

SHORT TERM SCIENTIFIC MISSION (STSM) HOST REPORT

Period: 19-10-2017 to 03-11-2017

COST Action: CA16105

STSM type: Regular (from Sweden to Slovenia)

STSM Title: Literature review on crowdsourcing for language learning

Guest/STSM applicant: David Alfter, Språkbanken, Sweden

Hosts: Dr Iztok Kosem, Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana

The main aim of the STSM was to prepare the infrastructure and guidelines for conducting a literature review on crowdsourcing for language learning, and to review the first sample set of literature. We met with David on the first day of the STSM to discuss the activities to be undertaken. During his visit, David closely collaborated with Jaka Čibej, who is also on the team of three WG1 members that volunteered to take on the literature review. They have analysed the potential software that could be used as repositories for the analysed literature (e.g. Mendeley), but concluded that the development of a simple program for this specific purpose would be much more efficient and user-friendly. A prototype of such a program was already developed. Moreover, David and Jaka have envisaged a system that would allow addition of new literature by members of the action.

David compiled the initial list of literature, which contains around 180 works. The list was prepared by searching the web, but also by contacting different members of the EnetCollect Action, especially Core Group members. Together with Jaka, they have already started annotating the papers with keywords and summaries, and thus constructing an initial taxonomy of tags, which will be an important part of reviewing that will facilitate searches of the literature. It was agreed it is very important to separate the crowdsourcing literature that is specifically focussed on language learning, as those works are rare. Another important result of the STSM was the establishment of communication between the members of the group that will conduct the literature review, and initial division of work. We have also discussed the plans for a publication on literature review.

During his visit, David presented the projects related to language learning and crowdsourcing he is involved in at Språkbanken, while Jaka and I presented project of similar nature, as well as lexicographic ones, at the University of Ljubljana. Overall, I can conclude that the visit was very productive and fruitful, and is likely to facilitate future collaborations between the two institutions.