



## Civil Servants Mobility Program (CSMP) - UKRAINE

### *Pilot Project Report Summary*

The Civil Servants Mobility Program (CSMP) was piloted with the focus on Ukraine between **12 – 30 May 2014**, while *Think Visegrad – V4 Think Tank Platform* was responsible for its coordination and implementation. The project was supported by the **International Visegrad Fund**.

The planned format was **6 fellows for 1 week in each V4 country**, which means that in total there were **4 one-week fellowships** covering the whole V4 region. Due to the absence of the mayor of Chmelnytskyi, who was supposed to visit Poland, the group of Ukrainian experts participating in the project reached **23 fellows**.

The chosen topics reflected the needs of Ukrainian civil servants and were consulted with V4 embassies in Kyiv. While in Poland and Slovakia the fellows focused mostly on **regional governance-administrative reform**, in Hungary their focus was on **good governance and human resource development in civil service**, while in the Czech Republic it was **energy**.

### **PL**

The main subject of the one week long visit to **Poland (12 – 16 May)**, organized jointly by the *Centre for Eastern Studies (OSW)* and the *Institute of Central and Eastern Europe (IEŚW)* in Lublin, was the Polish experience connected with the reform of state administration, decentralization of tasks and public finance and the functioning of local government structures.

The Ukrainian delegation consisted of representatives of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine, Ministry of Finance, Ministry for Regional Development and Association of Ukrainian Cities.

The visit by the Ukrainian delegation began with a seminar at OSW, with the participation of **Adam Eberhardt**, deputy director of OSW and **Zbigniew Krużyński**, national V4 coordinator at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The programme of the visit to Warsaw included a meeting with **Marcin Świąćicki**, coordinator of the experts' group appointed upon the initiative of the President of the Republic of Poland to support Ukraine in conducting its local government reform; **Czesław Bielecki**, architect and urban planner who headed the Team for the Reform of the State Administration in the years 1990-1995, **Jerzy Stępień**, former President of the Constitutional Tribunal and co-author of the first reform of the state administration in Poland after 1989; Prof. **Irena Lipowicz**, the Polish Ombudsman and

specialist in the area of local government; **Bartłomiej Ostrowski**, director of the Department for Foreign Cooperation and International Projects at the Marshal's Office of the Lower Silesian Voivodship in Wrocław; **Agata Dąbbska** from the non-governmental organization Forum Od Nowa; **Jerzy Darowski**, expert of the NARDA foundation and **Grzegorz Kabulski**, lawyer from the Association of Polish Poviats.

In Lublin the Ukrainian delegation visited the Marshal's Office of the Lubelskie Voivodship, where the visit participants met with **Rafał Sobiech**, vice-director of the Department for the European Social Fund; **Bogdan Kawałko**, director of the Regional Policy Department and **Ryszard Stańczak**, director of the Finance Department. In the Lublin City Hall talks were held with dr **Mariusz Sagan**, director of the Department for Strategy and Investor Relations, **Mirosława Puton**, director of the Department of Budget and Accounting. In the Office of the Lubelskie Voivodship the guests from Ukraine talked with **Beata Niemczyk**, director of the Department for Finance and Certification. The delegation also met with Ukraine's Consul General in Lublin **Ivan Hrytsak**, academic staff of the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin and visited the Special Economic Zone in Lublin.

## **CZ**

Study trip for 6 Ukrainian representatives of Ministry of Fuel and Energy took place in **Prague** from **12 – 16 May**. The programme itself consisted of 14 meetings and was developed by ***EUROPEUM – Institute for European Policy***. The goal was to cover both relevant state actors and institutions, as well as meet representatives of business and independent experts.

Since Ministry of Industry and Trade is the key state organization responsible for coordination of energy in the Czech Republic, two meetings were arranged there. The group met with director for energy at the ministry **Pavel Gebauer** and also **Jan Zaplatílek**, who is responsible for gas and gas trade at the ministry. The group also met **Václav Bartuška** of Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who serves as ambassador at large for energy. Another key state actor the group was able to meet was **Petr Binhac**, who is responsible for energy policy in the Government of the Czech Republic. He mostly spoke on energy agenda related to EU policies, liberalization of energy and legislation adoption.

