

## Report on the outcomes of a Short-Term Scientific Mission<sup>1</sup>

**Action number: CA21129**

**Grantee name: Roksana Gloc**

### **Details of the STSM**

Title: Building international transfer of knowledge, tools, and data: OPTED Meteor as an inventory for media researchers in Poland

Start and end date: 05/10/2024 to 20/10/2024

### **Description of the work carried out during the STSM**

During the STSM the applicant completed six main tasks:

- 1) familiarization with the Meteor infrastructure (week 1);
- 2) testing the Meteor infrastructure by verifying existing entries of the Polish news sources (week 1);
- 3) creation of a dataset of the additional Polish political text resources (week 1);
- 4) creation of a student workshop for Jagiellonian University journalism and social communication students (week 2);
- 5) identification of the key Polish stakeholders (e.g. media, academics, non-academics) (week 2);
- 6) dissemination of information about the Meteor and CA21129 (week 2).

The first step of the work plan was to familiarize the applicant with the Meteor infrastructure: its resources, capabilities, and working principles (1). During meetings with the Meteor team (The Computational Communication Science Lab (CCL), Department of Communication of the University of Vienna; Univ.-Prof. Dr. Hajo Boomgaarden; Dr. Fabienne Lind; Marvin Stecker), the applicant was introduced to inventory features and the types of news sources that can be coded. What is more, the newSources coding scheme was discussed in detail. In addition, as part of gaining practical experience, the applicant verified existing entries of the Polish news sources (2). The Meteor system has been technically updated, and adding new entries was impossible during STSM. For this reason, an Excel database was developed to easily add new news sources to the Meteor in the future (3).

The second week of the scientific mission was focused on promoting Meteor in Poland (4, 5, 6). The database of European resources for researching political text is aimed at researchers, journalists, non-academic researchers, and policy practitioners. During the STSM the applicant identified the key Polish stakeholders and created the Excel database with their contact info. One of the goals of Meteor's creators is to develop it by individual users. Therefore, the applicant not only wanted to provide personal

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<sup>1</sup> This report is submitted by the grantee to the Action MC for approval and for claiming payment of the awarded grant. The Grant Awarding Coordinator coordinates the evaluation of this report on behalf of the Action MC and instructs the GH for payment of the Grant.

contributions to building a bigger base of Polish resources but also plans to get Jagiellonian University students interested in the infrastructure. Therefore, the workshop scenario for Jagiellonian University (JU) journalism and social communication students is presented (4). The initial idea was to benefit from the teaching experience of the Vienna team, who claim that "beyond a resource for scholarly research, Meteor can also be used in courses with (under-) graduate students." The workshop scenario for JU students focuses on improving practical skills: introducing students to Meteor resources, conducting guided coder training, and coding political news sources (regional Polish news sources and Central and Eastern European news sources). The final step of the scientific mission was the dissemination of information about the capabilities provided by Meteor and about the main aim and objective of COST Action CA21129 (6). This was achieved by summarizing the applicant's experience in the form of a paper at a national media science conference organized by the Institute of Journalism, Media and Social Communication, Jagiellonian University in Krakow (17-18 October 2024).

### **Description of the STSM main achievements and planned follow-up activities**

The planned goals and expected outcomes were achieved. The results of STSM are:

1. Teaching materials (scenario + extra learning materials)
2. The dataset: new Polish NewsSources
3. The dataset: Revision of existing Polish NewsSources
4. The dataset: Polish Stakeholders
5. Summary: Meteor – challenges for coders
6. Conference presentation "Building international transfer of knowledge, tools, and data: OPTED Meteor as an inventory for media researchers in Poland"

Agreed plans for future follow-up collaborations cover three dimensions: 1) enriching Meteor NewsSource; 2) teaching; 3) COST Action Opinion.

In the face of increasing demand for text analysis tools, the development of a database of political text resources by enriching it with Polish sources will benefit European political communication researchers and media workers. Once Meteor is available to external users (the update phase will be completed), the applicant will launch new Polish sources and correct any errors found in existing entries (1).

A concrete result of STSM is a workshop scenario integrating Meteor into teaching journalism and social communication students in Krakow (2). The workshop is planned to take place in the summer semester of 2024/2025. Inviting students to code in Meteor is connected with expanding the inventory with new news sources – Polish regional sources and sources from Central and Eastern Europe (1). As a reviewer, the applicant will verify the correctness of entries before they appear in the database.

The use of the OPTED Meteor is planned in further stages of the work of WG2, to which the applicant belongs (3). The inventory of tools will take the form of a collection on the Meteor platform. An expected outcome of STSM was the implementation of early career researcher from outside the University of Vienna into the functioning of the Meteor platform. The STSM also created a thread of cooperation between universities and promoted good practices in opinion text research. WG2 Tools objectives include combining multiple disciplines in researching opinions. The applicant brought a media perspective related to the social communication and media studies discipline and enriched the Meteor research platform with a broader database of Polish opinionated texts.

Knowing the OPTED Meteor not only developed the research capabilities of an applicant at an early stage of research career but enabled her to conduct future research using this infrastructure. It also provided an opportunity to develop potential collaborations between research institutions in the future.