

11. Workshop on Central European developments since 1989 and tendencies towards integration – emergence of formalized structures (Central European Initiative /CEI/, Visegrad Group, Central European Free Trade Association /CEFTA/)

Lecturer: Pavel Pšejda

Objective: To explain political developments in Central European region since 1989 and highlight attempts at broader co-operation.

Workshop: Immediately after democratic changes taking place in 1989, and in some cases even before that date, Central Europe witnessed a rising trend to organize a regional co-operation based on common political and social experience, and focused on enhancing economic and security position of respective countries, as well as on promoting their interests in relation to the European Union. Co-operative projects in Central Europe, i.e. developments of Central European Initiative, Visegrad Group and CEFTA, will be dealt with through projects prepared by students and focused on their major features and influences.

Assigned reading:

Dangerfield, Martin (1999): “Sub-regional Economic Cooperation in CEFTA: Past Performance and Future Prospects”, in *The Role of CEFTA in the Process of EU Enlargement*, Institute of International Relations, Prague, pp. 25-31.

Lukáč, Pavol (2001): “Visegrad Co-operation – Ideas, Developments and Prospects”, *Slovak Foreign Policy Affairs*. Vol. II, No. I, pp. 6-23.

Skjalm, Karsten (1999): “CEFTA and the EU Enlargement Process: an Asymmetrical Bargaining Exercise”, in *The Role of CEFTA in the Process of EU Enlargement*, Institute of International Relations, Prague, pp. 37-44.

Additional reading:

Brusis, Martin (2002): “Prospects of Visegrad Cooperation in an Enlarged European Union”, in Št’astný, Marek (ed.): *Visegrad Countries in an Enlarged Trans-Atlantic Community*, Institute for Public Affairs, Bratislava, pp. 67-84.

Réti, Tamás (2002): “Visegrad Economies – Heading for European Union”, in Št’astný, Marek (ed.): *Visegrad Countries in an Enlarged Trans-Atlantic Community*, Institute for Public Affairs, Bratislava, pp. 139-166.

Issues for discussion:

Reasons for regional co-operation, its failures and successes.

Possibilities of co-operation in relation to EU membership.