

# POLITICKÉ VEDY / POLITICAL SCIENCES

Časopis pre politológiu, najnovšie dejiny, medzinárodné vzťahy, bezpečnostné štúdiá / Journal for Political Sciences, Modern History, International Relations, security studies

URL časopisu / URL of the journal: <http://www.politickevedy.fpvmv.umb.sk>

Autor(i) / Author(s): Eva Pálešová  
Článok / Article: Exchanges, Cooperation, and Policies: The EUROMED of knowledge.  
Vydavateľ / Publisher: Fakulta politických vied a medzinárodných vzťahov – UMB Banská Bystrica / Faculty of Political Sciences and International Relations – UMB Banská Bystrica

**Odporúčaná forma citácie článku / Recommended form for quotation of the article:**

PÁLEŠOVÁ, E. 2014. Exchanges, Cooperation, and Policies: The EUROMED of knowledge. In *Politické vedy*. [online]. Roč. 17, č. 2, 2014. ISSN 1335 – 2741, s. 205-208. Dostupné na internete: <[http://www.politickevedy.fpvmv.umb.sk/userfiles/file/2\\_2014/PALESOVA.pdf](http://www.politickevedy.fpvmv.umb.sk/userfiles/file/2_2014/PALESOVA.pdf)>.

Poskytnutím svojho príspevku autor(i) súhlasil(i) so zverejnením článku na internetovej stránke časopisu *Politické vedy*. Vydavateľ získal súhlas autora / autorov s publikovaním a distribúciou príspevku v tlačenej i online verzii. V prípade záujmu publikovať článok alebo jeho časť v online i tlačenej podobe, kontaktujte redakčnú radu časopisu: [politicke.vedy@umb.sk](mailto:politicke.vedy@umb.sk).

By submitting their contribution the author(s) agreed with the publication of the article on the online page of the journal. The publisher was given the author's / authors' permission to publish and distribute the contribution both in printed and online form. Regarding the interest to publish the article or its part in online or printed form, please contact the editorial board of the journal: [politicke.vedy@umb.sk](mailto:politicke.vedy@umb.sk).

## EXCHANGES, COOPERATION, AND POLICIES: THE EUROMED OF KNOWLEDGE

Eva Pálešová\*

The Union for the Mediterranean provides a framework for the development of Euro-Mediterranean relations, especially by means of increasing mobility and exchanges between students, teachers and researchers, by strengthening intercultural dialogue or by implementing joint programs of study and research. Specialists in all areas and actors in higher education and research were invited to participate in a conference in Banská Bystrica at the Faculty of Political Sciences and International Relations. The conference, which took place on the October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013, was entitled “*Exchanges, Cooperation, and Policies: The Euromed of Knowledge*”.

The main purpose of the event was to create a space for the discussion and exchange of expertise and analysis between specialists and citizens from different countries of the European Union. Specialists in all areas and actors in higher education and research were invited to participate in our conference in Banská Bystrica, in Central Slovakia, which focused on two main themes: *The Political Prospects of Euro-Mediterranean Relations* and *The Challenge of the Employability of Students in the Euro-Mediterranean Region: Evidence and Analysis*. The conference presented a good opportunity for networking and for establishing co-operation, and in addition it also included friendly discussions between experts on the main topics and on international relations in general.

The conference was attended by over forty scientists and researchers from renowned universities and research institutes from Slovakia and abroad. It was visited by especially honored scientists from the *Tunis Centre for Global Security*, *New Bulgarian University in Sofia*, the *French Institute in Sofia*,

---

\* Mgr. Eva Pálešová is an internal PhD. student at the Department of International Relations and Diplomacy, Faculty of Political Sciences and International Relations, Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica, Kuzmányho 1, 974 01 Banská Bystrica, Slovak Republic, and a graduate student from the Analysis of Conflicts and Violence at the Faculty of Law and Political Sciences, Saint-Quentin University in Versailles, France, [eva.palesova@umb.sk](mailto:eva.palesova@umb.sk).

