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**COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE COUNCIL,
THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND
SOCIAL COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS**

Tempus Annual Report 2005

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1. FOREWORD

The Tempus III Programme (2000-2006) focuses on the development and modernisation of higher education in the 27 partner countries through co-operation with institutions from the Member States of the European Union. Higher education institutions are of particular importance for the social and economic transition process as well as for inter-cultural dialogue; they are also pools of expertise and of human resources and provide for the training of new generations of leaders.

A detailed description of the Tempus programme can be found at the following URL:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/programmes/tempus/index_en.html

The present annual report is presented in accordance with Article 11 of the Council Decision establishing the Tempus programme (OJ L 120 of 8 May 1999).

2. IMPLEMENTING TEMPUS IN 2005: THE MAIN ACTION LINES

The implementation of the programme in 2005 was guided by the following priorities:

- (1) Reinforcing the involvement of national authorities in the implementation of the programme;
- (2) Strengthening the role of National Tempus Offices;
- (3) Consolidating programme management;
- (4) Enhancing the dissemination of programme results;
- (5) Continuing the preparation of the future Tempus programme.

These priorities are in line with the conclusions and recommendations of the mid-term evaluation of Tempus III which was published in November 2003. The evaluation confirmed the relevance of the programme to support higher education reform and development as well as the validity of its intervention logic and management approaches.

3. REINFORCING THE INVOLVEMENT OF NATIONAL AUTHORITIES

Following the successful experience of July 2004, in April 2005, representatives from partner countries attended a joint meeting with representatives from Member States. The purpose of the meeting was to deepen the understanding of the situation of higher education in the partner countries and to identify areas where cooperation through Tempus could provide the best support

to enhance cooperation. The meeting provided an excellent forum for exchange and discussion on developments in higher education both in the partner countries and in the EU.

Whilst the political, economic and general situation of partner countries shows to be extremely heterogeneous, the dialogue revealed a striking degree of convergence in the countries' main preoccupations, namely quality assurance, accreditation, access to higher education and tuning education to labour market needs. Representatives from partner countries underlined that Tempus played an important role in stimulating and supporting national reform efforts. Tempus projects provide a testing ground for governments and universities as they involve concrete cooperation activities in key areas such as curriculum reform and university management. The dialogue confirmed that a majority of partner countries within and outside Europe clearly take the Bologna process as a reference point in their own reforms.

Dialogue with national authorities was continued in the framework of a series of visits to partner countries undertaken by Commission staff.

With a view to reinforcing the involvement of national authorities in the implementation of the programme and in particular in order to ensure that national priorities are taken into account in the selection process, the Commission services developed a new approach to consulting education ministries in partner countries. As a result, the opinion given by national education ministries now counts towards the final score of projects and influences more significantly the final selection.

4. STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF NATIONAL TEMPUS OFFICES

National Tempus Offices (NTOs) in partner countries play a key role in the implementation of the programme providing information to prospective and actual programme users, as well as providing feedback to the European Commission services on on-going projects.

In 2005, the Commission services further reinforced their cooperation with the NTO network. One of the main tasks during the first semester was the preparation of NTO work programmes in accordance with the guidelines prepared in the last quarter of 2004. These guidelines aimed at bringing horizontal coherence to NTO work programmes and financial support linked with it.

In this context, one of the objectives was to involve NTOs more closely in field monitoring activities. In March and October 2005, meetings for National Tempus Offices were held in Brussels where a strategy for the development of this monitoring role was presented and developed. Training on monitoring activities was delivered to NTOs, and a handbook with practical recommendations was established. Monitoring carried out by NTOs complements activities carried out by the Commission services and its technical assistance (which is provided by the Tempus Department of the European Training Foundation).

In 2005, the Commission services organised and finalised the selection of new NTOs for Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. The formal opening of the Tempus NTO Russia took place in March 2005. At the end of 2005, NTOs were operating in all Tempus partner countries.

5. CONSOLIDATING PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

One of the first priorities for the implementation of Tempus in 2005 was to streamline the financial management of the programme which had been repatriated from the European Training

Foundation in 2003 as a result of the entry into force of the new Financial Regulation. In order to bring the volume of activity down to a manageable level, it was decided to drastically reduce the number of Individual Mobility Grants from 800 to 150 per year.

