

„SECURITY IN V4 CONSTITUTIONS AND POLITICAL PRACTICES”

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1. „SECURITY IN V4 CONSTITUTIONS AND POLITICAL PRACTICES” – PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The current situation in the eastern neighbourhood of the V4 indicates the importance of security and the necessity of cooperation in terms of security challenges. It has resulted in development of the V4 Defence Cooperation. The project aims to analyse the constitutional regulations concerning security perceived subjectively (security of the state, a citizen, a man, a consumer or an employee) and objectively (internal, external, environmental, energy-related, economic and demographic). The analysis will enable cognition of the V4 neighbouring countries' laws and determination of the similarities, differences and gaps occurring in the constitutions of the countries concerned. The Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic were the first countries that adopted new democratic constitutions in the region. Security issues were barely regulated in these constitutions which mainly focused on the rights of the individual. The security details were included in the laws. Poland has a more extensive regulation included in its Constitution of 1997. The Hungarian Constitution of 2011 regulates security issues in detail. It is therefore necessary to consider whether their scopes were recognized correctly and if they allow the authorities to flexibly react to emerging threats. The research result on the constitutional security will consist in development of a common, unified and comprehensive approach to solving crisis situations in the V4 area. The need of such research is related to the V4 Defence Cooperation and includes changes to the constitutional norms. It is important due to the significant differences in political practice in relation to the military conflict occurring in the immediate vicinity of the V4. The project „Security in V4 constitutions and

political practices” will concern the recognition of security in the V4 constitutions, the ability of these regulations to react to the conflicts increasing in Central and Eastern Europe, and the legal assessments of new forms of confrontational actions against a potential aggressor.

The research results will be addressed to V4 scholars (lawyers and political scientists). The analysis will be conducted in national languages. The research topic may generate an international interest because the research deliverables will be developed in English in the form of summaries and comparative conclusions. The project outputs will also be addressed to the politicians involved in security at the national, regional (V4) and international (NATO, EU) level. The project is also located within the research carried out by military structures and relates to the proper preparation of legislative measures. Considering the expected demands for legislative changes, national parliaments and other relevant bodies will be interested in the results of the research as well.

The results of the research project will be published in the form of monograph. The volume of the monograph is planned to cover 20 printing sheets with a circulation of 300 pieces. A workshop is planned during the preparation of the research results. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the key issues that will arise in research process. The research results will also be presented at an open international conference (Toruń, 22-23 April 2016) with the participation of all the project partners. It is also planned that detailed research results will be published in the key scientific periodicals.

The project will hopefully contribute to development of civil society and the deepening of the V4 citizens’ awareness concerning the V4 previous activity and the role that this organization may play in the future, especially in the field of security.

The project will be coordinated by prof. Agnieszka Bień-Kacała (The Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń)

2. THE GRANTEE



The Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń (Uniwersytet Mikołaja Kopernika w Toruniu, NCU) was founded in 1945. It is one of the largest universities in Poland, currently comprising 17 faculties (including 3 medical faculties at Collegium Medicum UMK in

Bydgoszcz). It provides graduate and postgraduate courses for almost 30,000

students, offering education in over 80 fields of study, 100 specialisations and 50 postgraduate courses. The university employs 4300 staff on both Toruń and Bydgoszcz campuses, over half of whom are academic teachers. NCU alumni now number nearly 200,000. More about **The Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń** – <http://www.umk.pl/en/>.

3. THE PARTNERS IN PROJECT



The Charles University in Prague (Univerzita Karlova) – The Charles University in Prague was founded in 1348 and is one of the world's oldest universities. Today it has 17 faculties (14 in Prague, 2 in Hradec Králové and 1 in Plzeň), 3 university institutes, 6 further centres for educational, scientific, research, development and other activities or for provision of information services, 5 university-wide special facilities and the Rectorate as the administrative centre of the whole university. Charles University is a leading research university that combines high-quality science, research and education on both a global and national scale. More about the **Charles University in Prague** – <https://www.cuni.cz/UKEN-1.html>.



**Palacký University
Olomouc**

Palacký University Olomouc (Univerzita Palackého v Olomouci) was re-established by the Act of the Interim National Assembly, passed on February 21, 1946. It followed up with the tradition of the old Olomouc university, which was established in 1573 and closed in 1860. Therefore the Olomouc University can justly be considered the second oldest university in Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia. At present the Palacký University, Olomouc is formed by eight faculties: St. Cyril and Methodius Faculty of Theology, Faculty of Medicine, Philosophical Faculty, Pedagogical Faculty, Faculty of Science, Faculty of Physical Culture, Faculty of Law and Faculty of Health Sciences. Approximate number of students is 21 000. More about **Palacký University Olomouc** – <http://www.upol.cz/en/>.



