The
University
Of
Sheffield.

International Faculty
CITY College.

South-East
European
Research Centre.

Annual
Report
2017

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1 RESEARCH @ SEERC

1.1 Externally funded research projects update

Three new externally funded projects were approved for funding and kick started in 2017. Another four projects were successfully completed.

1.1.1 New Awards

	PROGRAMME	ACRONYM/FULL TITLE	COORDINATOR
1	H2020 SwafS	FIT4RRI: Fostering improved training tools for responsible research and innovation (RRI)	Sapienza University of Rome, Italy
2	Erasmus+	VET4SPORT: Vocational Education and Training for sport workers - Innovative program for building personal and social skills	MHRA, FYROM
3	Justice	E-Protect: Enhancing Protection of children – victims of crime	Law and Internet Foundation, Bulgaria

1.1.2 Ongoing Research Projects (as of the end of December 2016)

	PROGRAMME	ACRONYM/FULL TITLE	COORDINATOR
1	Erasmus+	ATSIV: Advancing the Third Sector through Innovation and Variation	University of Peloponnese, Greece
2	Erasmus+	iSTART: A Lean-Training, Innovative, Multidisciplinary Digital Entrepreneurship Platform	Yasar Universitesi, Turkey
3	Jean Monnet Networks	MIGRATE: CTRL+Enter Europe: Jean Monnet Migrant Crisis Network	South East European Research Centre, Greece

	PROGRAMME	ACRONYM/FULL TITLE	COORDINATOR
4	Erasmus+ Strategic partnerships	TrainERGY: Training for Energy Efficient Operations	University of Lodz, Poland
5	EU-INDIA	REINVEST: EU-India Research & Innovation Partnership for efficient and sustainable freight transportation	University of Sheffield, United Kingdom

1.1.3 Completed Research Projects in 2017

SEERC successfully completed four projects during 2017. Details on the completed projects are available in the table below:

	PROGRAMME	ACRONYM/FULL TITLE	COORDINATOR
1	Erasmus+ Strategic partnerships	NetMIB: Network of multidisciplinary ideation and business model generation	University of Pecs, Hungary
2	Erasmus+ Strategic partnerships	HELPcare: Health and social care workers: Employability Learning and Professionalisation	University of Lancaster, United Kingdom
3	HoRIZON 2020 ICT	PaaSword: A Holistic Data Privacy and Security by Design Platform-As-A-Service Framework Introducing Distributed Encrypted Persistence in Cloud-Based Application	CAS Software, Germany
4	Tempus	MAIN: Mastering Innovation in Serbia through Development and Implementation of Interdisciplinary Post-Graduate Curricula in Innovation Management	University of NoviSad, Serbia

1.2 Other Research Activities

1.2.1 Research Submissions

A total of 32 new research project proposals were submitted throughout 2017 to various funding bodies, including 12 at H2020, 12 at the Erasmus+ program, 2 at COST, and 2 at Greek research funding bodies. The proposals reflected the research interests and related work of the research tracks and research clusters within the tracks. Most of these proposals received positive evaluations and 3 of them were selected for funding.

1.2.2   Publications

A series of publications by SEERC staff and students were published in 2017. (An extensive list of publications appearing by Research Track is provided at the end of the report in the Appendix).

1.2.3   The SEE View Working Papers Series

The SEE-VIEW Working Papers Series was launched in 2017 with the purpose of disseminating research and policy debate on subjects related to interdisciplinary issues in the Social Sciences and beyond, focusing on the region of South-East Europe. The working papers published in the Series constitute work in progress circulated to stimulate discussion and critical comments. The first 3 papers appeared in 2017:

- [Working Paper 1_European Migrant Crisis Symposium: Challenges of a fragmented corridor](#)

- [Working Paper 2_The science of success: Investigating an innovative methodology charting the steps to start-up success](#)

- [Working Paper 3_Early Stage Investment in Southeast Europe: Issues and Challenges](#)

2   THE DOCTORAL PROGRAMME

2.1   Viva examinations

Eight PhD candidates have undergone through Viva examination in 2017. The Viva examinations took place at SEERC and Sheffield. The PhD students were awarded with the Degree of Philosophy. Eminent academics were invited to act as external examiners and contribute to a rigorous process by providing insightful remarks for the candidates. The names and affiliations of the examiners of the PhD viva examination that took place in 2017 are provided in the list below:

PhD Candidate	PhD Topic	External Examiner	Affiliation
Mr Dimitios Bibikas	Knowledge Management practices and emerging Web 2.0 technologies	Professor Claire Warwick	Darham University
Mr Tomi Dimitrovski	Management and policy issues emerging from the use of information	Professor Goran Petersson	Linnaeus University, Sweden

