

The Milestones of Law in the Area of Central Europe 2014. Casta-Papernicka (Slovakia), 27–29 March 2014

The 8th annual international conference of PhD candidates and young researchers entitled ‘The Milestones of law in the area of Central Europe 2014’ was held on 27-29 March 2014 in Casta-Papernicka (Slovakia). It was organized under the auspices of the Dean of the Faculty of Law of the Comenius University in Bratislava. The goal of the conference was to present a general contribution from young scholars to the development of legal sciences in Central Europe. The conference gathered researchers from several countries, mainly from Slovakia, Poland, Czech Republic, Ukraine, Romania, Georgia, Albania, Russia, Austria and Hungary. It was an excellent opportunity for young researchers originating from a great variety of countries to exchange their legal knowledge and scientific experiences, as well as to undertake comparative discussions on various aspects of the law. The conference included an official opening, nine parallel substantive sessions held in Slovakian, one international session held in English, and a short summary.

The participants of the conference were welcomed by Lydia Tobiasova, Vice-Dean for foreign relations and grant policy at the Faculty of Law of the Comenius University in Bratislava. After the official opening, the conference was carried out in parallel substantive sessions covering such legal areas as: administrative law, substantive and procedural civil law, constitutional law, commercial law, financial law, legal theory and history of law, labor law, international and European law and substantive and procedural criminal law. The English language session was chaired by Prof. Tibor Tajti from the Central European University, and was devoted to the following subject: ‘Influence of case-law on the formation of legal practice and the influence of legal practice on the formation of case-law’.

Several speeches on competition law, arbitration and specific aspects of commercial law were presented during the English language session, which lasted three days. They covered issues such as: the influence of Post Danmark case-law on the interpretation of Article 102 TFUE (K. Krzystek, University of Łódź); influence of CJEU’s case-law on the establishment of the antitrust private enforcement doctrine in Europe (M. Gac, Jagiellonian University); consumer protection in crowd funding (A. Horvathova, Central European University); influence of case law on international commercial arbitration (J. Glanc, Jagiellonian University); influence of case law on arbitration in consumer credit in the EU and US (A. Gikay/C. G. Stanescu, Central European University) and on the formulation of arbitration clauses in franchise agreements

(P. Zivkovic, Central European University); and finally, influence of case law on shaping specific provisions of commercial law (I. Kisely, Comenius University). Mentioned among other interesting presentations on particular issues of European and international law should be a speech delivered by M. Kielbasa (Jagiellonian University) on recent changes in EU law concerning the posting of workers, a speech by K. Szczepańska (Adam Mickiewicz University) on the transfer of voting rights in limited liability companies, and a speech by B. Greczner (Wroclaw University) who analyzed the influence of CJEU's case-law on Central European Judges.

The English session was closed by Prof. Tibor Tajti who stressed the strong influence exercised by case law and legal doctrine on the formulation of legal provisions and policies in the analyzed jurisdictions. All speakers agreed that the interrelation between the case-law of European, international and national courts, and the national legal practice, is increasingly visible, especially in legal areas such as competition law, commercial law and arbitration. Speaker emphasized also the growing importance of scholarship in the formulation, establishment and interpretation of legal provisions.

The conference ended on Saturday with a speech given by Prof. Marián Vrabko, Dean of the Faculty of Law of the Comenius University in Bratislava.

The conference shall be regarded as a great opportunity for young legal scholars to present the results of their work before an international community of researchers. Moreover, due to the complexity of the issues covered, the large number of participants and great diversity of their national backgrounds, the conference proved a perfect platform for the exchange of national experiences within a multicultural environment. The conference must therefore be positively evaluated and can be regarded as an important scientific initiative in the Central European area.

The conference was followed by a post-conference publication comprising all papers presented during the conference¹.

Maciej Gac

PhD Candidate, Jagiellonian University/University of Toulouse
maciej.gac@uj.edu.pl

¹ See 'The Milestones of Law in the Area of Central Europe 2014', Bratislava 2014, ISBN 978-80-7160-371-9, available at: <http://www.lawconference.sk/milniky/sprava/files/doc/ZBORNIK%202014.pdf>.