

# 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): Zuzana Husárová  
Článok / Article: Faculty of Political Science and International Relations:  
Celebration of Its 20th Anniversary  
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:**

HUSÁROVÁ, Z. 2015. Faculty of Political Science and International Relations: Celebration of Its 20th Anniversary. In *Politické vedy*. [online]. Roč. 18, č. 4, 2015. ISSN 1335 – 2741, s. 204-208. Dostupné na internete: <http://www.politickevedy.fpvmv.umb.sk/archiv-vydani/2015/4-2015/zuzana-husarova.html>.

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).

## FACULTY OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS: CELEBRATION OF ITS 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

Zuzana Husárová\*

The academic year 2015/2016 is for the Faculty of Political Science and International Relations quite special. Faculty is celebrating the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary since its establishment in 1995. Thus, for 20 years, this Faculty has been providing complex education in the fields of international relations, public and state administration, as well as diplomacy. Undoubtedly, it has its special place on the map of education not only in Slovakia, but also in the Central-European area. It is teaching future experts prepared for a wide-range of white-collar professions in the areas of Foreign Service and representation of the Slovak Republic in the international organisations and institutions, in the state and local administration, in political parties and interest groups, etc.

On October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015, *an Official Session of the Scientific Council* was held in order to commemorate this special occasion as well as to foreshadow the series of scientific conferences, which will take place at the faculty as a part of this celebration.

Naturally, the jubilee celebration started with the welcoming of the most important guests from many areas of Slovak political and educational environment, whose careers and activities are somehow connected to the life of the faculty. Later on, most of them were also appraised with the special memorial gifts emphasizing this pleasant occasion. The opening part of celebrations concluded with the opening speech of **prof. PhDr. Ján Koper, PhD.**, who is the Dean of the Faculty of Political Science and International Relations in Banská Bystrica. In his speech, he focused mainly on the importance of innovation and improvement, which may be considered crucial not just in the business, but also in an education. **Prof. PhDr. Ján Koper, PhD.**

---

\* Mgr. Bc. Zuzana Husárová is a PhD. student at the Department of International Relations and Diplomacy, Faculty of Political Science and International Relations, Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica, Kuzmányho 1, 974 01 Banská Bystrica, Slovak Republic, e-mail: zuzana.husarova@umb.sk.

also pointed out that only with the continuous and never-ending evolution of existing study programs and various complementary opportunities for students as well as for the lecturers, the comparability with the European university standards can be preserved in the upcoming periods.

After the introductory speech, the floor was given to a Rector of Matej Bel University **doc. Ing. Vladimír Hiadlovský, PhD.** He also expressed his delight to celebrate such a nice anniversary of one of the MBU faculties. However, in his speech he also illustrated the future of the entire university, expressing the hope for successful preservation of its current leading educational status within the Slovak Republic. Later on, three different speeches were delivered by JUDr. **Radomír Boháč** representing Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic, MUDr. **Ján Nosko** who is a Mayor of the city of Banská Bystrica and, last but not least, by PhDr. **Jaroslav Nad'** as a successful graduate who is now considered to be one of the leading authorities in the fields of international security and defence.

The core of the celebrations focused on the appraisal of the current and past employees, who were indispensable part of the development of the Faculty and helped to build its unique position among Slovak and European educational centres with similar scope of activities.

From the Department of International Relations and Diplomacy, the commemorative list went to doc. PhDr. **Lucia Rýsová, PhD.**, doc. PhDr. **Dalibor Viček, PhD.**, and PhDr. **Mária Badinská, PhD.** as the only representative of its Section of International Communication. From the Department of Political Science doc. PhDr. **Daniela Škutová, PhD.** was appreciated. Besides, also the work of three non-pedagogical employees of the Faculty of International Science and Political Relations MBU was rewarded, namely PhDr. **Eleonóra Kováčová, PhD.**, **Eva Mikulová** and **Daša Gubková.**

From the group of past employees, the special thank went to the previous dean of the Faculty prof. PhDr. **Peter Kulašik, CSc.**, prof. RNDr. **Jaroslav Mazúrek, CSc.**, doc. PhDr. **Jana Lasicová, PhD.**, doc. Ing. **Irena Šulajová, CSc.** and, last but not least, to doc. Ing. **Ján Králik, CSc.**

Next part of the celebration was dedicated to the institutions, which cooperate closely with the Faculty in order to improve its educational and societal mission. With the aim to express big thank to these institution their representatives got a commemorative plaque specially designed for this event. We are pleased that Ambassador H.E. **Šani Demarku** representing an *Embassy of the Republic of Serbia* and Mr. **Michel Pouchepadass** as a

delegate of both *Embassy of France* and the *French institute* accepted our invitation. *Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic* and *Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic*, which closely cooperates with the Faculty on many educational and professional occasions, were also awarded.

