



Statehood and Symbolics in Central Europe after 1989

Under the coordination of the Institute for Legal Studies of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, three Central-European workshops participated in the implementation of a research project entitled *Statehood and Symbolics in Central Europe after 1989*: the Faculty of Law, West Bohemian University - Pilsen, the Faculty of Law, University of Rzeszow, and the Institute of Law and State (SAV) - Bratislava. As part of the research, sponsored by the International Visegrad Fund (No. 20910178), we have organized several international conferences at the Institute for Legal Studies of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

At one of our events, entitled *Statehood and Symbolism in Central Europe after 1989*, held in Budapest, Hungary on October 2-3, 2009, we discussed the historic development of the system of national and state symbols, including their relevance with respect to the changes of constitutional law. The papers were subsequently published in the Hungarian and English languages in Vol. 2010/1 of *Nemzetközi Közöny - International Journal*. At another conference, entitled *Symbolical Aspects of the Continuity and Discontinuity of State and Law in Central Europe* held in Budapest, Hungary on September 21, 2010, the topic of discussion were symbolic elements relevant with respect to the continuity of the state.

As a summary of the findings of the research, a monograph was published, entitled *Szimbolika és közjog. Az állami és nemzeti jelképek helye a magyar alkotmányos rendszerben* (Symbolism and common law. State and national symbols in the Hungarian constitutional system), reviewing state and national symbols of Central-European States, including also the symbols of the Hungarian state and ethnic minorities (authors: Iván Halász - Gábor Schweitzer. Bratislava, Kalligram Publisher, 2010, 215 pages).

The excerpts to follow show the changes after 1989 of the state and national symbols of the so-called Visegrad countries (V-4). The unabridged text of the papers was published in Vol. 2010/1 of the International Journal.

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