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Chronicle of Scholarly Events in the Field of Legal History Held in the Slovak Republic in 2018

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The following scholarly events, named in chronological sequence, took place in Slovak academic and research law institutions in 2018:

The *Bratislava Legal Forum*, which is an annual, multidisciplinary, international academic conference, was held at the Faculty of Law at Comenius University in Bratislava on February 22–23. The topic discussed in the Legal History Section was *The Formation of Czechoslovakia in 1918 and Persons in Jurisprudence*. The Slovak and Czech colleagues largely debated the academic and scientific profiles of the first Slovak jurists at Comenius University in Bratislava, and also touched on topics related to the establishment of the Czechoslovak Republic, especially the continuity of public administration and the precise moment of the Czechoslovak Republic's coming into being.

100 Years Since the Establishment of Czechoslovakia was the international academic conference held at the Faculty of Law at Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica on March 22–23. The main organiser of this conference, dedicated to this important milestone in our national history, was the Department of History of State and Law (Faculty of Law, Matej Bel University). It has already become a tradition that the Department organises this legal-historical academic conference each spring and it has recently come to be known as *The Banská Bystrica Legal History School*. The main objective

of the Department is to react to concrete legislative actions, assess them from the legal-historical point of view, and to draw attention to important legal-historical topics. The Department has already cooperated with the Department of the History of the State and Law (Masaryk University in Brno), the Department of History of the State and Law (Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice), the Department of Theory of Law and Legal History (Palacký University in Olomouc), and the Department of Theory of Law and Social Sciences (Comenius University in Bratislava). The high number of more than sixty domestic and foreign attendees, who actively or passively participated in the conference, indicates the success of this event. The two-day conference was divided into two sessions during which almost fifty academic contributions were presented. Many of these presentations summarised archival research findings that shed light on the establishment and existence of the joint state of the Czechs and Slovaks and on the legislative development of particular legal institutions. Beyond this their authors offered legal-historical analyses of certain important matters and provided insights into the lives of important persons or groups of people. The mission of the conference was to present research activities and to create a space for establishing and deepening contacts and cooperation among colleagues from domestic and foreign universities. The conference proceedings have already been published, and a collective monograph about the establishment of Czechoslovakia, with focus on the position of the Slovaks within the joint state, will soon follow. We believe that these two results of fruitful cooperation contribute to promoting a deeper understanding of this important milestone in Czechoslovak history.

The Sixth Meeting of Slovak and Czech Doctoral and Postdoctoral Students was held at the Faculty of Law at Trnava University on May 31–June 1. It was an international academic conference, where young legal historians and Romanists met to keep up the annual tradition. The conference presents the opportunity for the youngest members of the legal-historical academic and research society to meet with its older members, and engages them in a fruitful discussion. The organiser and the venue of the conference are being changed from year to year but 2018's host was not a random choice. The Trnava Department of Legal History, whose head is Dr. H. c. JUDr. Peter Mosný, CSc., celebrated at that time the anniversary of the re-opening of the Trnava University Faculty of Law. The Faculty was re-opened in 1998 as the continuation of the ancient Faculty of Law of the Jesuit Trnava University which existed in Trnava from 1667 to 1777. All the young attendees who actively participated in the conference contributed to the conference proceedings which give an interesting overview of the opinions of young Slovak and Czech legal historians and Romanists based in a dynamic university environment. The e-conference proceedings are available on the web page of the Trnava University Faculty of Law, at the following link: <http://publikacie.iuridica.truni.sk/zborniky/>

On the second day (second session) of the conference almost all the members of the Slovak young and middle-aged generation of legal-historians gave speeches. Speeches were given also by several notable Czech academics who in the plenary discussion concisely debated and glossed the current situation and perspectives of legal history. This was followed by a lively expert discussion on the current status and new trends in legal history and Romanism as academic and propaedeutic disciplines and on their interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary engagement.

Economic Legal History was a workshop held at the Faculty of Law at Comenius University on June 6. The members of the Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS) and some other institutions met there with legal historians from the SAS Institute of History and discussed research possibilities concerning the relationships between law, history, and economics. Together they balanced recent research works and confronted lawyers with expectations to shed a valuable legal perspective on economic history.

Conceptualising and Operationalising Identity, Race, Ethnicity, and Nationality by Law was a conference organised by the Legal-Historic Section of the SAS Institute of History on November 21. The conference was held at the Faculty of Law at Comenius University and was attended by Hungarian colleagues from the Central European University and Slovak colleagues from the Faculties of Law and of Philosophy of Comenius University. The main topic was the conceptualization of ethnicity through law. Hence the participants analysed this topic from both current and historical points of view, which included i.a. the analyses of the “*natio*” of the Hungarian Kingdom, and Slovak Anti-Jewish legislation during WWII.

Trnava Law Days was an international congress held at the Faculty of Law at Trnava University on September 20–21. The theme of the congress was *Rule of Law – Between Science and Art*. As a part of this congress, a conference on the topic of *State and Law in the Times of Upheaval* was organised by the Department of Legal History (Faculty of Law, Trnava University) on its second day. The theme of this scientific conference was chosen with regard to the “anniversary of the eights”, i.e. anniversary of the most important events in Czechoslovak history that coincidentally happened in the years 1918 – 1938 – 1948 – 1968. Furthermore, the Department organised this conference as a tribute to prof. JUDr. PhDr. Ladislav Hubenák, DrSc., who sadly passed away before celebrating his 90th birthday in 2018. The conference proceedings – *Legal-Historical Trends and Perspectives IV* – were printed in February 2018 and are comprised of contributions from colleagues based in Law Faculties in Prague, Plzeň, Katowice, Bratislava, Banská Bystrica, and Trnava.

Castle Days of Law in Banská Bystrica was an international academic conference organised by the Faculty of Law of Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica and held at the Víglaš Castle on November 22–23. It was the fourth edition of the Castle Days program, focussed this time on the topic of *Strategic Determinants of the Legal Standards Creation*. The conference was organised in four sections, one of which was the History of Law and State and Theory of Law Section. Within this section twenty-four colleagues from the Slovak Republic, the Czech Republic, and Poland presented their contributions and debated mainly on the theme of *Law and Values – Values in Law*. They will be available in print in the large conference proceeding, accessible at the web page of the Faculty of Law of Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica around June 2019.