These acknowledgements were not complete without other universities, colleges and student associations whose day-to-day activities help to deepen student knowledge as well as to emphasize strong interrelations between theories though at lectures and diplomatic praxis. Thus, from the universities, the commemorative plaque went to the *Metropolitan University of Prague*, *College of European and Regional Studies* in České Budějovice, *Academia Rerum Civilium – College of Political and Social Sciences*, *Stanislaw Staszic University of Applied Sciences in Piła*, *Armed Forces Academy of General Milan Rastislav Štefánik* in Liptovský Mikuláš and to the *College Danubius* in Sládkovičovo.

As indicated in previous section, the last five official thanks and plaques were dedicated to the student associations. These were *Slovak Atlantic Commission (SAC)*, *Euro-Atlantic Center (EAC)*, *Deutscher Studentenverein (DSV)*, *The Association of French-speaking Students (EFPOLIT)* and *Center of Nations Slovakia (CNS)*.

At the conclusion of an Official Session of the Scientific Council of Faculty of Political Science and International Relations, all session participants were invited to an informal ceremonial reception, which was a great ending of such special occasion. However, it was not the only one event reflecting the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Faculty's establishment. Connecting to the first part of this information, three scientific conferences took place within the premises of this educational institution.

Immediately on the next day, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015 a scientific conference with the title *Regions, competitiveness and the potential of its growth in terms of the European Union* was held as a tribute to one of the most prominent personalities of Slovak science and Slovak higher education, prof. RNDr. **Koloman Ivanička**, DrSc., Prof. **Ivanička** dedicated a part of his long-lasting research activities primarily to the issue of development and advancement of the regions and to an importance of regional centres as a key players determining economic growth, development and increase of competitiveness of specific economic entities with the primarily concentration on an issue of regional development in terms of the Slovak republic. Main objective of this

event was, therefore, to lay down the foundations of the tradition of organising various types of scientific events (scientific conferences, specialised seminars, workshops, etc.) in order not to forget this important scientific authority.

The opening speech of this conference was held by doc. PhDr. **Lucia Rýsová**, PhD., who reminded the audience of the heritage and contribution of prof. **Ivanička**. Other contributions were categorised into main topics linked to cohesion policy of the European Union reflecting its long-term efforts to raise the competitiveness of this complex and, at the same time, from the view of an accomplished level of socio-economic development, differentiated area. However, an issue of competitiveness is in these days an integral part of the whole spectrum of different fields (agriculture, cohesion policy, environment, education, science and technology, etc.).

An invitation to this conference was accepted by a wide-range of important research authorities professionally oriented on an issue of regional development, regional policy and addressing a wide range of related topics not only from Slovakia, but also from Poland and Czech Republic. Presentations were held by prof. Ing. **Igor Kosír**, CSc., dr. hab. **Artur Życki**, prof., Ing. **Jiří Dušek**, Ph.D, RNDr. Mgr. **Jana Orlická**, RNDr. Mgr. **Anna Štefanková**, Mgr. **Eva Findřová** and RNDr. **Juraj Silvan**, CSc.

On November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015 another scientific conference was held at the Faculty. Under its title *Interpolis 2015*, this conference is an event dedicated to current issues of theory and practice of politics and international relations. Its main aim is to encourage PhD. students as well as young scientists to present the results of their research within wider scientific community. Its qualitative innovation lies also in an effort to create a network for long-term cooperation in information exchange among its participants.

Within *Interpolis 2015*, five working sections were announced:

1. *Political science aspects of evolution of modern political system,*
2. *New security challenges in the world,*
3. *Theoretical and practical issues of international relations,*
4. *Current issues in the field of economy, management and public administration,*
5. *Current issues of theory and practice of law.*

Lastly, the third planned scientific conference hosted by the faculty is *Security Forum 2016*, traditionally held in February. This international conference will be held under the auspices of the President of the Slovak Republic H.E. **Andrej Kiska** and is a result of successful cooperation among

ten educational centres located in Slovakia, Czech Republic, Poland and Serbia. It aims to discuss the major issues of current security as well as the most important challenges states and their institutions need to overcome in order to preserve current multilateral world order and, most of all, peace. Because of the time delay between the writing of this information and the realisation of the conference, no further information are currently available.

To conclude, we may say that the on-going academic year 2015/2016 is full of academic occasions and opportunities, which can nicely emphasize the unique role of the Faculty of Political Science and International Relations of Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica on the map of education within the entire Central-European area. Celebrations and conferences undoubtedly create a great place for intersection between science and actual policy-making praxis, what can bring valuable new impulses and innovation ideas necessary for further growth in both directions – from practitioners towards scientists and new theoretical approaches, and vice versa, from theory to actual diplomacy.