Certain grant agreements could not be dispatched according to the established planning due to the late adoption of financing decisions or due to delays in the signature of financing agreements.

With a view to simplifying the management of Individual Mobility Grants, an important change was introduced in the Guide for Applicants in May 2005. From the October 2005 round, these grants will be considered as scholarships as per the definition of the Financial Regulation. As a result, the grant can be transferred in its entirety to the successful applicants as a one-off payment. At the same time, reporting requirements will be facilitated.

In line with the recommendations from the mid-term evaluation, the Commission services implemented during 2004/2005 an ambitious field monitoring programme targeting 10% of the running projects and involving more than 50 on-site visits. Overall, the findings were positive with a much higher rate of projects having strong points rather than deficiencies. Most of the visited projects performed better than it appeared from the desk monitoring. The results of the first field monitoring visits have confirmed that ongoing projects generally meet their objectives and are relevant to the national reform agenda.

As stated above, National Tempus Offices (NTO) are now being closely involved in field monitoring activities. The objective is to have 60% of running projects visited by NTOs (corresponding to a total of 180 projects). Monitoring by NTOs will focus mainly on the quality of outputs being produced by projects on the ground.

The planning for the field monitoring campaign 2005/2006 was adopted in autumn 2005. The field monitoring will involve the Commission services, experts from the European Training Foundation and National Tempus Offices in the partner countries. The reinforced field monitoring allows the Commission services to get a better insight in what is happening in the field and enables the programme managers to adjust implementation mechanisms where appropriate.

In addition to field visits, preventive monitoring plays an important part in programme implementation. In May 2005, a training and networking seminar was organised in Brussels for coordinators of Tempus-Tacis projects selected in 2004 that had been delayed due to the late signing of financing agreements in this region. The seminar focused on the management of grant agreements and project implementation in general.

Five selection procedures were concluded during 2005. This comprises the selection rounds for Joint European Projects (deadline of 15 December 2004), Structural and Complementary Measures (deadlines of 15 October 2004 and 15 February 2005) and Individual Mobility Grants (deadlines of 15 February and 15 October 2005). The number of applications per selection round has remained consistently high, which means that the programme continues to attract the interest of the academic community. In particular, the number of applications for Structural and Complementary Measures is increasing and their content is more strongly focusing on horizontal issues which are of importance for the reform and modernisation of higher education in the partner countries. The results of the selection procedures concluded in 2005 are detailed in the annexes.

The selected Joint European Projects fall in the areas of curriculum development (66%), university management (21%) and institution-building (13%). Curriculum development projects cover a wide range of areas such as applied sciences, technology, business administration and social sciences. Institution building and university management projects support reforms related to quality assurance, teaching quality or the financial management of universities in the partner countries. In a majority of countries, the selected Structural and Complementary Measures are clearly linked to the action lines of the Bologna process. The selected projects under this programme component typically concern issues such as the design of quality assurance systems or the introduction of credit transfer mechanisms. Projects also focus on the modernisation of university operations and services, including the updating of training programmes, the use of information and communication technologies and the strengthening of international relations. The selected Individual Mobility Grants concern mainly retraining and study periods (70%) followed by preparatory activities for Joint European Projects (18%) and participation in specific conferences and seminars (12%). Globally speaking, it can be observed that the submitted projects are increasingly in line with the national priorities established by the partner countries. Almost all selected projects adhere to national priorities.

During 2005, a total amount of approximately € 57 million was committed under Tempus. A total amount of around € 51.7 was awarded to projects which were selected during 2005.

6. ENHANCING THE DISSEMINATION OF PROGRAMME RESULTS

With a view to enhancing the dissemination of programme results and to further increase the programme's visibility, the Tempus website was completely redesigned in 2005. The new website is regularly updated with news of the programme such as selection deadlines, selection results, conferences and information on project management support. In addition, the website includes partner country pages with national priorities for projects, information on national higher education systems and summary sheets of funded projects.

