



FIRST OPEN CONFERENCE | Krakow, 20 January 2019
Addressing Global Challenges: The Invention of Science Diplomacy

Discovery Round Table: HEALTH

Enhancing blood safety: reconsidering European policies in terms of science diplomacy

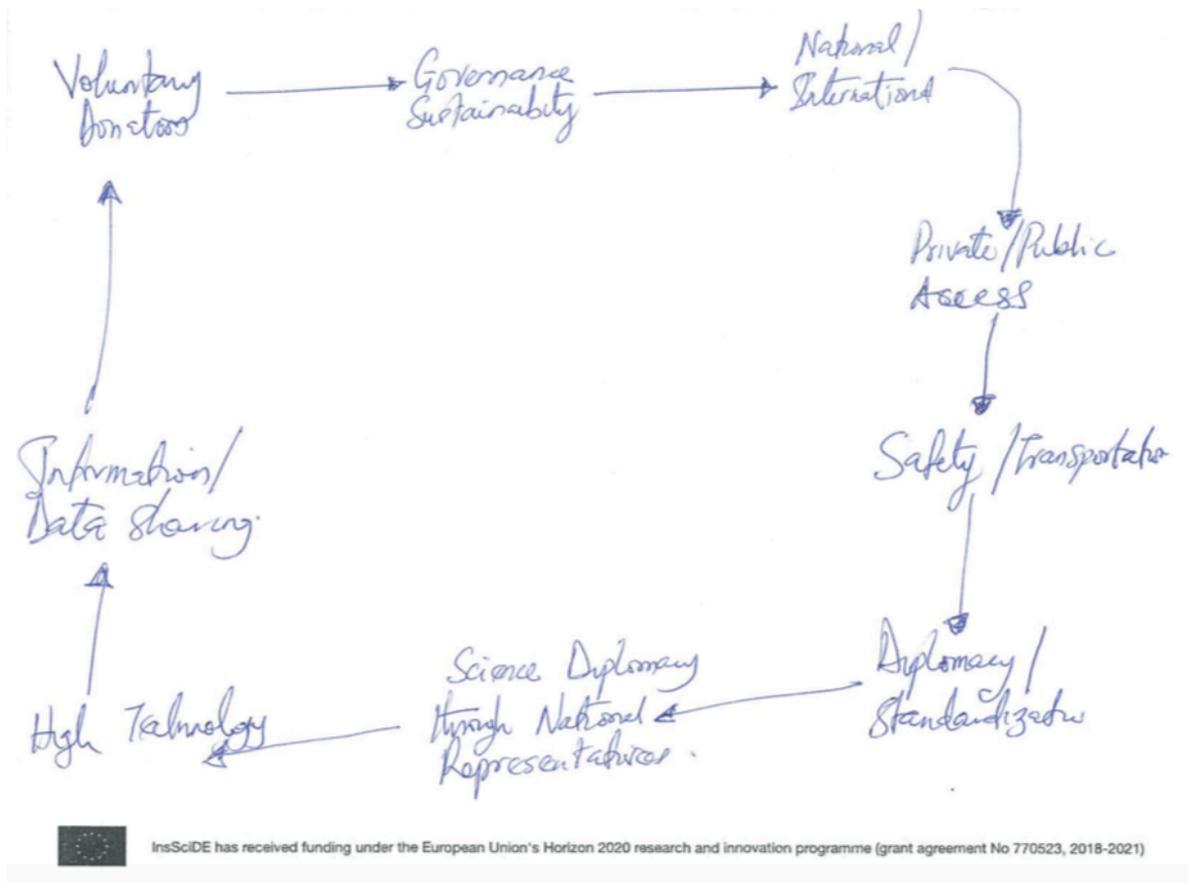
Summary of 'Academy of Young Diplomats' Participants' Notes (9 sets)

1/ Does the historical case provide any lessons to you?

Issue of **blood safety** (9/9)

- Learning from the past (e.g. scandals involving HIV contaminated blood): Great improvement has been made; Cooperation can be reached over time
- Role of governments and EU in making a safer blood supply system
- Using new technologies to improve blood safety

2/ Please map key ideas and their interrelations (why not make a drawing?)





3a/ Thinking about European Science Diplomacy, in the historical case and in the present time... List some GOOD PRACTICES or LIMITS in terms of bringing together science and diplomacy...

GOOD PRACTICES: Multilateral collaboration (9/9)

- Goal-setting
- Dialogue
- Sound scientific standing; Agreeing on a minimum set of ethical standards
- Tools: Screening of blood before transfusion; Safety of donor and recipient of blood

LIMITS (8/9)

- Differing value systems hinder collaboration
- Differing directives in blood transfusion
- Lack of adequate communication among official parties
- Lack of transparency (e.g. for patients)

3b/ ...and in terms of "European" coordination for this Global Challenge or area?

GOOD PRACTICES: Collaboration (9/9)

- Centralized blood processing center
- European Science Diplomacy independency (e.g. from the USA)
- Public-private partnership; Private sector monitoring

LIMITS

- Tolerating lack of access to blood safety and/or to (quality) health care globally
- Eurocentrism; Copying and pasting policy from one region to another isn't always effective
- Forbidding certain groups to give blood might increase existing stigma and societal tensions

4/ How could - or should - European Science Diplomacy look in the near future, to address the Health challenge? Recommendations and/or strategic suggestions

- **Collaboration (9/9):**

- *Between patients' organizations, Ministries of Health, global organizations (WHO, Red Cross)
- *Standardize the process of blood safety among European countries, while acknowledging that it must be consistently revisited and improved (e.g. new diseases, definition of donor groups and "at risk" groups)
- *Strengthen legal instruments; strengthen blood safety institutions
- *Work towards common regulation, while keeping national sensitives in mind
- *Data sharing

- **Assisting developing countries** to enhance their health system (4/9):

- * With technological equipment, through funds, by spreading knowledge
- * Being aware that what has worked for Europe might not work for other regions
- * Strategic implementation (considering needs and priorities)

- **Raising awareness (3/9):**

- *Global communication (e.g. education, public actions)
- *Building trust (e.g. through community leaders)
- *Continued promotion of voluntary donation