PhD Candidate	PhD Topic	External Examiner	Affiliation
	technology (IT) in health care delivery: Investigation of national readiness for electronic health record system		
Mr Alexandros Karvounis	The impact of the new cohesion policy in Greece and the future of EU Regional Policy	Professor Antonios Rovolis	Panteio University of Athens
Mr Dimitris Kourtesis	Policy-based governance in open service delivery networks	Professor Gordon Blair	School of Computing and Communications, Lancaster
Mr Fivos Papamalis	Treatment process evaluation: the role of personality functioning	Professor David Best	Sheffield Hallam University
Mr George Pavlidis	Social factors' influence on cognitive decline in the elderly population	Professor Kevin McKee	Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Ms Amira Ramhorst	Innovation and entrepreneurship in Bosnia-Herzegovina through the prism of its national diamond analysis of programmes and policies	Professor Nikolaos Komninos	Aristotle University
Ms Marianna Tsatali	The relationship between impulsivity and self-consciousness emotions (self-disgust, shame and guilt) in patients with Parkinson's disease	Dr Jasmin Vasileva	Virginia Commonwealth University

2.2 Confirmation Review Process

January 19, 2017: The PhD status of SEERC's student Ms Zlatina Gubatova, (Full time student) registered with the Management School has been successfully confirmed at the Confirmation Review Process that took place at SEERC.

January 25, 2017: The PhD status of SEERC's student Mr Ioannis Gavriilidis, (Full time student) registered with the Department of Psychology has been successfully confirmed at the Confirmation Review Process that took place at SEERC.

June 29, 2017: The PhD status of SEERC's student Mr Besart Hajrizi, (Full time student) registered with the Management School, has been successfully confirmed at the Confirmation Review Process that took place at SEERC

November 23, 2017: The PhD status of SEERC's student Mr Dimitrios Pappas, (Part time student) registered with the Computer Science Department has been successfully confirmed at the Confirmation Review Process that took place at SEERC.

2.3 Call for Doctoral Applications 2017-2018

New Admissions

A new Call for applications to the SEERC Doctoral Programme for the academic year 2017-2018 was published in April 2017 and resulted to the following recruits:

Name	Country	Topic	Mode of Study
Ms Elina Ketikidi	GREECE	Understanding Unconscious Reactions of Consumers towards Sustainable Fashion Messaging: a Neuromarketing Study of online vs. Offline Channels in Greece	FULL TIME
Mr Anastasios Lytos	GREECE	Opinion Mining in Social Networks Using Machine Learning Techniques	FULL TIME
Ms Maria Matiaki	GREECE	An exploration of the lived experience in counselling from two different perspectives; college student clients and counselors in training	FULL TIME
Ms Ioanna Spentza	GREECE	Factors affecting Everyday Problem-Solving skills in Older Adults	PART TIME
Ms Foteini Ververidou	GREECE	The right to health for asylum seekers in the framework of national, international and EU law: the case of Greece	FULL TIME

Scholarships offered by the Ministry of Education in Kosovo - New Admissions

The International Faculty of the University of Sheffield, CITY College in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology of the Republic of Kosovo (under UNSC 1244) announced a call for 2 scholarships for PhD studies at SEERC for 2017-2018.

Following an evaluation process in which both potential supervisors from CITY College – International Faculty and from TUoS participated, one scholarship was offered to the successful PhD applicant below.

Name	Topic	Dept.	Mode of Study
Ms Arta Mussolaj	Attitudes towards regional and minority languages in Kosovo	ELL	FULL TIME

2.4 Young Researchers' Skills Development Week 2017

The 2nd Young Researchers' Skills Development Week took place on 17-19 May 2017 in Thessaloniki. The 2nd YRW hosted several research workshops filling the identified gap in PhD students' skills enhancement. The 11th Annual Doctoral Conference, where 16 research papers were presented, was organized as part of the 2nd YRW.

2.5 Other Academic Activities

Throughout 2017 SEERC continued the organization of research seminars in the frame of Open Seminar Series and Research Student Seminars. (For a full list of the SEERC seminars, see Appendix).

NETWORKING & DISSEMINATION

2.6 Events Organised by SEERC

February 21, 2017: SEERC as a supporting partner to the AgriEntrepreneurship team hosted their workshop on "Agri-Accelerator & Promotion of Entrepreneurialism in the Agricultural sector"

May 17-19, 2017: SEERC organized the Young Researchers' Skills Development Week at L. Sofou building.

