



Think
Visegrad
V4 Think-Tank Platform

“Think Visegrad” - *V4 Think Tank Platform*

Project Report Document

January 2014 – December 2014

January 2015

In the second year of its existence “Think Visegrad” – the V4 Think Tank Platform fully proved to be an *innovative instrument* aiming to enhance cooperation among V4 think tanks and develop analyses on the issues of strategic importance for the governments of the Visegrad countries. It is based on the following principles: adequate expertise, openness, flexibility and efficiency.

All experts participating in the development of Think Visegrad analyses have demonstrated professional approach and *adequate expertise* in their analytical work. Also, Think Visegrad remained to be *open* to cooperation with all interested think tanks, which is also shown on the number of participating institutions (for the list of “core network” members and other participating think tanks please see Annex 1). In addition, Think Visegrad proved to react promptly to new challenges and assignments, which demonstrates the *flexibility* of the network. Last but not least, effective spending of financial resources and moderate budget point on the fact that Think Visegrad is a very *efficient* regional initiative.

Think Visegrad experts managed to develop *12 short-term* and *4 long-term analyses* on pre-agreed topics (for the full list of developed analyses please see Annex 2). In this regard, the capacity of the Think Visegrad network was fully utilized. In order to enhance the capacity in the future it will be necessary to extend the project budget.

The Think Visegrad core network hosted *8 visiting fellows from non-V4 countries* (for the list of “Think Visegrad” visiting fellows from non-V4 countries see Annex 3). In addition, Think Visegrad core network members – in cooperation of the Center of European Policy Analyses from Washington, D.C. - successfully implemented the Think Visegrad V4-US *fellowship program for three US civil servants* in 2014. The Think Visegrad platform was also chosen by the International Visegrad Fund to implement two Civil Servants Mobility Programs in 2014. While the pilot program focused on Ukraine, the second one aimed on Georgian experts. *Total number of visiting civil servants in the framework of both Civil Servants Mobility Programs reached 35.*¹

¹ Think Visegrad V4-US fellowship program and both Civil Servants Mobility Program were operated under separate budgets.

Annex 1 List of the “core network” members and other participating think-tanks

The “core network” members:

- Research Center of the Slovak Foreign Policy Association, Bratislava (main coordinator)
- Central European Policy Institute, Bratislava
- Centre for Eastern Studies, Warsaw
- Institute of East-Central Europe, Lublin
- Hungarian Institute of International Affairs/Institute for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Budapest
- Centre for Euro-Atlantic Integration and Democracy, Budapest
- EUROPEUM – Institute for European Policy, Prague
- Institute of International Relations, Prague

Other participating think tanks:

Czech Republic: Association for International Affairs (AMO), Faculty of Social Studies - Charles University; Aspen Institute; Security Studies - Faculty of Social Studies of Masaryk University; University of Economics

Hungary: National University of Public Service; Institute of World Economics of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences; Corvinus University; University of Pecs

Poland: Polish Institute of International Affairs (PISM), The Kosciuzko Institute; World Economy Research Institute, Res Publica Nova Foundation; National Centre for Strategic Studies; Institute of International Relations and Sustainable Development - Collegium Civitas University; Centre for Europe - University of Warsaw

Slovakia: Pontis Foundation

Annex 2 List of short-term and long-term analyses

Short-term analyses:

Opportunities for Central-European countries in the African policy of the EU and the possibility of the reinforced participation of their companies in the implementation of EU Development Aid Schemes in Sub-Saharan Africa (March 2014)

Author: Kamil Zajączkowski, Centre for Europe, University of Warsaw

Co -authors: Ondřej Horký-Hlucháň, Institute of International Relations (IIR), Prague

Jakub Šimek, Pontis Foundation, Bratislava

Andras Hettyey, Hungarian Institute of International Affairs (HIIA), Budapest

Current state of economic and social stability in the Balkans in light of the unrest in Bosnia and Herzegovina – Possible New EU Approach and Intensified V4 Contribution (March 2014)

