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Annual Report on Slovak Legal History 2015

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Słowa kluczowe: wydarzenia naukowe, słowacka historia prawa, sprawozdanie.

The purpose of this report is to elaborate on the significant events that enriched Slovak legal history during the year 2015. The work focuses mainly on academic degrees awarded in the field of legal history including Roman law, further it provides information about the conferences organized in Slovakia and finally, this report reflects important publications that contributed to the scholarship of Slovak legal history during the year 2015.

1. Academic degrees

1.1. Doc. Mgr. Miroslav Lysý, PhD. from Comenius University in Bratislava, defended his habilitation thesis *The Moravians, the Moimir Dynasty, and the Frankish Empire* and was appointed associate professor. In the stated thesis, the author dealt mainly with the issue of constitutional law in Moravia (Great Moravia). *Moravians, Moimir Dynasty, and Frankish Empire* solves the problems of early medieval ethnicity, politico-genesis, and political relations between Moravia and the Carolingian Empire. Author's approach to the subject is characterized, above all, by increased attention to the authentic terminology of sources, as well as by deep insight into previous historiographical attempts of studying Moravian social development with taking into account their internal logic, philosophical background and socio-political implications. Therefore his thesis can claim to be a very useful in the field of early medieval history in the territory of Slovakia.

1.2. JUDr. PhDr. Róbert Jáger, PhDD. from Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica focused his doctoral research on the evolution of legal terminology of early middle ages in the territory of Slovakia. He defended his doctoral thesis at the Faculty of law of Trnava University in Trnava. In his thesis, titled *Evolution of Legal Terminology in Slavic law of Western Slavs*, he employed the knowledge of linguistic etymology and analyzed legal terminology of Western Slavs. The aim of his thesis was to search for

a connection between terminology of Slavic law and contemporary Slovak language. The combination of legal history and linguistic etymology in the thesis is a unique and important approach taken in the field of medieval legal history in Slovakia.

1.3. Mgr. et Mgr. Andrea Kluknavská, PhD., LL.M. from Comenius University in Bratislava defended her doctoral thesis titled *Development of the Czechoslovak Criminal Law in the years 1948–1961*. The aim of thesis was to outline the historical, political and social contexts affecting the standards of criminal law and administrative penal law as well as to provide an overview of the development of criminal legal standards in the period under review. The work contains a detailed overview and analysis of the development of criminal law after February 1948.

2. Conferences

2.1. Historical and Legal Analysis of the Causes and Consequences of World War II (Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica)

The international conference “Historicko-právna analýza príčin a následkov druhej svetovej vojny” was held on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the end of the World War II and took place at the Faculty of Law of Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica. The conference was attended by historians and legal historians from Slovakia, Czech Republic and Poland. The conference focused on the extension of knowledge of the relevant issues, and aimed to create a space to establish and improve cooperation with domestic and foreign universities and exchange experiences and knowledge between the involved scholars.

2.2. Milestones of law in the area of Central Europe 2015 (Comenius University in Bratislava)

Milníky práva v stredoeurópskom priestore 2015 is a yearly international conference for PhD. candidates and young scholars in many fields of legal scholarship in the area of the central European region. Traditionally, one section was dedicated to legal history including Roman law. For the first time, the section had two main topics – *Processes and procedural law in history* and *Principles of the Roman contractual system*. The conference provides the PhD. candidates and young scholars the possibility of presenting their work, getting to know each other and to prepare the way for prospective cooperation.

2.3. Casual meeting of Slovak legal historians (Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica)

“Neformálne stretnutie slovenských právnych historikov” is a new casual event dedicated for Slovak legal historians from faculties of law in Slovakia and it will be probably hosted each time by a different university. The first annual meeting was attended by scholars and PhD. candidates from Comenius University, Trnava University and Matej Bel University and took place at the Faculty of Law of Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica. The meeting provided for the possibility to cooperate and exchange knowledge of scholarly research experience and practical experience helpful for teaching legal history.

2.4. War and warfare in the legal system (Comenius University in Bratislava)

The international conference *Vojna a vojenstvo v práve* was organized by the Department of legal history and comparative law of the Faculty of Law of the Comenius University in Bratislava. The conference reflected significant changes in law of war from ancient and medieval periods to present, mainly in central and eastern Europe and in the Roman Empire. The conference was attended by experts on international law, law of war and terrorism, and legal history.

2.5. Days of law in Banská Bystrica (Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica)

The first annual international conference *Banskobystrické dni práva* took place at the Faculty of Law of Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica. The main topic of the conference was *The Slovak legal system after 25 years – contemporary challenges* and one section was dedicated to legal history including Roman law and theory of law.

3. Monographs and textbooks

3.1. Ján Puchovský : Ústavnoprávne aspekty prechodu Španielska k demokracii. Kraków : Towarzystwo Słowaków w Polsce 2015, 150 p.

(Ján Puchovský : *Constitutional aspects of the transition to democracy in Spain*. Kraków : Towarzystwo Słowaków w Polsce 2015, 150 p.) Spanish transition from Francoist Spain (also known as Nationalist Spain) to democracy in the years 1975–1978 represents very successful process within similar processes of the 20th Century in European and global scale. In this monograph, the author analyzes the development and transformation of constitutional law and the democratization process in Spain.

3.2. Jozef Beňa – Tomáš Gábriš : Právne dejiny Slovenska I (do roku 1918), Bratislava : Univerzita Komenského v Bratislave, Právnická fakulta 2015, 211 p.

(Jozef Beňa – Tomáš Gábriš : *Legal History of Slovakia (until 1918)*, Bratislava : Univerzita Komenského v Bratislave, Právnická fakulta 2015, 211 p.) The aim of the new textbook is to explain the development of legal order and to summarize the basic knowledge of legal history in the territory of Slovakia from Samo's Empire until the end of World War I. The analysis, description, evaluation and interpretation of legal norms and reality focuses primarily on the core institutes progressively related to legal, philosophical and also political thoughts, and determined by social and economic development and geopolitical context.

3.3. Peter Mosný – Miriam Laclavíková – Štefan Siskovič : Metodológia vedeckej práce, Bratislava : Veda 2015, 185 p.

(Peter Mosný – Miriam Laclavíková – Štefan Siskovič : *Methodology of scientific research*, Bratislava: Veda 2015, 185 p.) Methodology of scientific research for legal education, provides a methodological foundations for a scientific research and work, manages the process of argumentation, legal reasoning, establishes legal thought, methodology of science, the introduction to scientific propedeutics, hermeneutics, legal language, etc.

The year 2015 was a very successful year for legal history, mainly in the quantity of conferences organized by legal historians. Hopefully the year 2016 will be even richer in the academic sphere of Slovak legal history and will bring more interesting conferences, a lot of academic degrees awarded in field of legal history and publications presenting the results of the research of Slovak legal historians.