

Open seminar *Focus on the Visegrad Group*

PROGRAMME

9 May (Kaunas)		
11:15-12:00	Official opening of the V4 Seminar <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pro-rector of Vytautas Magnus University prof. dr Ineta Dabašinskienė • Polish Ambassador HE Jarosław Czubiński on behalf of the V4 Presidency • Hungarian Ambassador HE Zoltan Jancsi on behalf of the upcoming V4 Presidency 	VDU PMDF, Putvinskio g. 23, Kaunas Room 106
12:00-12:45	V4 general introduction (history, interests, co-operation areas, main mile steps), Tomasz Żornaczuk, Polish Institute of International Affairs	VDU PMDF, Putvinskio g. 23, Kaunas Room 106
12:45-13:15	Coffee break Opening of the exhibition “From Visegrad to Visegrad” in presence of Pro-rector and V4 Ambassadors	LOBBY
13:15-14:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • V4 co-operation in the EU / Foreign and security policy, Márton Ugrósdý, Institute for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Hungary • V4 co-operation in the field of culture, education, people-to-people contacts, youth exchange, Petr Pirunčík, Office of the President of Czech Republic 	VDU PMDF, Putvinskio g. 23, Kaunas Room 106
16:15-17:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • V4 Economy / Energy co-operation, Matúš Mišík Department of Political Science, Comenius University Bratislava, Slovakia • Summary 	VDU PMDF, Putvinskio g. 23, Kaunas Room 311

EXPERTS:

PETR PIRUNČÍK

Foreign Affairs Department

Office of the President of Czech Republic

Petr Pirunčík is a Czech diplomat (Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic). He studied at the Faculty of Arts of Charles University in Prague (Russian language and literature & political science) and the University of New Orleans, USA. After graduation he worked as a representative of an American study-abroad program in Prague (USAC), as a translator and lecturer. In 2009, he started working at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic; after a year at the Diplomatic Academy and a training at the Czech embassy in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, he worked at the CFSP Dept. of the Czech MFA. Then he moved to the Embassy of the Czech Republic in Moscow, political section (2010-2014). Between 2014 and 2015, he was responsible for Visegrad cooperation at the MFA in Prague. Since September 2015 he has been working at the Foreign Affairs Dept. of the Office of the President of the Czech Republic. He also lectures Czech and Central European history at the Charles University.

MÁRTON UGRÓSDY

Deputy Director for Strategy

Institute for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Hungary

Márton Ugrósdý is the deputy director for strategy at the Institute for Foreign Affairs and Trade in Budapest, Hungary. His research interests cover transatlantic issues, energy security, and US foreign policy in Central and Eastern Europe. Before joining IFAT in early 2015, he worked at various assignments, including numerous EU projects, the public service and also in the academic sector. He served as the editor-in-chief of Kitekintő.hu, Hungary's only thematic news portal dealing exclusively with international relations for seven years, where he also led the North America column. Graduate of Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest with a major in political science, where he also received the prestigious Republican Scholarship for academic excellence twice during his studies. He currently works part-time as an assistant lecturer at the Corvinus University of Budapest. He is an alumnus of the Hungarian-American Enterprise Scholarship Fund, which allowed him to gain work experience at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, DC.

TOMASZ ŻORNACZUK

Head of the Central Europe Programme

Polish Institute of International Affairs, Poland

Tomasz Żornaczuk is a Head of the Central Europe Programme and a Western Balkans and EU Enlargement research fellow. While at the Institute, he was coordinator of the 'Thinking for Governance' project on civil society in EU integration of the Western Balkans. He previously worked for the Ministry of Interior and Administration in Warsaw, and the Department of Political Affairs at the United Nations HQ in New York. He graduated from Doğuş University (Istanbul) and Maastricht University in European Studies Analysis. Tomasz also holds a degree from the University of Warsaw in European Integration and Slavic Studies. He occasionally lectures at Collegium Civitas in Foreign Policy Studies and the

University of Warsaw on European integration. Tomasz also writes on this subject for both Central European and Balkan publications.

MATÚŠ MIŠÍK

Assistant Professor

Department of Political Science, Comenius University Bratislava, Slovakia

Matúš Mišík, PhD. is an assistant professor at the Department of Political Science at Comenius University in Bratislava, Slovakia. His main area of expertise is energy security within the EU. He also studies the role of perceptions within the EU decision-making mechanism. He is author of Energy policy in the Enlarged European Union (IIR Prague, 2013, in Slovak) and Decision-making process in the European Union after the Eastern Enlargement (Comenius University Bratislava, 2016), has published articles in Energy, Geopolitics, Czechoslovak Psychology, Comparative European Politics, Asia Europe Journal and Slovak Sociological Review. He regularly writes for the leading Slovak dailies and comments on energy policy related topics in the electronic media. He has undertaken study/research trips to Norway (2006), Kazakhstan (2009), Finland (2009), Great Britain (2011), Austria (2012) and Canada (2015-2016).