

Master CoDe News



31 July 2017



Univerza v Ljubljani



Universität Regensburg



UNIVERSITY OF TRENTO - Italy

CONTENTS

- ♦ NOTICE: CoDe Alumni Workshop 2
- ♦ Alumni News:
 - Carla McKirdy: An Unexpected Turn of Events 3
 - Celso Manangan: UNECE International Forum, Hong Kong 5
- ♦ **** Content Writing Internship @ UrbanizeHub **** 7
- ♦ Notice Board 8

Erasmus Mundus Master Code Website

www.erasmusmundus-code.eu/

~~~~~

Master CoDe Team Budapest

[master-code@uni-corvinus.hu](mailto:master-code@uni-corvinus.hu)



European Consortium for Accreditation

A European Master  
Programme accredited  
by  
European Consortium  
for Accreditation



# **Workshop for Master CoDe Alumni on Local Development and Global Practices**

**The Workshop, organized by the Corvinus  
University of Budapest, will be held in  
Budapest on Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

**Please keep a lookout on  
[www.erasmusmundus-code.eu/](http://www.erasmusmundus-code.eu/)  
for up-to-date information**



Univerza v Ljubljani



Universität Regensburg



UNIVERSITY OF TRENTO - Italy

**Carla McKirdy (formerly Carla Avenia Koency), student of the Master CoDe 2008/09 edition tells us about the unexpected direction her career has taken since graduation.**

### An Unexpected Turn of Events

When I began the Master CoDe program in 2008, I felt aimless when it came to directing my career down a specific path. Whereas my background was in economics and education, the program's focus on areas like law, sociology and development — in addition to a heavy serving of economics — consolidated my knowledge, leading to unexpected professional opportunities.

The nature of the program itself had me immerse myself in different cultures and languages. I began my education at the University of Trento in the enchanting Dolomites, continuing with a semester at the University of Ljubljana and finalizing with another half a year on a research grant at the University of Belgrade. Although our main coursework was in English, I developed a passion for languages during our optional Italian and German classes.

Once graduated and in the job market, I noticed that recruiters often sought me for my language skills in English, Spanish, French and Italian. That is how, little by little, my career path diverted into the realm of communications and translation & interpretation. Although there are plenty of translators with a rough understanding of the development field, there are very few local development experts fluent in several European languages.

Once I found my niche, work often found me. As a consultant, a day in my life could've entailed report drafting and précis writing as well as translating a field study or interpreting at a high-profile international event for prominent members of our field.

Never one to rest on my laurels too long, I soon craved a new challenge: I wanted to develop my newfound skillset even further, and the best way for me to do so was to go down the path of international institutions.

That is how I joined the UN as a language consultant for the United Nations Assistance to the Khmer Rouge Trials. The application process was arduous, but within a few months I received notice of my selection for the position, followed by a formal offer and soon after, a one-way ticket to Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

Cont.

### An Unexpected Turn of Events

Carla McKirdy

The job description sounded deceptively easy: listen to the French audio of the ongoing legal proceedings in this major human rights trial and compare it against the English transcript, making corrections as needed. The truth is that the job entails excellent language skills in both French and English, the ability to multitask, as well as a knack for translation, editing and proofreading under an intense time crunch while liaising with people from other departments in order to confirm terminology and word usage.

I was soon promoted to team leader, and my job now consists of overseeing a group of talented linguists while ensuring our work is delivered according to schedule – meaning, based on the need of the dozens of legal experts who depend on us to deliver clear, error-free final transcripts in the court’s three working languages: English, French and Khmer.

Working in a hybrid UN-backed human rights tribunal has been rewarding. I have been fortunate to be able to experience the marvellous work of this major institution from the inside out, as well as refine my expertise in the legal domain while working alongside an international assortment of extremely talented individuals.