The study on the sustainability of higher education programmes was finalised at the end of 2005. The study enables applicants and project coordinators to identify factors that support and ensure the sustainability of international cooperation projects in higher education and training and to take the appropriate measures in this regard. The study provides a new tool, a Handbook on Sustainability, which can be found on the Tempus website along with a promotional leaflet. These tools, which underline the Commission's commitment to sustainable practices, are already proving useful for the National Tempus Offices as they undertake field monitoring activities.

Two further thematic studies were launched in 2005 with the support from the European Training Foundation.

- Firstly, a study on university-enterprise cooperation. The objectives of this study are to review trends and developments in university-enterprise cooperation in Tempus partner countries and to promote its importance as a means to enhance students' employability. The study will outline the role that Tempus has played and can continue to play in developing cooperation between university and enterprises in the partner countries. The study was initiated as a follow-up to discussions with partner country authorities during which university-enterprise cooperation was identified as a common preoccupation. In all partner countries, higher education structures need to be adapted in order to respond to current and prospective labour market needs. The study will propose a number of recommendations based on examples of good practice. The findings of the study will be presented and debated at a seminar organised

in Amman on 9-10 April 2006, which is jointly organised by the European Commission and the Ministry for Higher Education and Scientific Research of Jordan.

- Secondly, the impact studies. These studies will provide an illustration of the impact that Tempus has had on higher education institutions, on individuals involved in higher education and on organisations linked to or benefiting from the higher education system in the partner countries. The aim of this study is to enhance dissemination of information on what Tempus has achieved so far and to contribute to the discussions on the future Tempus' programme.

As part of the programme's promotion strategy, a video entitled 'Tempus in Action' was commissioned. The video is comprised of three sections looking at the various programme components respectively. Project participants in Russia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Egypt were interviewed to depict the impact Tempus has had on their working lives and their academic and institutional environment.

Tempus National Contacts Points in the Member States continued to play an important role in the programme implementation facilitating the involvement of EU higher education institutions through information activities and assistance in partner searching. In 2005, Tempus information days were organised in most partner countries as well as in a number of EU Member States.

7. CONTINUING THE PREPARATION OF THE FUTURE TEMPUS PROGRAMME

The European Commission continues to consider higher education as a priority for its cooperation activities with neighbouring countries. There is a strong commitment to extend the Tempus programme with its strong focus on institution-based university cooperation beyond 2006. In addition, the Commission is currently considering the possibility to enable the students from the neighbouring countries to study at EU universities.

8. CONCLUSION

The implementation of the Tempus programme in 2005 was guided by a number of strategic objectives which have all been satisfactorily achieved. The continuous dialogue with national authorities and their close involvement in the definition of priorities and the selection of projects ensures that funded activities are relevant to the country's needs and in line with national reform objectives. This ensures ownership by national governments and increases the impact of the programme's interventions. National Tempus Offices in the partner countries have been further reinforced and play an important role in liaising with national authorities and other stakeholders. Feedback from national authorities and the results of the field monitoring have confirmed that Tempus continues to be a highly relevant programme for assisting partner countries in reforming and modernising their higher education systems.

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TEMPUS 2005 – FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Tempus 2005 - Amounts committed per region in €			
	CARDS	Tacis	MEDA
JEP	11,550,002.57	19,737,640	12,523,383
IMG	318,790	634,340	495,800
SCM	2,456,797.38	3,118,961.72	1,590,094.75
NTO	685,170.83	746,693.57	551,671.60
ETF	381,255.28	650,226.45	481,778.36
Other	172,218.48	424,738.67	419,883.16
Total	15,564,234.54	25,312,603	16,062,611

Tempus 2005 – Projects selected per region/Amounts awarded in €		
	CARDS	Amount awarded to selected projects
JEP (deadline of 15 December 2004)	29	11,550,002.57
SCM (deadline of 15 October 2004)	7	697,395.43
SCM (deadline of 15 February 2005)	13	1,527,241.70
IMG (deadline of 15 February 2005)	39	124,990.00
IMG (deadline of 15 October 2005)	15	85,080.00
Total	103	13,984,709.70

