Euroculture Roundtable in Olomouc, 28 June 2019: Format

First part: Small group discussions
In the first part, we have eight bulletin boards (one for each partner university). At each board, there is a small group of people: two student representatives from a partner university (one per semester) meet with one representative of “their” university, and one representative of another partner university (= impartial member). The student representatives do an ABC evaluation of “their” university based on the feedback collected from their groups. With red, yellow and green cards, they indicate what the program should Abandon, Begin, or Continue (Abandon: Negative practices / Begin: New ideas to consider implementing / Continue: Positive practices to keep on doing).

These small discussion groups then determine which issues can be dealt with locally at this partner university, and which issues should be debated further in the larger roundtable for the consortium. The four people in the small group have to unanimously agree that an issue is purely “local”, so even if just one of the participants wants to discuss an issue at the consortium level, the issue is transferred to the second stage of the roundtable. There will be a photo protocol of all ABC cards handed in during the roundtable, so even though the roundtable will focus on consortium-related issues, all the feedback brought to the roundtable will recorded and addressed, if and where possible, either on the local or on the consortium level.

Tentative timeframe: 30 minutes

Second part: Open floor discussion with the entire consortium
In the second part, the groups bring all the cards that they think are relevant for the whole consortium to the open floor discussion with a common ‘bulletin board’. We then group these cards according to similar topics on the board and discuss the topics in turn with the entire consortium. There will be a photo protocol of all ABC cards handed in.

Please note: student representatives should be actually voicing opinions of the entire group, and not just their personal experiences.

Tentative timeframe: 60 minutes

Why this format?
We believe the roundtable format will help us to:

- Focus on both positive (Continue) and negative (Abandon) feedback, and solicit new suggestions on how to improve the Euroculture experience for our students (Begin);
- Group issues that touch on similar topics and discuss them altogether, thus saving time;
- See more clearly the difference between university-related issues and programme-related issues;
- Keep track of different issues through collecting cards and monitoring the magnitude of different practices through the number of cards per topic.