*University St-Quentin-en-Yvelines Versailles, Centre for Research and Management LAREQUOI, University Pierre-Mendès-France in Grenoble, University of Champagne-Ardenne in Reims, University of Alcide De Gasperi in Poland, University of Warmia and Mazury in Poland, Italy, Piana di Catania University, University LUM Jean Monnet in Kazakhstan, University of Economics, Law and Government in Russia, the French Institute in Bulgaria, Institute for International and European Studies in Reims and Sens Public, an International Organization based in Paris.*

An invitation to this conference was also accepted by Ladislav Čeri, the Advisor to the President of the Slovak Republic; Jamil Sayah, the President of the Tunisian Observatory of Global Security; Jacqueline Bergeron, the President of Erasmus Expertise; and Yordanka Chobanova, the Advisor to the President of the Bulgarian Republic.

The conference started with a contribution from Yordanka Chobanova entitled *“Academic Cooperation in the Euro-Mediterranean region: Factors for Competitiveness and Growth”*. Other contributions were presented by Igor Kosír, the Vice-Rector of Matej Bel University (*“Developments in North Africa and Opportunities for Cooperation with the Visegrad Countries”*), Jamil Sayah, the President of the Tunisian Observatory of Global Security (*“The Union for the Mediterranean in Relation to the Arab Spring”*), Mária Holubová and Mária Rošteková, researchers from Matej Bel University (*“Relations Between Central European Countries and Arab Countries: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives”*), Petia Georgieva and Daniela Irrera, researchers from New Bulgaria University and the University of Catania (*“Trends in the EU Policies in North Africa since the Arab Spring”*), Kuralay Baizakova, researcher from al-Farabi Kazakh National University (*“The Geopolitical Consequences of the Arab Spring to the Countries of Central Asia”*), Marta Wójcicka from Alcide De Gasperi University of Economy Józefów University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn (Poland), (*“Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation in the Field of Energy”*), Rastislav Kazansky, researcher from Matej Bel University (*“WMD Proliferation in the Mediterranean and the Middle East Region and Its Implications for the Security of the EU”*), Peter Terem, Ivana Demčíková, Daniel Nedela, Matúš Stulajter, researchers from Matej Bel University (*“Territorial Issues in the Mediterranean Area: Gibraltar, The Limits of Multilateral and Bilateral Negotiations”*), Wiesław Breński, researcher from the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn (*“The European Neighbourhood Policy in Favour of*

*Democracy and Common Prosperity*”) and Magdalena Sitek, a scientist from Wydziałe Prawa University of Warmia i Administracji and Mazury w Olsztynie (*“Executive Agencies: Searching for Governance Tools to Solve the Recent Financial Problems of the European Union”*).

The Faculty of Political Sciences and International Relations of the Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica, by participation in this Conference, has continued its successful co-operation with several French universities. The partnership with French universities is very dynamic in the area of the science and research. Thanks to a co-operation with Professor Gilles Rouet, originally from the University of Reims, at present from the Paris Descartes University, the Faculty of Political Sciences and International Relations of the Matej Bel University organised and co-organised several international scientific conferences in the period from 2007 to 2011.<sup>1</sup>

The main aim of the organisers was to bring together the attitudes of the academic community on specific topics of transformation in the Euro-Mediterranean relations. With more or less intensity depending on the period, the Mediterranean is a place of meetings, exchanges and political, cultural, economic or religious confrontations. Political accord has not been reached yet and the integration is far from being achieved, but new forms of relationships between Mediterranean countries and more generally within the Euro-Mediterranean area, are likely to develop in the context of international geopolitical and economic developments and as a consequence of the Arab Spring. For this purpose, it is essential to encourage an intensive debate on specific issues the new society should deal with. It is in its own interest to approach the global debate with well considered ideas and consequently to shape the strategic ambit also for its own benefit.

The formal part of the conference went on until the evening, and was followed by an informal reception, where the participants had an opportunity to further discuss topics that had been introduced at the conference, and to build

---

<sup>1</sup> European Union Enlargement and the European Neighbourhood Policy in Banská Bystrica, December 2007; Identity, Citizenship and Democracy 20 Years after The Fall of the Berlin Wall in Charleroi, October 2009; The Bologna Process and the European Neighbourhood Policy in Batumi, Georgia, June 2010; Citizenship and Nationality in Europe in Banská Bystrica and Sofia, April 2011 and more.

links for future co-operation. Contributions presented at this conference, as well as those, which could not be officially presented because of the lack of time, will be published in the Proceedings of the Conference with the eponymous title “*Exchanges, Cooperation, Policies: The Euromed of knowledge*” – by the French publisher l' Harmattan.