



“Think Visegrad” - *V4 Think Tank Platform*

Project Report Document

January 2015 – December 2015

January 2016

The third year of the existence of “Think Visegrad” proved that the V4 think tank platform is a **useful** and **cost effective** instrument that fosters **cooperation between the governmental structures and expert community** in the V4 countries, as well as among Visegrad think tanks themselves. The main precondition for an effective performance of the platform continued to be a **mutual trust** among the members of the so-called core network and their willingness to cooperate jointly on the V4 agenda. The platform also remained **open to cooperation** with all interested think tanks and experts from the V4 countries, which was demonstrated in the development of several short- and long-term analyses (for the list of “core network” members and other participating think tanks please see Annex 1). Think Visegrad was also actively developing **cooperation with non-Visegrad experts** who showed real interest in the issues related to the V4.

Think Visegrad experts managed to develop **10 short-term** and **4 long-term analyses** on pre-agreed topics (for the full list of developed analyses please see Annex 2). On the basis of an informal request of the Czech V4 Presidency two short-term analyses were moved to 2016.

The Think Visegrad core network members hosted **7 visiting fellows from non-V4 countries** (for the list of “Think Visegrad” visiting fellows from non-V4 countries see Annex 3). Unfortunately, a visit of an Albanian fellow who was supposed to spend his fellowship in Hungary had to be cancelled prior to his arrival due to unexpected circumstances.

Thanks to the support of the International Visegrad Fund the Think Visegrad platform successfully implemented the next phase of the **Civil Servants Mobility Program (CSMP)**. While the first part of the program focused on Ukrainian civil servants, the second one aimed at Moldavian civil servants. Both parts of the program received positive feedback from visiting civil servants, as well as from respective V4 experts.

To move the Think Visegrad project even more forward, the core network members submitted three proposals of additional activities to the International Visegrad Fund in the Autumn of 2015. While the first proposal focused on the **mid-term review conference**, the aim of the second was to establish a **joint representation** of V4 think tanks in Brussels. The third proposal called for the intensification of the **mobility of think tank experts** among the V4 countries through short-term visiting fellowships (please see Annex 4 for the full version of proposals of additional activities).

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 (RC SFPA), Bratislava (main coordinator)
- Central European Policy Institute (CEPI), Bratislava
- Centre for Eastern Studies (OSW), Warsaw
- Institute of East-Central Europe (IESW), Lublin
- Institute for Foreign Affairs and Trade (IFAT), Budapest
- Centre for Euro-Atlantic Integration and Democracy (CEID), Budapest
- EUROPEUM – Institute for European Policy, Prague
- Institute of International Relations (IIR), Prague

Other participating think tanks:

Czech Republic: Association for International Affairs (AMO), Faculty of Social Studies - Charles University, Freedom House

Hungary: Central European University - Centre for EU Enlargement Studies (CEU-CENS)

Poland: European Forum Foundation, College of Eastern Europe, National Centre for Strategic Studies (NCSS) Polish Institute of International Affairs (PISM), The Kosciuzko Institute, Institute of Public Affairs (ISP), Collegium Civitas University

Slovakia: Institute of Public Affairs (IVO)

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

Short-term analyses:

The Visegrad Group countries activities to Ukraine in 2014

(March 2015)

Author: Wojciech Konończuk (OSW)

Co -authors: Zsuzsanna Végh (CEU-CENS)

Alexander Duleba (SFPA)

Václav Lídľ (AMO)

V4 support of the EU policy towards Belarus: Time for Policy Correction

(March 2015)

Author: Tomasz Stepniewski (IECE)

Co authors: András Rácz (CEID)

Ludmila Vacková (Freedom House)

Balász Jarábik (CEPI)

Ways of working on further improvement of positive image of V4 in broad public, Visegrad Insight and V4 Revue - lessons learnt

(April 2015)

Author: Tomáš Strážay (SFPA)

Dániel Bartha (CEID)

Jakub Krupa (European Forum Foundation)

Vlastimil Nečas (Charles University)