Comenius University in Bratislava (Univerzita Komenského v Bratislave) is the oldest and biggest university in the Slovak Republic. It was founded in 1919 and it follows the university traditions of Academia Istropolitana, founded in Bratislava in 1465 by Hungarian king Matthias Corvinus. Since its foundation it has occupied the forefront position of the

national system of higher education and has become an internationally recognized centre of science and research. As the most complexly built university of the classical type in the Slovak Republic, it holds the position of national university. Comenius University comprises thirteen faculties, with around 28,000 students at all three levels of study, of which 21,000 are full time students. Studying at the oldest Slovak university enjoys popularity with international students – more than 2,300 students from 80 countries study at CU. The university admits about 9,000 new students every year, who can choose from a rich range of several hundreds of courses. More about **The Comenius University in Bratislava** – <https://uniba.sk/>.



The University of Pécs (Pécsi Tudományegyetem) –

The University of Pécs with its 22,000 students, 1,600 lecturers and 10 faculties is one of the largest higher education institutions in Hungary and the centre of knowledge within the Transdanubian region. Its roots date back to 1367. The UP represents classical values, while the challenges of present and future times are being adapted successfully as well.

Covering a wide range of educational areas, it reaches out far beyond the city of Pécs. The UP operates an independent faculty in Szekszárd and runs significant training programmes in the towns of Kaposvár, Szombathely and Zalaegerszeg. More about the **University of Pécs** – <http://pte.hu/english>.



Pázmány Péter Catholic University (Pázmány Péter Ka-

tolikus Egyetem) is a private university of the Catholic Church in Hungary, recognized by the state. Founded in 1635, the PPCU is one of Hungary's oldest and most prestigious institutions of higher education. The Faculty of Theology was established by archbishop Péter Pázmány in Nagyszombat, the Kingdom of Hungary (today Trnava, Slovakia) in 1635. The university is located in three cities: the Rectors' Office, the Faculty of Theology, the Faculty of Law, the Faculty of Information Technology, and the Postgraduate Institute of Canon-Law are located in Budapest. The campus of the Vitéz János Faculty of Teaching is in Esztergom, around the Esztergom Basilica. The campus of the Faculty

of Humanities is in Piliscsaba, in the vicinity of Budapest. The university has several research groups and institutes. One of the most important international research programmes of the university is the Syro-Hungarian Archeological Mission, which does the restoration of Margat's crusader fortress. Nearly 10,000 students attend the university, enrolled in several Bachelor, Master, and PhD programmes. More about **Pázmány Péter Catholic University** – <https://ppke.hu/en>.

4. THE PARTICIPANTS

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5. ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL
VISEGRAD FUND


• Visegrad Fund

The International Visegrad Fund is an international organization based in

Bratislava founded by the governments of the Visegrad Group (V4) countries – the Czech Republic, Hungary, the Republic of Poland and the Slovak Republic-in Štířín on 9 June 2000.

The purpose of the fund is to facilitate and promote the development of closer cooperation among citizens and institutions in the region as well as between the V4 region and other countries, especially in the Western Balkan and Eastern Partnership regions. The fund operates several grant programs, and also awards individual scholarships, fellowships and artist residencies. Grant support is given to original projects namely in the areas of culture, science and research, youth exchanges, cross-border cooperation and tourism promotion, as well as in other priority areas defined in calls for proposals published on the fund’s website.

The governing bodies of the fund are the Council of Ambassadors and the Conference of Ministers of Foreign Affairs. The executive body of the fund is composed of the Executive Director and the Deputy Executive Director. The administrative body of the fund is the secretariat.

The Conference of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, which consists of the Ministers of the Foreign Affairs of the Visegrad Group countries, is the supreme body of the fund. The conference determines the amounts of annual contributions and their due dates for every V4 member state, approves the rules of procedure of the fund’s secretariat, and approves the fund’s budget, i.e., annual statements and clearance of the budget presented by the Council of Ambassadors. The Conference of Ministers of Foreign Affairs designates from among its members its president. This presidency is rotating in the English alphabetical order of the names of the member states. The Conference of Ministers of Foreign Affairs adopts resolutions unanimously and meets at least once a year in order to estimate the implementation of the tasks set forth in the present statute of the fund. Hungary presides over the Conference of Ministers from January 1–December 31, 2015.

The Council of Ambassadors consists of Ambassadors or Chargé d’Affaires a.i. of the V4 member states accredited to the head of the state whose plenipotentiary currently holds the post of the president of the Conference of Ministers of Foreign Affairs. The Council prepares programs for the session of the Conference of Ministers of Foreign Affairs and reports on implementation of the fund’s operations in the preceding year. The council drafts programs and documents for the sessions of the Conference of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, meets at least once every six months to discuss whatever is necessary for the implementation of the objectives. The council formally approves projects selected for financing and implementation.

More about The International Visegrad Fund: <http://visegradfund.org/about/>.