

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): Lucia Spišiaková
Článok / Article: Edifying Workshop: Implementation of the Right of Assembly in the Light of National Consciousness and Role of Mass Media in Preventing and Resolving Conflicts
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:

SPIŠIAKOVÁ, L. 2014. Edifying Workshop: Implementation of the Right of Assembly in the Light of National Consciousness and Role of Mass Media in Preventing and Resolving Conflicts. In *Politické vedy*. [online]. Roč. 17, č. 4, 2014. ISSN 1335 – 2741, s. 204-206. Dostupné na internete: http://www.politickevedy.fpvmv.umb.sk/userfiles/file/4_2014/SPIŠIAKOVA.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.

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.

EDIFYING WORKSHOP: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RIGHT OF ASSEMBLY IN THE LIGHT OF NATIONAL CONSCIOUSNESS and ROLE OF MASS MEDIA IN PREVENTING AND RESOLVING CONFLICTS

Lucia Spišiaková*

On September 26, 2014, an edifying workshop concerning the themes of the right of assembly in the light of national consciousness and the role of mass media in preventing and resolving conflicts took place. As foreshadowed by its title, the main aim of this workshop which brought together personalities from different fields was to find common answer for issues such as *“Implementation of the right of assembly in the light of national consciousness”* which is highly associated with manifestation of extremism, as well as for the questions related to the *“Role of mass media in preventing and resolving conflicts”*. Workshop took place in Smolenická Huta and was organised by Roman Catholic Church, International Committee on Struggle against the Organised Crime, Terrorism and Corruption (ICOCRIM) and by Eastern European Development Agency (EEDA). Workshop was a small-scale but in-depth meeting for PhD. students, experts, as well as for professionals from public administration sphere.

The workshop program included opening and closing plenary sessions and panel of discussion, followed by formal and informal meetings of working groups and workshop participants. Facilitator of the seminar was Dr.h.c. mult. JUDr. **Jozef Zafko**, Honor. Prof. mult., who opened the workshop together with priest SCILic. **Jozef Spišák**.

The opening panel included doc. JUDr. **Ivo Svoboda**, PhD., forensic expert with a focus on political offenses. His paper concerned *“Implementation of the right of assembly, in the light of national consciousness”*. Speaker also talked about manifestation of extremism under the condition of Czech Republic law system. Doc. JUDr. **Ivo Svoboda**, PhD. offered very deep examination of extremism, from theoretical as well as from practical point of view.

* Mgr. Lucia Spišiaková is a PhD. Student at the Department of Political Science, Faculty of Political Sciences and International Relations, Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica, Kuzmányho 1, 974 01 Banská Bystrica, Slovak Republic, lucia.spisiakova@gmail.com.

Second part of seminar was represented by PhD. candidates from Faculty of Political Sciences and International Relations of the Matej Bel University. Mgr. **Lucia Spišiaková** presented her paper on the “*Role of mass media in preventing and resolving conflicts*”. Speaker offered cross – section view through negative and positive aspects of media impact. Her speech was followed by Mgr. **Jan Marko**’s paper about “*Role of mass media in multitrack diplomacy*” in which author highlighted important role of mass media in the web of activities, individuals, institutions and communities that operate together for a common goal: world peace. Authors agreed that mass media play essential role; however, it is important to note that the key aspect of their impact is most of the time affected by their owners, who build the business on premise “*if it bleeds, it leads*”.

An invitation to this workshop was also accepted by JUDr. **Martin Kubík**, expert on extremism within Slovak Republic. In his presentation, Mr. Kubík pointed out several key problems in Slovak legal system, which fails to define what exactly extremism is. As a result, it is hard to apply specific approach to combat it.

The formal part of the workshop went on until the evening and it 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 links for future co-operation.

The main objective of the workshop was to present scientific and research work outcomes; to create a space for establishing and increasing cooperation; to strengthen contacts and exchanges with scientific and research institutions, public-administration authorities and bodies; and, finally, to exchange experience, know-how, knowledge and proficiencies with experts, professionals and practitioners who are active in daily public administration activities. The content of the workshop program presentations and discussions had been focused on significant topics which facilitate a better understanding of important issues regarding the right of assembly strongly intertwined with manifestation of extremism, as well as the role of mass media in contemporary world and their further development in relation to the on-going legal processes and economic capacity combined with the implementation of government policies and policymaking power.

To conclude, we may say that right of assembly, together with impact of mass media, are important values in modern democracy. Individually, they are subject to numerous debates and researches, but being at the interdisciplinary

boundary attention is rarely paid to all their mutual bearings. The workshop met its goal to bring together practitioners as well as scientists with different perspectives, experiences and backgrounds. Different issues from area of legal system, democracy, extremism and mass media were raised. Following the workshop we can conclude that associating people and organising such a meeting can lead to better understanding of problematic areas from different points of view and helps to spread knowledge from scientists towards practitioners.