Yet other representatives of Czech state institutions the group was able to meet were both representatives of Ministry of the Environment as well as Ministry of Regional Development, since both of the respective ministries are directly responsible for administration of EU funded programmes in support of energy efficiency, especially in housing. The study group also met with envoys of two institutions that are then responsible for actual implementation of these projects, which is the State Fund for Housing Development and State Environmental Fund.

Apart from state actors, the group also met with board member of Unipetrol **Martin Ďurčák** – Unipetrol being the largest oil processing company in the Czech Republic and member of PKN Orlen group. Mr. Ďurčák for the most part presented lessons learnt and practical experience with energy legislation in the Czech Republic, implementation of EU legislation in accordance with Third Energy. The group also met with **Michael Kehr**, director for business development at Net4Gas, the operator of Czech pipeline system. A practical point of view was also offered by **Luděk Piskač**, who is the director of Association of Large Energy Consumers, who also spoke of lessons learnt and experience from the transition process, which

Czech energy sector underwent since 1989. The study group also met with several experts of ENA, a private energy consultancy which has worked with a number of large Czech energy producers and was directly involved in implementation of a large number of energy projects both in the Czech Republic and abroad.

Another angle of view was then offered by representatives of academia, who met with the group. It was **Martin Jirušek** and **Jan Osička** of Masaryk University in Brno, who both specialize on energy as such and both spoke of Czech energy sector as well as wider European connections. **Karel Svoboda** of Charles University in Prague, who is an expert on energy in Eastern Europe and Russia, then spoke of his projections and expectations regarding the region and perspectives for energy sector in Ukraine.

## HU

The program in **Hungary (19 – 23 May)** was arranged in cooperation with the *Ministry of Public Administration and Justice* by the *Hungarian Institute of International Affairs (HIIA)* and the *Centre for Euro-Atlantic Integration and Democracy (CEID)* on the topic „Democracy, Constitutionality, Good State”.

The seminar took place in Budapest was organised for 6 selected experts dealing with public administration reform, in various institutions of Ukraine. The lecturers of the training were mostly experts of the Ministry of Public Administration and Justice (**Viktória Zöld-Nagy**, Deputy State Secretary for the Development of the Territorial Public Administration, **Ilona Kovács Molnár**, Deputy State Secretary for the Territorial Public Administration, **László Salgó**, Head of Secretariate, Head of Department, Secretariate of the Deputy State Secretary for Public Law Legislation, **Tamás Czombos**, Head of EU Law Department, Office of the Deputy State Secretary for EU and International Judicial Cooperation, **Orsolya Milován**, Head of Department of Strategic Planning and Communications, Office of the Deputy State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad, **László Jobbágy**, Head of Department of Public Administration Development and Strategy Building, Office of the Deputy State Secretary for Public Administration Strategy, **Ákos Mernyei**, Head of Department, Head of Secretariate, Secretariate of the Deputy State Secretary for Judicial and Private Law Legislation and others). The delegation also met **Eszter Mária Köpf**, Prosecutor and Head of Department at the Office of the Prosecutor General of Hungary, Department for International and European Affairs, **Áron Tóth**, Head of Department at the National Office for the Judiciary and Head of the Presidential Cabinet, as well as **Etelka Palich**, Director of the Government Office of Budapest-Capital. The fellows participated at 27 lectures in 5 days in the central office building of the Ministry of Public Administration and Justice.

All of the speakers were instructed on the current situation of Ukraine, its political situation, expected development trends and the state of law and public administration. Thus the lectures were built up according to the needs of the audience and their expected range of interest.

The training addressed the following issues: the new Constitution of Hungary, the functioning of courts and prosecutors' offices, legislative alignment and lessons of the Hungarian EU accession, objectives and institutional system of the national policy, development of public administration, fight against corruption, Hungary's territorial administrative reform process. It covered almost all areas of responsibility of the Ministry of Public Administration and Justice and touched briefly upon Hungary's public law system.