Life after Master CoDe can, for some, lead down an unexpected path – but one just as rewarding, supported by the invaluable skills acquired during the program.

**Carla McKirdy (Master CoDe 2008/9)**

**Email:** [cc.mckirdy@gmail.com](mailto:cc.mckirdy@gmail.com)

#### Interesting links:

<http://www.unakrt-online.org/>

<https://careers.un.org/lbw/Home.aspx>

## Master CoDe News

**Celso Manangan (Master CoDe 2009/10) has sent in the latest news on the UNECE International PPP Forum which he attended in Hong Kong.**

### UNECE International Forum on people-first PPPs for the Sustainable Development Goals

**9 - 11 May 2017**

**City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong**

International PPP Forum:

“Implementing the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through effective, people-first Public-Private Partnerships (PPP)”



**Celso at the UNECE International Forum, held at the City University of Hong Kong**

In May this year, I attended the international forum to represent the International Specialist Centre of Excellence for PPP in Health-Philippines (the Centre).

The forum was hosted by the International PPP Centre of Excellence for Public Transport Logistics, City University in Hong Kong “showcasing projects and approaches to people first PPP and how we work as one UN to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.” This is one of the regular activities by the Specialist Centres affiliated to the UNECE International PPP Centre of Excellence (ICoE).

Cont.

The aims of the International PPP Forum were to achieve the following:

- Reviewing and further developing the international PPP standards for the UN SDGs;
- Supporting the call of the UN Addis Ababa Action Agenda for identifying Principles for PPP in financing development for the future of the planet;
- Encouraging and showcasing “People-first PPPs” across different SDG related sectors;
- Bringing together the international Project Teams that develop standards and model templates for such projects; and
- Providing a meeting place by which teams and governments can meet up and find ways to implement projects in their countries.

The UNECE ICoE supports “People-first PPPs”, that enhance the developmental impact of PPPs, inter alia, their contribution to poverty eradication, more equitable income allocation, less dependency on fossil fuels, engaging with stakeholders in a meaningful dialogue, while building the capacity of public and private sector to deliver such projects. People-first PPPs are also projects which are economically viable from both an economics and business perspective and ideally have an economic transformational impact.

The 2017 Forum discussed the following:

- Ways and means of implementing its existing standards, such as Zero Tolerance Approach to Corruption in ‘People-First’ PPP Procurement and finalising the ones still to be completed, such as the Standards on PPP in renewable energy, water and sanitation and in Rail; and
- Looking to how the PPP can foster other critical programmes in the 2030 Development Agenda where a special session will be devoted to the role of PPP in the Empowerment of Women.

UNECE Project Teams are a task oriented network of top quality experts representing a broad base of experience applicable to PPPs. They are brought together to develop and create draft PPP standards and guidance for promulgation through the UNECE inter-governmental process.

The standards and guidance developed by Project Teams is intended to be widely applicable and provide governments with clear, empirically proven approaches for developing successful, sustainable, PPP projects and programmes.

In addition, the Forum also held a debate on a specific PPP issue that is topical. The 2017 high level debate discussed the role of PPP in promoting China’s One Belt One Road (OBOR) initiative.

Source: UNECE

**Celso Manangan (Master CoDe 2009/10)**  
Email: [celso.manangan@gmail.com](mailto:celso.manangan@gmail.com)

This internship offer has been sent in by Gratian Mihailescu (Master CoDe 2010/11):

# Content Writing Internship @ UrbanizeHub

We are looking for people who are interested in the future of cities and urban development, who wish to contribute to our mission of creating a stronger connection between private companies, urban leaders, public administrations and citizens.

Our collaboration is mostly carried out online, on a part-time basis.