Tempus 2005 – Projects selected per region/Amounts awarded in €		
	Tacis	Amount awarded to selected projects
JEP (deadline of 15 December 2004)	47	18,610,480.00
SCM (deadline of 15 October 2004)	10	1,117,243.00
SCM (deadline of 15 February 2005)	13	1,700,309.00
IMG (deadline of 15 February 2005)	60	208,860.00
IMG (deadline of 15 October 2005)	34	159,830.00
Total	164	21,796,722.00

Tempus 2005 – Projects selected per region/Amounts awarded in €		
	MEDA	Amount awarded to selected projects
JEP (deadline of 15 December 2004)	32	13,918,458.00
SCM (deadline of 15 October 2004)	9	1,123,121.75
SCM (deadline of 15 February 2005)	5	548,301.75
IMG (deadline of 15 February 2005)	50	185,600.00
IMG (deadline of 15 October 2005)	19	74,080.00
Total	115	15,849,561.50

- JEP: Joint European Project; SCM: Structural and Complementary Measure; IMG: Individual Mobility Grant; NTO: National Tempus Office; ETF: European Training Foundation.

JOINT EUROPEAN PROJECTS (JEP) SELECTION TABLES 2005

- The tables presented below cover the selection of Joint European Projects (JEPs) carried out in 2005 following the call for proposals closed on 15 December 2004. The table reflects the number of selected projects in which institutions from a given partner country are involved.
- National projects target exclusively one single Tempus partner country. Multi-country projects involve more than one partner country.

JEP – TEMPUS CARDS (Annex 2.1 – Table 1)			
Partner Country	National / Multicountry	Total Selected Projects	Total Awarded in €
1244-Kosovo	National	2	587,752.00
	Multicountry	1	230,000.00
	Total	3	817,752.00
Albania	National	2	519,030.00
	Multicountry	2	323,642.60
	Total	4	842,672.60
Bosnia and Herzegovina	National	4	1,409,601.00
	Multicountry	2	335,939.45
	Total	6	1,745,540.45
Croatia	National	7	3,377,600.00
	Multicountry	-	-
	Total	7	3,377,600.00
former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	National	5	1,949,926.00
	Multicountry	1	149,828.16
	Total	6	2,099,754.16
Serbia and Montenegro	National	6	2,375,457.57
	Multicountry	2	291,225.79
	Total	8	2,666,683.36

JEP – TEMPUS TACIS (Annex 2.1 – Table 2)

Partner Country	National / Multicountry	Total Selected Projects	Total Awarded in €
Armenia	National	2	420,103.00
	Multicountry	-	-
	Total	2	420,103.00
Azerbaijan	National	2	564,308.00
	Multicountry	-	-
	Total	2	564,308.00
Belarus	National	1	265,996.00
	Multicountry	-	-
	Total	1	265,996.00
Georgia	National	3	1,212,353.00
	Multicountry	-	-
	Total	3	1,212,353.00
Kazakhstan	National	1	498,480.00
	Multicountry	1	94,932.00
	Total	2	593,412.00
Kyrgyzstan	National	1	279,900.00
	Multicountry	2	319,121.00
	Total	3	599,021.00
Moldova	National	3	841,237.00
	Multicountry	-	-
	Total	3	841,237.00
Russian Federation	National	17	7,421,467.00
	Multicountry	1	34,325.00
	Total	18	7,455,792.00
Tajikistan	National	-	-
	Multicountry	-	-
	Total	-	-
Turkmenistan	National	2	740,556.00
	Multicountry	-	-
	Total	2	740,556.00
Ukraine	National	9	3,881,117.00
	Multicountry	-	-
	Total	9	3,881,117.00
Uzbekistan	National	4	1,735,703.00
	Multicountry	2	300,882.00
	Total	6	2,036,585.00

