

VISEGRAD WINTER SEMINAR 2014

Interdisciplinary elective course

Department:

Constitutional Law and Political Sciences, Faculty of Law and Political Sciences, Széchenyi István University

Coordinator: Dr. habil. Smuk Péter, Head of Department, Vice Dean for Education

Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Lévainé Dr. Fazekas Judit, Dean

Venue: 12 Áldozat str. Győr, Hungary (Building of the Faculty of Law)

Date: 24-28 February 2014

Eligibility:

- graduate and postgraduate students from different fields (law, political science, economics, social studies, European studies, etc.)

- Limits: max. 40 students per semester.

- 20 places are provided for incoming students from abroad.

List of invited lecturers and topics:

Prof. Wawrzyniec KONARSKI (Jagiellonian University, Kraków, PL)

Ethnicity and Politics in Central Europe

Key issues: introduction to the map of ethno-national groups in Central Europe, party politics and other policy issues regarding ethnic and national minorities, recent development of nationalism in the region

Dr. Danuta GLONDYS, PhD (Villa Decius Association, Kraków, PL)

Cultural cooperation and possibilities

Key issues: common cultural projects in V4 countries, patronage for culture, common language in civil society

JUDr. Ing. Michal RADVAN, PhD (Masaryk University, Brno, CZ)

Tax Law and Tax Theory

Key issues: introduction into the tax systems, taxation as social policy tools, extraordinary or ordinary taxes, cases of V4 countries

Dr. Balázs HORVÁTHY, PhD (Széchenyi István University, HU)

National and Supranational Interests - Policy Opportunities for V4 Countries in the EU

Key issues: Accession of the V4 Countries to the EU, Introduction to the EU policy-making mechanisms, EU law-making procedures, Cases Studies of V4 Countries

Dr. habil. Peter SMUK (Széchenyi István University, HU)

Media freedom and political discourse in V4 countries

Key issues: concepts of freedom of expression and political discourse, European standards and V4-regulation regarding the freedom of press and media, case studies of V4 countries: publicity of parliamentary procedures, free speech and other fundamental rights during election campaigns

Dr. Eszter LUKÁCS, PhD (Széchenyi István University, HU)

Economic trends and challenges in the region

Key issues: introducing the economic situation of the V4 countries, cases of foreign direct investments in the region, global and EU dependency, national economic policy-decisions

Dr. Gabor HULKÓ, PhD (expert of local governments, SK; lecturer Széchenyi István University, HU)

State reforms and citizens in V4 countries

Key issues: overview of the state organizations in the V4 countries, recent state reforms and challenges for fundamental rights in V4 countries, public administration: how to get closer to citizens?

Tasks, assessment:

- interactive participation at the discussion panels, presenting case studies (preliminary recommendations will be published at least one week before the seminar),
- essay or presentation on a chosen topic.

Following the course the Faculty will publish the essays in a printed volume.

Draft Schedule for the Programme

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
a.m.	Registration, arrival	Lecture 1	Lecture 1	Lecture 1	Lecture
		Lecture 2	Lecture 2	Discussion	Presenting of certificates, evaluation
p.m.	Lecture	Discussion 1	Discussion	Lecture 2	
	Discussion panel	Discussion 2	Trip (<i>cultural event</i>)	Visiting local/national institutes	
Evening	Sightseeing	Cultural evening			

(Length of lectures and discussion panels: 90 minutes each.)

Recommended readings

(selected)

- Ethnicity and Democratisation in the New Europe. Ed. K. Cordell. London – New York 1999. Chapters: 1, 2, 6, 10, 12, 13, 14.
- The Consolidation of Democracy in East-Central Europe. Ed. Karen Dawisha. Cambridge University Press, 1997.
- Finding the right place on the map : Central and Eastern European media change in a global perspective. Ed. Karol Jakubowicz and Miklós Sükösd. Bristol, UK : Intellect, 2008.
- The Europeanization of Central and Eastern Europe. Ed. Frank Schimmelfennig, Ulrich Sedelmeier. Cornell University Press, 2005.
- Attila Marján: Europe's Destiny: The Old Lady and the Bull. The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2010.
- Public Administration in Post-Communist Countries. (Saltanat Liebert, Stephen E. Condrey, Dmitry Goncharov) CRC Press, 2013
- The art of Difference, by Gottfried Wagner. European Cultural Foundation and Fritt Ord Foundation. Alliance Publishing Trust, 2011, www.alliancepublishing.org
- The Visegrad Group: A Central European Constellation, by Andrzej Jagodziński. International Visegrad Fund (available at IVF).
- Radvan, Michal: Czech Tax Law. Masaryk University, Faculty of Law Publications no. 317, Brno, 2010. ISBN: 978-80-210-4441-8. pp.63.
- Selected articles from Visegrad Insight (<http://visegradinsight.eu/index>)

Further legal and scientific sources and documents, data-sheets, etc. will be handed out before and during the seminar.

Győr, 2 December 2013

Dr. habil. Peter Smuk

*Head of Department of Constitutional Law
and Political Sciences*