**You can write in English or Romanian, or both.**

**We communicate ideas through friendly and engaging language.**

What you will need to do:

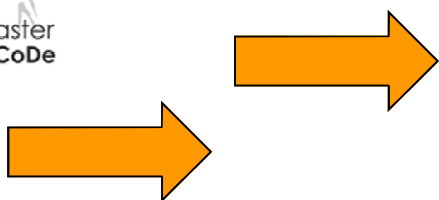
- Research into interesting stories about urban development, on various topics such as Urban Regeneration, Smart Cities, Transport, Urban Policies, etc. Check out [urbanizehub.com](http://urbanizehub.com) / [urbanizehub.ro](http://urbanizehub.ro) to see the kinds of areas we cover.
- Writing articles (usually 300-500 words) on your chosen topics and publishing them on the website.
- You will also have the opportunity to contribute to other communication tasks like newsletters, press releases, social media or event promotion, depending on your availability and our various short-term goals.

**If you want to join us, send us a quick e-mail at [office@urbanizehub.com](mailto:office@urbanizehub.com) along with a CV.**

**UrbanizeHub** is an aggregator of ideas, opinions, projects and news about smart cities, urban planning and urban development. We aim to create a worldwide community by bringing together responsible citizens, designers, architects, academics and experts interested and involved in the discussion around future cities.

Our platform is for dreamers, believers and achievers, and for all of those who think they can live in a better world. It is for smart people who like to think outside the box and believe in the future of sustainable urban development and technology. We are connected by our shared knowledge, our dedication to sustainability, and our passion for building a better future.

Website: <http://urbanizehub.com/>



### NOTICE BOARD

#### **SUSTAINABILITY OF ERASMUS MUNDUS MASTER COURSES**

##### **Survey results & analysis**

The results of the Survey on the Sustainability of Erasmus Mundus Master Courses, which had been implemented by the Unit responsible for Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees at the Executive Agency are now available.

The survey was launched in March 2016 and consisted of an online questionnaire and follow-up interviews with selected EMMCs.

The conclusions of the survey have been summarized and published in the **"Sustainability of Erasmus Mundus Master Courses - Best practice guide"**, which contains statistical data, practical guidelines and best practice testimonials from the Master Programmes.

The "Best practice guide" is available on:

<https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/sites/eacea-site/files/sustainabilitysurvey2017.pdf>





# NOTICE BOARD

The following article has just been published in the Australian Economic Review:

### **Investor–State Dispute Settlement Systems in Emerging Mega-Integration Blocs**

by Miroslav N. Jovanović

University of Geneva

[www.miroslavjovanovic.com](http://www.miroslavjovanovic.com)

#### **Abstract**

Emerging mega-integration blocs, such as the Trans-Pacific Partnership and the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership, are evolving outside of the World Trade Organization's influence. Their most contested features are their investor–state dispute settlement (ISDS) systems. This article considers basic features of the ISDS system, the expansion in the number of ISDS cases and the privileged place of corporations vis-à-vis citizens in the law-making process. The arcane private corporation-friendly ISDS system is beyond reparation and it needs to be scrapped. The existing court systems in the self-assured democracies of Europe, North America and Australia are sufficient.

Read / download the article on:

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/1467-8462.12197/full>

### **The Schuman Report on Europe, State of the Union 2017**

20/03/2017

The annual work of reference on Europe

The 2017 Schuman report on the State of the Union is a vital tool more than ever before to understand what is at stake in Europe.

Information on:

<http://www.robert-schuman.eu/en/bookshop/0214-the-schuman-report-on-europe-state-of-the-union-2017>



## **Master CoDe News**

---

**Master CoDe students and alumni have a Facebook group of their own:**

**Have a look at:**

**COMPARATIVE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT (CoDe)**

**Erasmus Mundus Master Code Website**

**[www.erasmusmundus-code.eu/](http://www.erasmusmundus-code.eu/)**

**Master CoDe Newsletter**

**[mastercode.news@gmail.com](mailto:mastercode.news@gmail.com)**

**Thank you to all collaborators and contributors to Master CoDe News.**

**Next edition of the newsletter: end October 2017**

**Please send in your contributions by 10 October 2017.**