

ESERA Early Career Researcher Travel Award 2022 – Recipient Report

Applicant: Maiza Trigo, Department of Education and Social Sciences, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg.

Host: Prof. Dr. Isabel Martins, Laboratory for Languages and Mediations, Institute NUTES of Science and Health Education, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Visit dates: November 21st to December 2nd 2022.

To the ESERA Executive Board,
To the ESERA Early Career Researcher Travel Award Committee,
To whom it may concern,

First of all, I would like to express my greatest appreciation to ESERA for granting me a Travel Award. It's an honour to receive this award that enabled my doctoral research to benefit greatly from discussions and exchanges between myself, Prof. Dr. Isabel Martins and her research team.

During the period of November 21st until December 2nd, 2022, I was at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ) with Prof. Dr. Isabel Gomes Rodrigues Martins (Professor of Science and Health Education and Coordinator of the Laboratory for Languages and Mediations – LLM, at the Institute Nutes of Science and Health Education – NUTES). This Research Stay at UFRJ was mainly supported by the ESERA Travel Award 2022 and the Doctoral School of Humanities and Social Sciences (DSHSS), University of Luxembourg (UL).

Many activities (e.g., presentations, workshop, participation in meetings) were conducted during this period. I was able to present my PhD project and share my first set of data, to which I was engaged in an in-depth discussion about the collection and coding processes and the development of the analytical framework. In these meetings, fellow researchers (Master students, PhD students and Post-Docs from the Laboratory for Languages and Mediations – NUTES) posed questions on different issues and gave me feedback mainly on methodological aspects, which led me to conduct a workshop on "Memoning and thematic analysis" with the research group. During the project meeting "Socio-scientific issues in Education", critical discussions emerged on sociocultural aspects of research and how conducting research in a multicultural and multilingual context, such as in Luxembourg, can be challenging.

Besides the presentations on my data set, I also presented an overview of the education system in Luxembourg, focusing on the topic of elementary science education (which is part of a manuscript on the research context). As my research takes place within an umbrella project (the SciTeach Center) and part of my data refers to this school-university partnership, I was also able to visit a similar partnership between CIEP Cecília Meirelles (school) CEFET-RJ and UFRJ (higher education institutions) in Petrópolis/RJ ("Futurando com Ciência"), where I presented about our

school-university partnership and how co- structures (workshop co-development and co-teaching) play a big role in our activity.

Amongst the activities carried out within NUTES, I participated in teaching sessions of NUTES doctoral studies programme (such as on the course "Epistemological and Methodological issues in Science Education Research") and in the celebration of NUTES 50th anniversary.

Concerning the individual meetings with Prof. Dr. Isabel Martins, we had an in-depth discussion on the analytical framework for the first set data, especially about the details that should be included in the description of the work. We also explored research possibilities for the next steps, including possible data collection/production tools (types of interviews) and the chance of future use of design-based research.

At the end of this research visit, we were able to work on a preliminary proposal for a symposium to be submitted at ESERA Conference 2023 (possibly on the theme of "Communities of Practice and Teacher Professional Development: experiences from Brazil, Luxembourg and Colombia") as well as to plan future collaborations for written work (a thematic issue for a journal) and exchange (future visits and online exchanges).

The research stay in Rio de Janeiro was very productive and I'm truly thankful to ESERA, especially to the Travel Award Committee, for this opportunity. I also would like to express my special thanks to Prof. Dr. Isabel Martins (extensible to her team) for welcoming me so friendly and open minded, and for all of her efforts to make my stay so productive.

Sincerely,

Maiza Trigo
Doctoral Researcher
University of Luxembourg