Author: Péter Reményi, University of Pécs

Co authors: Milan Nič, Cenral European Policy Institute (CEPI), Bratislava

Marta Szpala, Centre for Eastern Studies (OSW), Warsaw

Tomáš Dopita, Institute of International Relations (IIR), Prague

Are there any possibilities of agreement between the West and Russia in the Ukrainian question after Russia's invasion and occupation of Crimea? What compelling force may the sanctions bring to bear on Russia? What economic impact may the continuing conflict have on Central Europe? (May 2014)

Author: Tomasz Stepniewski, Institute of East-Central Europe, Lublin

Co-authors: Alexander Duleba, Research Centre of the Slovak Foreign Policy Association, Bratislava

András Rácz, Centre for Euro-Atlantic Integration and Democracy, Budapest

Vladka Votavová, Association for International Affairs (AMO), Prague

V4 and Latin America: potential areas of enhanced political and economic cooperation, with a focus on the V4-Mexico relations (May 2014)

Author: Samuel Goda, Research Center of the Slovak Foreign Policy Association (RC SFPA), Bratislava

Co-authors: Traian Urban, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University in Prague
Kinga Brudzinska, PISM, Warsaw
Bernadett Lehoczki, Corvinus University, Budapest

Impacts of the EP election results on the EU's future, with a focus on the next European Commission's president and composition. What are the V4's interests in this context? (June 2014)

Author: Vera Řiháčková, EUROPEUM

Co-Authors: Leszek Jesień, Institute of International Relations and Sustainable Development, Collegium Civitas University, Warsaw

Zoltán Gálik, Hungarian Institute of International Affairs (HIIA), Budapest

Vladimír Bilčík, Research Center of the Slovak Foreign Policy Association (RC SFPA), Bratislava

NATO's future in the light of the new challenges in our neighbourhood. Can a common V4 perspective emerge at the Wales Summit? (June 2014)

Author: Marian Majer, Central European Policy Institute

Co-Authors: Tomasz Szatkowski, National Centre for Strategic Studies (NCSS), Warsaw :

Ondřej Ditrych, Institute of International Relations, Prague

Daniel Bartha, Centre for Euro-Atlantic Integration and Democracy, Budapest

NATO's Way Ahead in the Context of the Wales Summit - V4 Implications. Back to the Roots - Revival of the Defense Alliance. (October 2014)

Author: Justyna Gotkowska, Centre for Eastern Studies OSW, Warsaw

Co-authors: Péter Kertész, Institute for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Budapest

Marian Majer, Central European Policy Institute, Bratislava

Michal Šimečka, Institute of International Relations (IIR), Prague

Possible activities of V4 and its member states in helping Ukraine on her way to stabilization. Specialization of V4 countries in projects supportive to Ukraine (October 2014).

Author: Tomasz Stepniewski, Institute of East-Central Europe in Lublin

Co-authors: Alexander Duleba, Research Centre of the Slovak Foreign Policy Association (RC SFPA), Bratislava

András Rácz, Centre for Euro-Atlantic Integration and Democracy (CEID), Budapest Věra Řiháčková, EUROPEUM, Prague

The prospective of cooperation between the V4 and NB8 regional associations

(December 2014)

Author: Mateusz Gniazdowski, Centre for Eastern Studies (OSW), Warsaw

Co-authors: Lucia Najšlová, Faculty of Social Studies, Charles University, Prague

András Rácz, Centre for Euro-Atlantic Integration and Democracy (CEID), Budapest

Tomáš Strážay, Research Center of the Slovak Foreign Policy Association (RC SFPA), Bratislava

V4 – Swiss relations (December 2014)

Author: Samuel Goda, Research Center of the Slovak Foreign Policy Association (RC SFPA), Bratislava

Co-authors: Michal Kořan, Institute of International Relations (IIR), Prague

László J. Kiss, Institute of Foreign Affairs and Trade (IFAT), Budapest

Konrad Poplawski, Centre for Eastern Studies (OSW), Warsaw

Digital economy in V4 region as an input for the digital road map (December 2014)