June 26-30, 2017: SEERC co-organised along with the International Faculty of the University of Sheffield CITY College, and the iStart Thessaloniki Academy a student workshop on the topic:

June 30 - July 8, 2017: SEERC hosted in Thessaloniki a one-week summer school focused on Migration. The Summer School was jointly organised by the University of Sheffield Politics Department and by the University's International Faculty CITY College and took place between June 30th and July 8th at the main campus of the International Faculty.

August 31 – September 1, 2017: SEERC together with the the University of Sheffield International Faculty, CITY College hosted the 10th International Conference for Entrepreneurship, Innovation, and Regional Development (ICEIRD-2017) on 31st August – 1st September 2017 in Thessaloniki

September 14, 2017: The MIGRATE Jean Monnet Network had its second open event in Berlin on September 14th, 2017. SEERC, as the lead coordinator of the project was represented by Mr Nikos Zaharis, Director of SEERC, who opened the event, Dr Alexandra Prodromidou, the MIGRATE Academic Coordinator and Lecturer at our Business Administration & Economics Department (BAED) and Dr Pavlos Gkasis, the Director for Research of BAED and MIGRATE Research Associate. Both presented on their research findings. The event was organised by the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung and took place at the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Akademie, Berlin.

October 3-6, 2017: At the DSCIM in Novi Sad, Serbia, SEERC together with the MAIN Tempus project, doctoral students, researchers, policymakers interacted and learned from a group of experts. They had the opportunity to meet dozens of young and experienced researchers, with the right milieu to test their research plan, to promote their research results, or to share their experience in managing innovation.

October 22, 2017: SEERC in cooperation with Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung and the Navarino Network organized the "6th Thessaloniki International Symposium in World Affairs" that took place in Olympion Cinema, Thessaloniki

3 SEERC INTERNAL NEWS

3.1 New Staff @ SEERC

Dr George Eleftherakis, is the new Doctoral Program Academic Director. Dr Eleftherakis is a Reader (Associate Professor) in Computer Science at the University of Sheffield. He received the Senate Award for Sustained Excellence in Learning and Teaching from the University of Sheffield in May 2014. He is a senior member of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) since 2012 and the Chair of ACM's Council of European Chapter Leaders since 2013. He is a member of the administration board of the Greek Computer Society since 2002.
Since 2009 he is a member of the Faculty's Research Committee.

Ms Zoi Xygalata, acting executive secretary & Doctoral Programme Administrator. Ms Xygalata holds a BSc in Economics. Her role within SEERC includes every day management of the office, secretarial support to the SEERC Director, administrative support to the Doctoral programme and to the core team. She is the point of contact for booking the audiovisual and conference facilities at SEERC.

Ms Elina Ketikidi, is a full time research associate working on "E-PROTECT", a program funded by the European Commission regarding the enhancement of protection of child victims of crime. She holds a Master's Degree in Digital Marketing and Social Media with Merit from University of Sheffield. She obtained her BA degree in School of Economics and Regional Studies in the University of Macedonia and currently she is a PhD student under the Doctoral Scholarship Scheme of SEERC and the University of Sheffield She worked as a Digital Account Executive in MullenLowe Athens Advertising Agency. Previously she had been a freelancer Social Media and Communication Coordinator. In 2013, her team won the Sprint Award in European Entrepreneurship Summer School.

Ms Faye Ververidou, is a full time research associate working on "E-PROTECT", a program funded by the European Commission regarding the enhancement of protection of child victims of crime. She holds a Master's Degree in International Studies with Distinction from Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece (Faculty of Law). She obtained her BA Degree in Law from the Democritus University of Thrace, Greece. She completed her training as an intern in Thessaloniki Court of First Instance and successfully passed, in 2015, the Bar Association Exam. Immediately after that, she started working as a lawyer, mainly in the fields of civil and corporate law. Currently she is a PhD student under the Doctoral Scholarship Scheme of SEERC and the University of Sheffield.

4 Appendix:

4.1 Publications

Fotopoulou, D., Siagas. S, Bibikas, D., Zaharis, N., Tomur, E., Staiou, E., et al. (2017). Towards the design of a regional-sensitive domain focused high tech entrepreneurship programme. A Four Country Training Needs Analysis. In ICEIRD 2017. Thessaloniki.

Ketikidis, P. H., Ladas, A., Gonidis, F., Baresel-Bofinger, A., Aichinger, K., Athanasiadou, O., Giorgalli, M., Paradeisi, R., Studenica, A., Tsigarida, K. (2017). The science of success: Investigating an innovative methodology charting the steps to start-up success. Thessaloniki, Greece.