JEP – TEMPUS MEDA (Annex 2.1 – Table 3)			
Partner Country	National / Multicountry	Total Selected Projects	Total Awarded in €
Algeria	National	4	1,363,495.00
	Multicountry	-	-
	Total	4	1,363,495.00
Egypt	National	6	2,865,781.00
	Multicountry	-	-
	Total	6	2,865,781.00
Jordan	National	1	498,900.00
	Multicountry	2	379,214.33
	Total	3	878,114.33
Lebanon	National	3	1,392,078.00
	Multicountry	1	59,388.00
	Total	4	1,451,466.00
Morocco	National	6	2,468,895.00
	Multicountry	1	250,000.00
	Total	7	2,718,895.00
Palestinian Authority	National	2	949,598.00
	Multicountry	1	261,128.67
	Total	3	1,210,726.67
Syria	National	3	1,267,528.00
	Multicountry	2	367,426.00
	Total	5	1,634,954.00
Tunisia	National	3	1,426,250.00
	Multicountry	2	368,776.00
	Total	5	1,795,026.00

STRUCTURAL AND COMPLEMENTARY MEASURES (SCM) SELECTION TABLES 2005

- The tables presented below cover the selection of Structural and Complementary Measures following the calls for proposals closed on 15 October 2004 and 15 February 2005. The table reflects the number of selected projects in which institutions from a given partner country are involved.
- National projects target exclusively one single Tempus partner country. Multi-country projects involve more than one partner country.

SCM – TEMPUS CARDS (Annex 2.2 – Table 1)			
Partner Country	National / Multicountry	Total Selected Projects	Total Awarded in €
1244 - Kosovo	National	1	141,550.70
	Multicountry	3	115,301.93
	Total	4	256,852.63
Albania	National	1	43,585.00
	Multicountry	-	-
	Total	1	43,585.00
Bosnia and Herzegovina	National	3	358,848.00
	Multicountry	1	50,000.00
	Total	4	408,848.00
Croatia	National	3	355,435.43
	Multicountry	2	59,968.93
	Total	5	415,404.36
former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	National	3	334,370.00
	Multicountry	2	71,716.93
	Total	5	406,086.93
Serbia and Montenegro	National	6	644,015.60
	Multicountry	1	9,968.93
	Total	7	653,984.53

SCM – TEMPUS TACIS (Annex 2.2 – Table 2)			
Partner Country	National / Multicountry	Total Selected Projects	Total Awarded in €
Armenia	National	-	-
	Multicountry	-	-
	Total	-	-
Azerbaijan	National	-	-
	Multicountry	-	-
	Total	-	-
Belarus	National	-	-
	Multicountry	-	-
	Total	-	-
Georgia	National	-	-
	Multicountry	-	-
	Total	-	-
Kazakhstan	National	1	144,522.00
	Multicountry	-	-
	Total	1	144,522.00
Kyrgyzstan	National	2	139,730.00
	Multicountry	1	61,390.00
	Total	3	201,120.00
Moldova	National	1	94,800.00
	Multicountry	-	-
	Total	1	94,800.00
Russian Federation	National	8	1,116,959.00
	Multicountry	-	-
	Total	8	1,116,959.00
Tajikistan	National	2	225,388.00
	Multicountry	1	61,390.00
	Total	3	286,778.00
Turkmenistan	National	-	-
	Multicountry	-	-
	Total	-	-
Ukraine	National	4	467,930.00
	Multicountry	1	39,875.70
	Total	5	507,805.70
Uzbekistan	National	3	389,891.00
	Multicountry	-	-
	Total	3	389,891.00

SCM – TEMPUS MEDA (Annex 2.2 – Table 3)			
Partner Country	National / Multicountry	Total Selected Projects	Total Awarded in €
Algeria	National	-	-
	Multicountry	1	25,200.00
	Total	1	25,200.00
Egypt	National	4	502,725.00
	Multicountry	-	-
	Total	4	502,725.00
Jordan	National	1	126,934.00
	Multicountry	-	-
	Total	1	126,934.00
Lebanon	National	1	93,577.50
	Multicountry	-	-
	Total	1	93,577.50
Morocco	National	3	352,454.25
	Multicountry	1	50,400.00
	Total	4	402,854.25
Palestinian Authority	National	2	243,375.75
	Multicountry	-	-
	Total	2	243,375.75
Syria	National	1	149,707.00
	Multicountry	-	-
	Total	1	149,707.00
Tunisia	National	1	101,850.00
	Multicountry	1	25,200.00
	Total	2	127,050.00

INDIVIDUAL MOBILITY GRANTS (IMG) SELECTION TABLES 2005

- The tables presented below cover the selection of Individual Mobility Grants (IMGs) carried out in 2005 following the calls for proposals closed on 15 February 2005 and 15 October 2005. The figures include selected IMGs involving nationals or host institutions from the concerned partner countries.

