

Narrative Report

Graduate Travel-Research Fellowships on the European Union,
European Integration or EU-Canada Relations 2014

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With the generous help of the Graduate Travel-Research Fellowship on the European Union, I was able to complete my field work in Brussels (Belgium), Paris and Lyon (France) in the period from May 24th until June 2nd, 2014.

The goal of my research project is to examine the role of two media networks with European agenda in the development of the European public sphere (EURANET radio network and Euronews television).

As a result of the field trip, I conducted eleven research interviews with representatives of two transnational media networks with European agenda - EURANET and Euronews, the European Commission, journalists of European media.

Being in Brussels, Paris and Lyon also allowed me to attend and to participate in routine activities of editorial offices of EURANET and Euronews. I attended:

- RTBF broadcasting corporation – member of EURANET network in Belgium, Brussels;
- EURANET Plus News Agency in Brussels;
- EURANET and Euronews studios in the European Parliament on the Elections Night;
- EURANET Plus headquarter in Paris;
- Euronews headquarter in Lyon/Ecully. I spent one working day in the Euronews' News Room and took part in the morning briefing of news brigade.

On May 25-26 in Brussels, I got a valuable and unique experience attending the Elections Night in the European Parliament and taking part in the Mondays' press-conference of the European Commission in Berlaymont building press-centre. I could get the first-hand information on the results of the European Parliament Elections 2014 and understanding of the process of releasing information by the EU institutions to European media.

On May 27-28 in Paris, I also was able to take part in the UNESCO scientific conference "European media and Information Literacy Forum 2014" and its working sessions on European media.

As the follow-up to the research, four other participants agreed to take part in the research.

During the all duration of the field trip in Europe I have been making observation of the content of news broadcasting by Euronews channels.

Due to the fact that Euronews and EURANET media networks are under-researched by scholars, a field work was required to collect empirical materials and expert interviews. I gained the valuable knowledge and understanding of EURANET and Euronews institutions, the trends of the development of the European public sphere through the field work and conversations with experts, employees, management of EURANET and Euronews, journalists, representatives of the European Commission. The results of the field trip will be presented in the research in forms of overviews, references, comparative analysis.

I would like to thank the Centre for European Studies for helping me fund this opportunity to gain a first-hand understanding of the work of Euronews and EURANET and of the European public sphere development. I believe that the results of my field trip will be the most valuable and unique part of my Master's thesis.