

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CENTRAL EUROPEAN POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION (CEPSA) COUNCIL 2021

CEPSA Council met on the 18th of November 2021, between 14.30 and 15.30 hours.

Representatives of following CEPSA members were present: Dario Čepo (Croatia), Simona Kukovič (Slovenia), Boglarka Koller (Hungary), Petr Just and Jan Bureš (Czech Republic), Juraj Marušiak (Slovakia), Agnieszka Kasinska-Metryka and Rafal Dudala (Poland), Karin Liebhart (Austria; also senior president), Irminda Matonyte and Ingrida Unikaite-Jakuntavičiene (Lithuania). Also present were senior president (Wiatr) and current president (Haček) of the association.

Agenda of the meeting:

1. Report of the president
2. Elections of the new CEPSA leadership and executive committee
3. Future conferences and international cooperation
4. AOB

1) President Miro Haček provided report of his 2018-2021 presidential term. His report had six main points, and those were: a) internal consolidation of the association, as some member associations were absent from some annual conferences, but all national associations had positively responded to CEPSA call and all were participating at CEPSA council in Olsztyn; b) closer cooperation with other regional associations, sadly, pandemic hindered these activities; c) CEPSA did not have any webpage before 2018, but modern and up-to-date webpage has been set up; d) to strengthen our position and position of our member associations in IPSA and APSA (CEPSA has strengthened position in IPSA (two panels at Lisbon conference, with Edward Elgar book being prepared) and APSA (signed memorandum of understanding with APSA, giving CEPSA "partner association" status with some extra rights); e) to attract more paper givers also from beyond CEPSA member states (we are very successful getting 130+ proposals for the Olsztyn conference and 120 participants from 21 countries; and also 130+ participants in Pecs in 2019); f) to set up CEPSA sponsored journals (CEPSA now has five journals, one from Slovenia, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland, and Lithuania (Journal of Comparative Politics, Politics in Central Europe, Političke Vedy, Political Preferences, Baltic Journal of Political Science), with first two being included into Scopus impact factor, and other heading in this positive direction).

2) Prof. Wiatr, senior president to CEPSA, has proposed that current leadership should be re-elected, as CEPSA has shifted its former policy on single-terms to double-terms during prof. Cabada's presidency and it worked well. Also, several national associations (Slovenia, Poland, Czechia, Hungary, Slovakia) have submitted same proposal. The proposal was supported by all members of the CEPSA council and all national associations, re-electing prof. Miro Haček from Slovenia as president, prof. Boglarka Koller as vice-president and prof. Petr Just as general secretary.

Following members will represent national associations in 2021-2024 term as members of CEPSA executive committee: prof. Simona Kukovič (Slovenia), prof. Andreas Pribersky (Austria), prof. Ingrida Unikaite-Jakuntavičiene (Lithuania), prof. Agnieszka Kasinska-Metryka (Poland), prof. Jaroslav Ušiak (Slovakia), prof. Dario Čepo (Croatia), prof. Petr Just (Czech Republic), prof. Krisztyna Arató (Hungary).

3) CEPSA Council discussed 2022 and 2023 annual conferences candidates. There were two proposals for 2022 and 2023 CEPSA conferences, namely from Slovenian political science association and from Croatian political science association. After short debate, it was decided that Slovenia will host 26th CEPSA annual conference in June, preferably on the Slovenian coast. Also, it was decided that Croatia will host 27th CEPSA annual conference in September or October 2023 in Dubrovnik.

There was also short debate on the international cooperation of CEPSA. President reported on the activities related to IPSA (2023 IPSA World Congress will be held in Buenos Aires, and CEPSA intends to organize one or two panels again; prof. Žukovski promised to open the question of regional associations representation during next IPSA executive committee) and APSA (CEPSA is now partner association to APSA and this gives CEPSA guaranteed slot at every APSA conference and CEPSA will again organize panel at next APSA annual conference, in September 2022 in Montreal).

4) AOB: CEPSA Council wished all the very best to prof. Jerzy Wiatr for his recent 90th birthday. President thanked both editors of Edward Elgar book (prof. Kukovič and prof. Just) that will be published in mid-2022 for their hard work and also to all 15 authors, that have written and sent their respective chapters.

Written by: prof. Miro Haček