Some of the fellows visited the National University of Public Service, where the Head of the International Relations' Office **Réka Tózsza** gave them a short presentation on the University and showed them the building and its equipments.

On 19 May the group visited the Hungarian Institute of International Affairs, where in the framework of an afternoon meeting they had a discussion with senior fellows of HIIA on the current situation in Ukraine, Ukraine-EU relations and Ukrainian-Hungarian relations. During their visit, Ukrainian civil servants visited the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as well, where they hold a meeting with the Political Director **Szabolcs Takács**.

## SK

The focus of the study visit of 6 Ukrainian experts in **Slovakia (26 – 30 May)** was the reform of the public administration. The group of experts consisted of three mayors, one deputy-mayor, a professor from the National Academy of Public Administration and chairperson of the regional parliament. A very specific characteristic of the group was that all the representatives represented the region which was selected as the pilot region for implementation of the newly designed public administration reform in Ukraine

The official working program for the expert group was developed by the **Research Center of the Slovak Foreign Policy Association (RC SFPA)**. Special attention was paid to the decentralization of the administrative competencies, public finances, cooperation between organs of the state administration and local administration at the regional and local level.

In order to introduce the very basic functioning of the public administration system, its organization, logic, financing, the key meetings during the first day took place at the Ministry of Finance of SR (with **Alexander Círák**, Director, Public Administration Budget Department; **Jozef Mikš**, Head, Budget Regulation and Territorial Self-Governance Finance Unit; **Juraj Říha**, Head, Direct Fees and Taxes Unit and **Zdenka Kováčová**, Head, Income Taxes Unit) and Ministry of Interior of SR (with **Zuzana Barboríková**, Director, Department of Local State Government and Self-Government and International Relations; **Matúš Šesták**, Director, Analytical and Methodical Unit). At the end of the first day the group was also welcomed by **Alexander Duleba**, director of the RC SFPA. On the second day the delegation was welcomed at the Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development of SR by **Peter Dupej** responsible for issues of coordination of regional development. In order to bring in the perspective of the non-governmental organizations, the next meeting was organized with representatives of Transparency International Slovakia that run the Open Self-Governance Program. Another successful and highly appreciated meeting took place at the Slovak Energy and Innovation Agency with its director, **Karel Hirman**. Since a great topic of interest for the Ukrainian group was to use of biomass in Slovakia, SEIA director initiated a study visit to Nová Dubnica, a city with a successful biomass power-plant.

In order to share experience not only from the capital city of Bratislava, on the third day the program of the study trip consisted of meetings in Piešťany (with Deputy Mayor), **Viktor Nižňanský**, who previously served as the Special Envoy of the Government of SR for the Public Administration Reform and Decentralization. The second town visited by the delegation was Trnava, where the study group was welcomed by **Tibor Mikuš**, chairman of the Administration of the Trnava self-governing region. The Ukrainian delegation was also invited by the Association of Towns and Municipalities of Slovakia (ZMOS) to take part at the gala program "Oscar without

barriers” that was held within the 25<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Association. The meetings continued in Bratislava, where the delegation met **Peter Osuský**, Deputy Mayor of the Administration of the Bratislava Old Town City District, **Martin Zatošovič**, Vice Chairman of the Administration of the Bratislava Self-Governing Region, as well as representatives of the Administration of the Bratislava Devín City District which is currently in compulsory administration. The Ukrainian delegation was also received at the Embassy of Ukraine to the Slovak Republic and met with Ambassador of Ukraine to SR H.E. **Oleh Havashi**. During the last working day of the study trip, the Ukrainian delegation was welcomed by Mayor of Bratislava, **Milan Ftáčnik**, Director of the Third Territorial Department at the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, **Branislav Hitka**, and **František Šebej**, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee at the National Council of SR. The whole working week was symbolically concluded at the premises of the International Visegrad Fund where the group was welcomed by the Director **Karla Wursterová**.

In overall, the program and the meetings were very much welcomed by the group of 23 Ukrainian experts and the group expressed their desire to continue in cooperation and dialogue with partners in all V4 countries. The fellows found the format of the Civil Servants Mobility Program very practical and useful and expressed a wish to continue it.