

Jean Monnet Chair on "PM² by European Commission. Open, free and common project management framework for all European institutions, companies and citizens. – PM²EU+".

PM² TALKS –2020/21

PM² Talks – 10th December 2020¹

On 10 December 2020 a new PM² Talks was held in collaboration with PM² Alliance Spain to establish a debate on the development of the PM² Alliance 2020 International Conference "Moving Forward: The PM² Advantage". The call was made using the platform provided by LinkedIn and was attended by more than 100 professionals related to the world of project management and from a wide range of backgrounds (public sector, training consultants, European Commission officials, etc.)



The main key-speakers were:

- **Agustín Moya Colorado**
Project Management Consultant for International Development Cooperation
Murcia, España
- **Angel Agueda Barrero**
CEO and Principal consultant and Trainer at EvergreenPM
Madrid, España
- **German Martínez Montes**
Jean Monnet Chair on #OpenPM²
Engineering Project Management at the University of Granada

The PM² Alliance 2020 International Conference "Moving Forward: The PM² Advantage" was held virtually from 30 November to 2 December. It was attended by nearly two thousand (2000) project management experts. The presentations were related to:

- The current status of the PM² methodology.
- Its use in certain areas (European Commission agencies and bodies and other experiences by companies outside the EC).
- Issues related to project management such as business plan, risk management, stakeholders, agile extensions, programme and portfolio management, etc.

¹ This activity is part of the proposals within the chair, PM² Talks, adopting a format compatible with the restrictions arising from the COVID_19 pandemic. In any case, although with different formats, the objectives of encouraging debate and the exchange of experiences among project management professionals were achieved.

- Development of the PM² methodology in other languages
- Training in project management and the PM² methodology at universities.
- The relationship between the PM² methodology and the individual competences of IPMA.
- Training and certification process by professionals in PM².
- The application of the PM² methodology in projects of different sectors (technological, development cooperation, railway).
- The international presentation of the Jean Monnet Chair "PM² by European Commission. Open, free and common project management framework for all European institutions, companies and citizens. - PM²EU+".

With this as a starting point, an interesting debate was established at the PM² Talk held on 10 December 2020 and the main conclusions reached can be highlighted as follows:

1. The great interest that the PM² methodology has aroused in the world of project management, not only at European level, but also internationally. Evidence of this was the number of attendees, close to two thousand (2,000), and the geographical origin (all of Europe, Canada, Belarus, Colombia, Mexico, Chile, Brazil, etc.).
2. The importance of the community of users of the methodology, once it is available in open format and free of charge. This is both an opportunity and a risk. The opportunity lies in the large number of people and resources that can help to improve and generalise the use of the PM² methodology. The risk lies in the fact that it is not carried out in a coordinated manner, we will lose all the advantages of collaborative work.
3. The need to share experiences and lessons learned of a practical nature. It is especially interesting to know how customizations of the methodology work for different types of projects and in different environments.
4. Experiences of applicability in the private sector (Belgian Railway) in those elements more linked to ICT.
5. Initiatives are being carried out in the public sector to provide training and practice in the PM² methodology in order to achieve better efficiency in public spending based on the monitoring and control possibilities provided by this methodology (in particular, experiences in Italy and Greece were discussed).
6. The different ways of incorporating the teaching of the PM² methodology in the university environment were analysed. The possibilities are at all three levels of training: undergraduate, masters and doctorate. Specific and individualised training possibilities are another line of work, as well as training within the general framework of project management.
7. There are lines of work analysing the possibility of using the PM² methodology in the field of development cooperation.

8. Intensive work is being done on applicability in the field of security and defence, as the experiences of the European Security and Defence College (ESDC)² have shown. The work has come to materialise in training actions aimed at the practical application of the PM² methodology in certain missions, both by civilian and military personnel.
9. The forthcoming activation of a new budgetary framework for the European Union, such as the Horizon Europe & Next Generation programmes, is a great opportunity to generalise or at least make more habitual the use of the PM² methodology.
10. The flexible nature of the PM² methodology, its universal character and the possibility of sharing spaces with other bodies of knowledge, international standards, compendiums of professional skills, methods and tools normally used in project management were studied.
11. Regarding the nature of the PM² methodology and the possibility of classifying it within one of the large groups of project methodologies (predictive, adaptive-agile or hybrid). It indicates that although PM² establishes a starting point for the project at the level of planning, costs, deadlines and qualities, it includes mechanisms that allow it to adapt to possible changes and therefore be flexible enough to apply in scenarios with a certain degree of uncertainty and complexity. These tools are perfectly located both within the methodology itself and in the artefacts produced throughout the management of the project (risk management, incident management, change management and decision-making management).
12. The open and hybrid configuration of the PM² methodology position is a head start to face the short and medium term future of project management methodologies.
13. It was concluded that there was a need to have open access to the rest of the components of the PM² universe (programme management, portfolio management, Agile approach, etc.)
14. In relation to the Agile extension, it is considered that, although it is of great interest for projects in the area of Information and Communication Technologies (IT), it is understood that it is a way of working and closely linked to the development of project deliverables.

In the light of all these reflections, it is clear that the community of project managers, both public and private, has shown an interest in using PM² methodology as a common language to improve and optimise the management of resources allocated to projects.

Many forums for debate will be opened from now on and in which the Jean Monnet Chair "PM² by European Commission. Open, free and common project management framework for all European institutions, companies and citizens. - PM²EU+" will try to be present and participate very actively in order to achieve the objectives set out in it, which are none other than to increase the visibility of the Open PM² methodology and to ensure that as many potential users as possible (students, young researchers, officials and professionals) use it.

² The Chair has become part of the European Doctoral School on the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) through the University of Granada. It is currently carrying out training, studies and research related to the PM² methodology. For more information, please visit the institutional website. <https://esdc.europa.eu/doctoral-school/>

The Chair aims to play a crucial role in enabling the exchange of knowledge and experience and promoting the valorisation of Open PM² as a common, open and free language and methodology for Europe.

The position of the Chair is truly an opportunity as it brings the academic perspective, together with continuous work with project management professionals and the European Commission's Center³ of Excellence of PM², with which we meet to exchange views, activities and research lines.



³ Additional information of the CoEPM2 - PM² Project Management Methodology at https://europa.eu/pm2/_en