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English as a Medium of Instruction (EMI) project

**Supporting internationalisation activities
of the Foundation Tempus in Serbia**

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Programme

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English as a Medium of Instruction (EMI) project

- A project aimed at supporting internationalisation in Serbia by tackling the need for more university courses provided in foreign languages (primarily English) by reinforcing the knowledge and skills of university teachers to teach their subjects in English.
- The main activity is the **EMI course** for university teachers of all fields held **at four biggest state universities** of Serbia: University of Belgrade, University of Novi Sad, University of Niš and University of Kragujevac.
- The project is first implemented in 2019 and since then four project cycles were carried out – all managed by the Foundation Tempus in cooperation with universities, and directly supported by the Ministry of Education (the first cycle in 2019/20, within the initiative *Study in Serbia*) and the Embassy of the United States of America in Serbia (three cycles in 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24).

English as a Medium of Instruction

“

the use of English language to teach academic subjects other than English itself in countries or jurisdictions where the first language of the majority of the population is not English

”



Definition by Dr. Ernesto Macaro, Prof. of Applied Linguistics,
University of Oxford



EMI project: Main objectives

Main objectives

To improve the knowledge and skills of the university teachers to teach their courses in English, specifically pedagogy of a foreign language, by using the *EMI* approach

To impact the attitudes and self-confidence of the university teachers to provide instruction in English

In the long term, to strengthen the capacity of institutions to provide more courses in foreign languages

EMI course: Trainers and outcomes for trainees

Led by EMI professionals, additionally trained in the field

- Pool of expert language instructors from each university participating in the project
- Additional training on EMI topics in the first two cycles of the project (2019 and 2021), led by worldwide EMI experts – Prof. Ernesto Macaro and Prof. Mark Searle (University of Oxford), Prof. Mary Page (University of Southampton) and Prof. Julianne Hammink (University of Arizona).
- Syllabi of the EMI course were jointly designed and developed in those trainings and later implemented in similar ways and with equal outcomes at all four universities.

Activated English language skills in the domain of the participant's profession

Acquired competences to apply innovative teaching methodologies, adapted to the international environment

Acquired competences to apply adequate methods of class planning and student assessment in an international environment

Acquired competences to apply innovative IT tools in English language teaching



EMI course: Timeline overview

Testing of the English
language level (B2) and
forming the groups

Certificate award to the
participants who
successfully passed the
course

September — October — November-March — March

A public call for
university teachers is
published with all
requirements and
procedures

Course implementation:
12 theoretical and
3 practical
90 minutes long
sessions





EMI course: structure and topics

01

12 theoretical and 3 practical
90-minute sessions delivered in
groups

02

Topics of the theoretical sessions:

- focus on language (vocabulary – field specific, academic, general; structure, register, functional vs. content language, coherence and cohesion etc);
- focus on teaching (effective lecturing, planning, structuring and delivering the lecture, interaction with students, tools and visuals, technology and online resources etc.

03

Practical (microteaching) sessions:
15-minute field specific lecture
with feedback (teacher and peer
assessment)

04

Possibility of self-reflection and
assessment (recorded practical
sessions)

05

Additional value: sharing
experience and good practice in
internationalisation among
teachers from different faculties



EMI projects: results and outcomes



- **611 university teachers** from diverse academic fields completed the course so far
- Recognition and applicability: the EMI certificate is listed in some of the university procedures for professional advancement and/or supporting document in Erasmus+ calls
- Contribution to academic offer: increased number of Erasmus+ courses available and study programmes accredited in English at four universities

More on EMI project available at [the website of Foundation Tempus](#)



Other Foundation Tempus' activities supporting internationalisation

Cooperation with relevant stakeholders in Serbia (Ministry of Education, HEIs, Ministry of Internal and Foreign Affairs) and across Europe (Study in Europe and Academic Cooperation Association member)

Promotion and facilitation of institutional cooperation by representing Serbian higher education and institutions in relevant international events (EIAE, NAFSA, NET24, CACIE)

Elaboration and publication of information materials, such as yearly catalogue of accredited study programmes in English in Serbia and the database of education possibilities in Serbia

Focal point for informing and supporting individuals interested in studying in Serbia



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Thank you for your attention!



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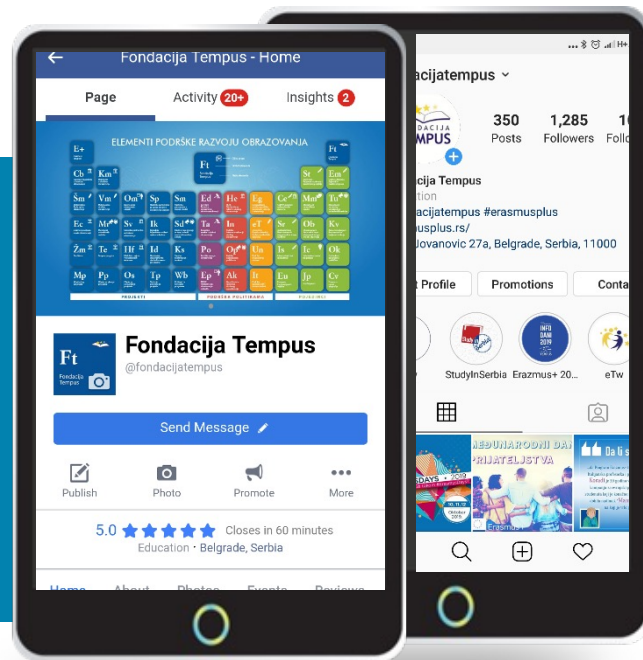
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