



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CENTRAL EUROPEAN POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION (CEPSA) COUNCIL 2024

CEPSA Council met on the **3rd of October 2024, between 18.00 and 19.15 hours.**

Representatives of following CEPSA members were present: Davor Boban and Robert Mikac (Croatia), Simona Kukovič and Miro Haček (Slovenia), Krisztina Arato and Zsolt Boda (Hungary), Petr Just and Pavel Maškarinec (Czech Republic), Jaroslav Ušiak and Lucia Husnicova (Slovakia), Agnieszka Kasinska-Metryka and Jacek Wojnicki (Poland), Karin Liebhart (Austria; also senior president), Liutauras Gudžinskis and Ingrida Unikaite-Jakuntavičienė (Lithuania). Also present were senior president (Jerzy Wiatr) and vice-president (Boglarka Koller) of the association.

Agenda of the meeting:

- 1) Report from the current CEPSA president
- 2) Elections of the CEPSA President, Vice-President and General Secretary 2024-27
- 3) Elections of the CEPSA Executive Committee 2024-27
- 4) CEPSA 2024-27
- 5) AOB

Ad.1

President prof. Miro Haček provided report of his second (2021–2024) presidential term. His report had six main points, and those were:

a) internal consolidation of the association, none of the member associations were absent from some annual conferences in this term, and all national associations were participating at CEPSA council in Kaunas;

b) closer cooperation with APSA (where CEPSA is partner organisation) and IPSA (where president conducted several talks with IPSA leadership regarding the position of CEPSA national associations in IPSA).

c) CEPSA has a modern and well-visited webpage and presence on Facebook and X networks.

d) CEPSA has published multi-author book with Edward Elgar in 2022 with fourteen contributions on populist politics in Central and Eastern Europe, edited by Simona Kukovič and Petr Just.

e) CEPSA organised three very successful annual conferences in 2021-24 term, first one in Bled in June 2022, organized still in the Covid19 period with 150 panel and paper proposals and 120 attendees, second one in Dubrovnik in September 2023 with almost 270 paper and

panel proposals and with 200 attendees and the third one in Kaunas in October 2024 with 200 paper and panel proposals and 150 attendees.

f) CEPSA now has seven journals, from Slovenia, Hungary, Czech Republic (2x), Slovakia, Poland, and Lithuania (Journal of Comparative Politics, Politics in Central Europe, Intersections, Političke Vedy, Political Preferences, Baltic Journal of Political Science, Central European Journal of Politics), with first three being included into Scopus impact factor (Q2 or Q3 groups), and other heading in this general direction.

Ad.2

CEPSA council carried out elections for 2024-27 term, and Hungarian national association sent the proposal for the position of CEPSA president (prof. Boglarka Koller). The candidate presented her programme for the term 2024-27. Proposal was supported by all members of the CEPSA council and all national associations, electing prof. Boglarka Koller from Hungary as president, and upon her proposal then also prof. Agnieszka Kasinska-Metryka from Poland as vice-president and prof. Simona Kukovič from Slovenia as general secretary.

Ad.3

Following members will represent national associations in 2024-2027 term as members of CEPSA executive committee: prof. Simona Kukovič (Slovenia), TBC (Austria), prof. Ingrida Unikaite-Jakuntavičiene (Lithuania), prof. Agnieszka Kasinska-Metryka (Poland), prof. Jaroslav Ušiak (Slovakia), prof. Davor Boban (Croatia), prof. Petr Just (Czech Republic) and prof. Zsolt Boda (Hungary).

Ad.4

The local organising team from University of Warsaw presented some details on the 29th CEPSA annual conference, to be held in Warsaw, Poland, from 18 to 19 September 2025. Organization committee (OC) for the conference will be set up, including new CEPSA president and general secretary, and OC will decide on further details. There was also discussion on the CEPSA conference for 2026, as it will be 30th annual conference, and number of ideas were presented to be discussed further in the following weeks and months.

There was also short debate on the CEPSA statute, following the information that some national associations are considering leaving International Political Science Association (IPSA), or have already done so, causing potential breach of Articles 3 and 4 of the CEPSA statute. It was decided that new CEPSA leadership will discuss adding CEPSA to regional members of IPSA or pursue adjustments of the CEPSA stature if needed.

Ad5.

AOB: none.

Written by: prof. Miro Haček