The V4 and Turkey – a geopolitical necessity to cooperate

(May 2015)

Author: Erzsébet Rózsa (IFAT)

Co-authors: Adam Balcer (College of Eastern Europe)

Milan Nič (CEPI)

Lucia Najšlová (Charles University)

Migration – current challenge and solutions

(June 2015)

Author: Edit Inotai (CEID)

Co-authors: Marta Jaroszewicz (OSW)

Martina Sekulová (IVO)

Michal Vít (EUROPEUM)

V4 countries' priorities ahead of NATO summit in Warsaw

(June 2015)

Author: Michal Kořan (IIR)

Co-Authors: Marian Majer (CEPI)

Tomasz Szatkowski (NCSS)

Márton Ugrosdy (IFAT)

What joint initiatives could be proposed to the Western Balkan partners at the V4+WB6 ministerial meeting in November 2015?

(November 2015)

Author: Anna Orosz (IFAT)

Co-Authors:

Milan Nič (CEPI)

Marta Szpala (OSW)

Vladimír Bartovic (EUROPEUM)

What could be the V4 response to Cameron's proposal on EU reform?

(November 2015)

Author: Márton Ugrosdy (IFAT)

Co-authors: Vladimír Bilčík (SFPA)

Vladimír Bartovic (EUROPEUM)

Jakub Krupa (European Forum Foundation)

What could be the elements of possible joint V4 proposal for the EU Global Strategy on Foreign and Security Policy?

(December 2015)

Author: Beata Górká-Winter (PISM)

Co-authors: Milan Šuplata (CEPI)

Michal Šimečka (IIR)

Péter Wágner (CEID)

What measures can be envisaged in order to foster cohesion among the V4 countries and buttress the mutual trust within the EU, with respect to the priorities of the Czech V4 Presidency and beyond?

(December 2015)

Author: Andrzej Sadecki (OSW)

Co-authors: Tomáš Strážay (SFPA)

Dániel Bartha (CEID)

Michal Kořan (IIR)

Long-term analyses

Cyber security in V4. Differences of level of security

(November 2015)

Author: Marian Majer (CEPI)

Co-authors: Martin Michelot (EUROPEUM)

Joanna Świątkowska (Kosciuszko Institute)

János T. Barabás (IFAT)

Ukraine: possible future scenarios and their consequences for V4 countries

(December 2015)

Main author: András Rác (CEID)

Co-authors: Adam Eberhardt (OSW)

Balázs Jarábik (CEPI)

Michal Kořan (IIR)

Migration as a (future) challenge for V4 countries

(December 2015)

Main author: Justyna Segeš Frelak (ISP)

Co-authors: Martina Sekulová (IVO)

Edit Inotai (CEID)

Benjamin Tallis (IIR)

Energy Union and future of the European energy policy from V4 Perspective

(December 2015)

Main author: Helena Schulzová (EUROPEUM)

Co-authors: Leszek Jesień (Collegium Civitas University)

Alexander Duleba (SFPA)

Márton Ugrosdy (IFAT)

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

Andrii Chubyk (Ukraine) - Research Center of the Slovak Foreign Policy Association
Energy efficiency – practical experience from V4 for Ukraine

Alena Kudzko (Belarus) - Central European Policy Institute
Belarus: country’s repeated attempt to rapproch with the West

Nikola Trendov (Macedonia) – Institute of Foreign Affairs and Trade
The impacts of CAP from economic aspect within the Visegrad Countries

Jan Ruzicka (United Kingdom) – Institute of International Relations
Security Reassurance: The Visegrad Four and NATO

Jurij Fedoryk (Ukraine) – Institute of East-Central Europe
The influence of the Russian-Ukrainian conflict on security of Visegrad Group

Yuriy Matsiyevsky (Ukraine) – Centre for Eastern Studies
How can Ukraine break out of hybridity and start moving forward

Marko Stoic (Serbia) – EUROPEUM
EU enlargement to the Western Balkans: Out of sight, out of mind?

Altin Idrizi (Albania) – CEID
Fellowship cancelled