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POLSKI INSTYTUT SPRAW MIĘDZYNARODOWYCH
THE POLISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



are pleased to invite you to the workshop

**Visegrad for Strengthening Democracy in the Western Balkans:
Slovakia's Experience with Cooperation between Civil Society
and Public Administration**

20th and 21st March 2014 (Thursday and Friday), 08.30-15.45
Central European Policy Institute, Bratislava
Klariská 14

The meeting will be held in English

thinking⁴governance

The workshop is organised within the framework of the Thinking for Governance project

Programme:

20 MARCH - THURSDAY

8.30 – 9.00 *Registration and coffee*

9.00 – 9.15 **Welcoming Speech**

Milan Nič, Executive Director, Central European Policy Institute

Tomasz Żornaczuk, “Thinking for Governance” Project Coordinator, Polish Institute of International Affairs

9.15 – 10.45 **The Strategic Framework, Action Plans and Effective Monitoring During the Negotiations**

Andrea Elscheková-Matisová, Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mária Kolíková, Former State Secretary, Ministry of Justice

Ľubomír Hanus, Senior Officer, Department of Coordination of Schengen Matters, Ministry of Interior

Moderator: Hana Semanić, Central European University–Center for EU Enlargement, Hungary

10.45 – 11.15 *Coffee Break*

11.15 – 12.45 **Can NGOs be Watchdogs of the Judiciary’s Impartiality and Integrity?**

Milan Šagát, Director, VIA JURIS

Zuzana Wienk, Director, Fair Play Alliance

Katarína Javorčíková, Bratislava County Judge, President of the Association “For an Open Judiciary”

Moderator: Jiří Kocián, Research Center of the Association for International Affairs, Czech Republic

12.45 – 13.45 *Lunch*

13.45 – 14.00 **Transfer by taxi**

14.00 – 15:30 **Fight against Organised Crime: Pre-Accession Challenges**

Discussion at the Police Department, National Criminal Unit

18.00 – 19.30 *Dinner*

21 MARCH - FRIDAY

9.00 – 10.30 **The Role of Civic Organisations in Promoting EU and NATO Integration**

Mário Nicolini, Director, Institute for Security and Defence Studies, Ministry of Defence

Oľga Gyarfášová, Senior Research Fellow, Institute for Public Affairs

Vladimír Jakabčín, Director, Consular Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Moderator: Marián Majer, Central European Policy Institute

10.30 – 11.00 *Coffee Break*

11.00 – 12.30 **The Role of NGOs in Exposing Corruption: The Importance of a Proper Judicial Framework**

Ján Hrubala, Special Court Judge; Former Head of the Anti-Corruption Department, Office of the SR Government

Emília Sičáková-Beblavá, President of the Board of Directors, Transparency International

Moderator: Tomasz Żornaczuk, “Thinking for Governance” Project Coordinator, Polish Institute of International Affairs

12.30 – 12.45 **Closing Remarks**

Milan Nič, Executive Director, Central European Policy Institute

Tomasz Żornaczuk, “Thinking for Governance” Project Coordinator, Polish Institute of International Affairs

12.45 – 13.45 Lunch

The project is sponsored by The International Visegrad Fund

The idea behind the project is to share with a broad spectrum of NGOs, CSOs and think tanks from the Western Balkans the V4 counterparts’ experience with their cooperation in public administration in the EU integration process, particularly membership negotiations, and its continuation after accession. The project aims to bring together representatives of NGOs, CSOs and think tanks from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, Macedonia and Serbia, and to present them with the best practices of this form of cooperation in the Visegrád countries. While the Western Balkan countries are in different stages of the integration process, it is vital to prepare all of the structures for the eventual accession negotiations in which non-governmental input can be particularly valuable and may contribute to sustained public support for the process. These activities would emphasize this key aspect of integration, with a particular focus on Chapters 23 and 24 – the first to be opened in all new negotiations. For more information, see: pism.pl/research/projects/Thinking-4-Governance*

Partners

