 24, 36 and 48)
 - external rapporteur's report – due a month later
- New voting procedure for the Work and Budget Plan – via e-COST.
- Temporary re-allocation of Science Officer for your Action IC1207: Rossella Magli (in place of Ralph Stuebner), until autumn 2015
- New rule for the reimbursement of local transport expenses – they include costs of shuttle, buses, taxis, car, and parking. If the claimed amount exceeds 25 EUR all the receipts/tickets are needed (please, read thoroughly the reimbursement rules sent with the e-COST invitations). If the claimed amount is less than 25 EUR, no receipts needed but the journey still has to be detailed on the TRR.

8. Follow-up of MoU objectives

a. Progress report of working groups

- 8 WG surveys on MWEs are under way
 - Survey on MWE lexicons and treebanks (WG1 & WG4)
 - MWE templates for particular languages (WG1)
 - SOA paper on lexical encoding of verbal MWEs (WG1)
 - Book project: *Mutliword Expressions: Insights from a Multi-lingual Perspective* (WG1)
 - 3 surveys on hybrid processing of MWEs (WG3): discovery, translation, parsing (see Malta posters)
 - Survey on MWE annotation in treebanks (WG4)
- see also the WG webpages (<http://typo.uni-konstanz.de/parseme/index.php/organization/working-groups>)

b. Scientific assessment

Main successes, drawbacks and the key difficulties so far - no points were submitted by the MC members. Direct feedback from the Action members to the MC chair is welcome at any time, and particularly before the next reporting period (september 2015).

9. Scientific planning

a. Scientific strategy

- Validating a new WG1 vice-leader: Carla Parra Escartín (Norway) – **vote: 24 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining**
- COST actions can promote topics for the Horizon 2020 Work Programme according to the following rules: (i) COST actions participate in proposing topics, (ii) they can directly contact Scientific Officers to promote these proposals, (iii) MC representatives can promote the same proposals to their National Contact Points. If some PARSEME members are aware of initiatives of topic proposals in NLP for the next H2020 Work Programme, they should contact the MC chair to discuss their promotion by PARSEME.

- Plans towards synergies with the Universal Dependencies project (<http://universaldependencies.github.io/docs/>). Interested PARSEME members should contact the MC chair in order to create a special interest group.
 - First ideas on a shared task dedicated to MWEs – Shared tasks are known to boost development of tools and methodologies within contrastive frameworks. University of Szeged proposed a shared task on automatic extraction of verbal MWEs for CoNLL 2015 (proposal denied). Preslav Nakov proposed (at the MWE workshop 2014 in Gothenburg) a collaboration with PARSEME around a MWE-related shared task in SemEval. Ideas about a shared task dedicated to distinguishing literal and idiomatic meanings of MWEs emerged at the Training School in Prague 2015. These incentives encourage us to envisage a PARSEME-related shared task (maybe in 2016?). The main challenge would be to make it as multilingual as possible. We might set up a special interest group dedicated to preparing such a shared task. Interested PARSEME members should contact the MC chair.
 - Plans towards a common workshop on lexical resources of MWEs to be organized jointly by PARSEME WG1/WG3 and the ENeL COST action (maybe co-located with PARSEME's 6th meeting in spring 2016).
- b. Action Budget Planning
- See slides 12-14 from the opening session for events scheduled for year 3. We have started drafting the Work and Budget Plan for year 3. The budget for year 3 should be slightly lower (about 170,000 EUR, instead of 188,400 EUR according to the previous rules).
- c. Long-term planning (including anticipated locations and dates of future activities)
- Cancelling the SC submeeting 7.1 in Frankfurt from the WBP for year 2 – the meeting should have involved 3 WG1 co-leaders. It will finally take place remotely – **vote: 24 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining**
 - Shifting budget from the 7.1. submeeting (1400 EUR), from Haifa-related top-up budget (6611 EUR), from Prague training school (2300 EUR), and partly from STSMs (about 3700 EUR) to Malta (total budget increase of about 14,000 EUR. Total estimated budget for Malta: about 58,000 EUR – **vote: 24 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining**
 - MUMTTT Workshop at EUROPHRAS-15, Málaga, Spain, 29 June – 1 July 2015 (20 participants and one invited speaker to fund by PARSEME)
 - Reminder of the vote (carried on per email on 23/10-3/11/2014) for including the workshop in WBP for year 3 : member parties – 30, voting parties – 16, absence of reply (interpreted as consent) – 4, in favor: 30
 - Proposed hotel reimbursement rates: 90 EUR (rate for the medium-budget recommended hotels) – **vote: 24 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining**
 - 5th general meeting, Iași, Romania, 23-24 September 2015 – proposed hotel reimbursement rates: 60 EUR per night (the conference hotel - Unirea - offers 50 EUR per night, other hotels are cheaper) – **vote: 24 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining**
 - 6th general meeting in spring 2016 – 2 proposals
 - Ss Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, FYR Macedonia; presentation by Katerina Zdravkova
 - University of La Rochelle, France; presentation by Antoine Doucet and Matthieu Constant

Vote by secret ballot: 13 in favor of the FYR Macedonia, 10 in favor of France, 1 abstaining.

d. Dissemination planning (Publications and outreach activities)

A dissemination paper on the action, authored by the SC members - submission planned for RANLP 2015 in Bulgaria, 7-9 September 2015

10. Location and date of next meeting

23 September 2015, Iași, Romania (to be confirmed)