IMG – TEMPUS CARDS (Annex 2.3 – Table 1)		
Partner Country	Total Selected Projects	Total Awarded in €
1244-Kosovo	3	19,510.00
Albania	11	48,040.00
Bosnia and Herzegovina	4	12,470.00
Croatia	11	30,850.00
former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	13	48,840.00
Serbia and Montenegro	12	50,360.00

IMG – TEMPUS TACIS (Annex 2.3 – Table 2)		
Partner Country	Total Selected Projects	Total Awarded in €
Armenia	6	19,320.00
Azerbaijan	3	15,580.00
Belarus	5	18,230.00
Georgia	5	16,260.00
Kazakhstan	3	16,740.00
Kyrgyzstan	5	27,660.00
Moldova	7	36,720.00
Russian Federation	33	115,050.00
Tadjikistan	2	15,640.00
Turkmenistan	3	12,640.00
Ukraine	12	37,750.00
Uzbekistan	10	37,100.00

IMG – TEMPUS MEDA (Annex 2.3 – Table 3)		
Partner Country	Total Selected Projects	Total Awarded in €
Algeria	10	19,810.00
Egypt	17	82,360.00
Jordan	5	14,160.00
Lebanon	6	16,160.00
Morocco	9	35,730.00
Palestinian Authority	11	41,220.00
Syria	8	43,540.00
Tunisia	3	6,700.00

JOINT EUROPEAN PROJECTS (JEP) - SELECTION TABLE 2005 BY EU MEMBER STATES' PARTICIPATION

- The table presented below covers the selection of Joint European Projects (JEPs) carried out in 2005 following the call for proposals closed on 15 December 2004. The table indicates the number of institutions which are involved in selected projects as grant holders or partners respectively.

EU Member State	Number of institutions involved in selected projects as grant holders	Number of institutions involved in selected projects as partners	Total
Austria	6	15	21
Belgium	3	19	22
Cyprus	-	-	-
Czech Republic	-	2	2
Denmark	-	3	3
Estonia	-	4	4
Finland	3	4	7
France	27	42	69
Germany	20	34	54
Greece	3	9	12
Hungary	2	6	8
Ireland	1	6	7
Italy	9	24	33
Latvia	-	1	1
Lithuania	-	1	1
Luxembourg	-	1	1
Malta	-	1	1
Netherlands	4	11	15
Poland	-	9	9
Portugal	-	7	7
Slovak Republic	-	4	4
Slovenia	2	9	11
Spain	4	24	28
Sweden	10	17	27
United Kingdom	14	18	32

**STRUCTURAL AND COMPLEMENTARY MEASURES (SCM) -
SELECTION TABLE 2005 BY EU MEMBER STATES' PARTICIPATION**

- The table presented below cover the selection of Structural and Complementary Measures (SCM) carried out in 2005 following the call for proposals closed on 15 October 2004 and 15 February 2005. The table indicates the number of institutions which are involved in selected projects as grant holders or partners respectively.

EU Member State	Number of institutions involved in selected projects as grant holders	Number of institutions involved in selected projects as partners	Total
Austria	1	9	10
Belgium	1	5	6
Cyprus	-	-	-
Czech Republic	-	1	1
Denmark	-	1	1
Estonia	-	-	-
Finland	-	3	3
France	12	13	25
Germany	19	24	43
Greece	-	5	5
Hungary	-	2	2
Ireland	-	1	1
Italy	4	10	14
Latvia	-	-	-
Lithuania	-	1	1
Luxembourg	-	-	-
Malta	-	1	1
Netherlands	2	6	8
Poland	2	7	9
Portugal	-	5	5
Slovak Republic	-	2	2
Slovenia	2	1	3
Spain	4	8	12
Sweden	7	11	18
United Kingdom	3	8	11