Dautov, R., Veloudis, S., Paraskakis, I., & Distefano, S. (2017). Policy Management and Enforcement Using OWL and SWRL for the Internet of Things. In Ad-hoc, Mobile, and Wireless Networks – 16th International Conference on Ad Hoc Networks and Wireless, ADHOC-NOW 2017, Messina, Italy, September 20-22, 2017, Proceedings (pp. 342–355).

Veloudis, S., Paraskakis, I., & Petsos, C. (2017). An Ontological Framework for Determining the Repercussions of Retirement Actions Targeted at Complex Access Control Policies in Cloud Environments. In Companion Proceedings of The 10th International Conference on Utility and Cloud Computing. ACM, New York, NY, USA.,

Veloudis, S., Paraskakis, I., & Petsos, C. (2017). Cloud service brokerage: enhancing resilience in virtual enterprises through service governance and quality assurance. C. SOCA (2017) 11: 445

Veloudis, S., Paraskakis, I., & Petsos, C. (2017). Foundations for Designing, Defining, Validating and Executing Access Control Policies in Cloud Environments. In Flavio De PaoliStefan SchulteEinar Broch Johnsen (Ed.), Service Oriented and Cloud Computing Proceedings of the 6th IFIP WG 2.14 European Conference, ESOCC 2017, Oslo, Norway, September 27-29, 2017 (pp. 75–82,). LNCS, 10465.

Veloudis, S., Paraskakis, I., & Petsos, C. (2017). Ontological Framework for Ensuring Correctness of Security Policies in Cloud Environments. In Proceedings of BCI'17, Skopje, September 20-23, 2017. ACM.

Veloudis, S., Paraskakis, I., Petsos, C., Verginadis, Y., Patiniotakis, I., & Mentzas, G. (2017). An Ontological Template for Context Expressions in Attribute-Based Access Control Policies. In Claus Pahl, Donald Ferguson, Jorge Cardoso, Markus Helfert, Víctor Méndez Muñoz (Eds.) Proceedings 7th International Conference on Cloud Computing and Services Science (CLOSER 2017) Porto, Portugal, April 24-26 (pp. 123–134). SCITEPRESS - Science and Technology Publications.

Veloudis, S., Paraskakis, I., Verginadis, Y., Patiniotakis, I., & Mentzas, G. (2017). Ontological Templates for Regulating Access to Sensitive Medical Data in the Cloud. In 3rd CloudSPD Workshop, Proceedings of the 30th International Symposium on Computer-Based Medical Systems, IEEE CBMS 2017, 22-24 June, Thessaloniki, Greece.

Veloudis, S., Verginadis, Y., Patiniotakis, I., Paraskakis, I., & Mentzas, G. (2017). A Generic Framework for Representing Context-aware Security Policies in the Cloud. In Markus Helfert, Donald Ferguson, Victor Méndez Muñoz, Jorge Cardoso (Eds): Cloud Computing and Services Science: 6th International Conference, CLOSER 2016, Rome, Italy, April 23-25, 2016, Revised Selected Papers (pp. 339–359). Springer International Publishing.

PLEASE NOTE that these lists might be incomplete since the publications database is continuously updated. For a last update please follow the link below:

http://www.seerc.org/new/index.php/component/refbase/?Itemid=132

4.2 Open Seminar Series

April 4, 2017: *"Global Multilaterarism Post - Trump & Brexit "* delivered by Dr Matthew Bishop, Department of Politics, The University of Sheffield.

May 16, 2017: *"The Emergence and Development of Executive Functions in Early Childhood"* delivered by Dr Emma Blakey, Department of Psychology, The University of Sheffield.

November 24, 2017: *"Speech localisation in a multitalker mixture by humans and machines"* delivered by Prof Guy Brown, Department of Computer Science, The University of Sheffield.

4.3 Research Student Seminars

January 19, 2017: *"Gender and Social Media Impact on brand loyalty towards luxury brands: a cross-cultural study"* delivered by PhD student Ms Zlatina Gubatova

January 25, 2017: *"Cognitive Neuroscience of Emotions in Older Adults: Theory of Mind and Self Conscious Emotions"* delivered by PhD student Mr Ioannis Gavriilidis

June 29, 2017: *"A Proposed Framework for University - Industry Interactions: The case of South - East European Countries"* delivered by PhD student Mr Besart Hajrizi

November 23, 2017: *"Emergent Distributed Systems for Computational Auditory Scene Analysis"* delivered by PhD student Mr Dimitris Pappas

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