Author: Dániel Bartha, Centre for Euro-Atlantic Integration and Democracy (CEID), Budapest

Co-authors: Milan Nič, Central European Policy Institute (CEPI), Bratislava

Maria Staszkievicz Aspen Institute, Prague

Katarzyna Szajewska, Res Publica Nova Foundation, Warsaw

The Eastern Partnership before Riga – the future of the European Neighbourhood Policy (December 2014)

Author: Tomasz Stępniewski, Institute of East-Central Europe and the Institute of Political Science and International Affairs at the Catholic University of Lublin

Co-authors: Alexander Duleba, Research Center of the Slovak Foreign Policy Association (RC SFPA), Bratislava

Mária Béres, Institute of Foreign Affairs and Trade (IFAT), Budapest

Václav Líd, Association for International Affairs (AMO), Prague

Long-term analyses

Visegrad and the United States (November 2014)

Author: Marian Majer, Central European Policy Institute (CEPI), Bratislava

Co-authors: Daniel Bartha, Centre for Euro-Atlantic Integration and Democracy (CEID),
Budapest

Beata Górká-Winter, Polish Institute of International Affairs (PISM), Warsaw

Helena Schulzová, EUROPEUM - Institute for European Policy, Prague

V4 Economies (December 2014)

Main author: Gábor Braun, Institute of Foreign Affairs and Trade (IFAT), Budapest

Co-authors: Arkadiusz Kowalski, World Economy Research Institute, Warsaw

Tomáš Meravý, independent economist

Ingeborg Němcová, University of Economics, Prague

Unconventional Gas and the Security of Gas Supplies in V4 countries (December 2014)

Main author: Izabela Albrycht, The Kosciuzko Institute, Warsaw

Co-authors: Marcin Tarnawski, The Kosciuszko Institute, Warsaw

András György Deák, Institute of World Economics, Hungarian Academy of Sciences,
Budapest

Matúš Mišík, Slovak Foreign Policy Association, Bratislava

Martin Jirušek, Energy Security Studies, Faculty of Social Studies, Masaryk University, Brno

The V4 and Germany (December 2014)

Main author: Michal Kořan, Institute of International Relations, Prague

Co-authors: Vladimír Bilčík, Research Center of the Slovak Foreign Policy Association,
Bratislava

András Hettyey, National University of Public Service, Budapest

Konrad Popławski, Center for Eastern Studies, Warsaw

Annex 3 List of “Think Visegrad” visiting fellows from non-V4 countries

Beka Chedia (Georgia) / Research Center of the Slovak Foreign Policy Association
Post-Soviet Transformation of the Political System (the Case of Georgia)
in the Context of the Development of the EU Eastern Partnership Program

Vladimir Djordjevic (Serbia, Czech Republic)- Central European Policy Institute
Western Balkans in Transition towards EU: The Case of Serbia

Andrew Farkas (United States) – Centre for Euro-Atlantic Integration and
Democracy/University of Pécs
*Silk Roads” from China to Europe: Hungary’s Place on Eurasian Rail Land
Bridges?*

Rusudan Jamaspishvili (Georgia) – Institute of Foreign Affairs and Trade
The Caucasus - Highly Explosive Region and Challenge for Europe

Anes Makul (Bosnia and Herzegovina) – Institute of International Relations
Can the European Public Block the Enlargement to the Western Balkans?

Olesya Malyugina (Russia) – Institute of East-Central Europe
Migration from Russia to Poland: challenges and possibilities

Octavian Milewski (Romania and Moldova) – Centre for Eastern Studies
V4+ Platform and the Baltic – Black Sea Arch:
Optimizing Romania’s Central East European Regional Stance

Svetlana Pinzari (Moldova) - EUROPEUM
The Russian Factor in the Foreign Policy of the Visegrad Four States