



Legal Aspects of the Current Migration Crisis:

Views from Eastern Europe

Conference at Kiel University

4 November 2016

Legal Aspects of the Current Migration Crisis- Views from Eastern Europe

Program (31.10.2016)

The present mass migration into Europe, after reaching a peak in 2015, has caused great concerns in many European countries. A polarization of political views can be observed both within some European countries (ranging from „welcome culture“ to fundamental opposition against migration) and between some countries. The polarization is such that it could even endanger the future of the European Union. In particular, some countries in Central and Eastern Europe have vehemently opposed any significant distribution of migrants (refugees) into their territories and instead plead for a strict control of the outside borders of the EU.

Mass migration causes challenges in all spheres of the society. It is also a legal challenge, both on the national and on the European and international level.

In the last few months, legal aspects of migration have been discussed in many fora, political and academic. However, the views of East European countries, whose governments are often criticized severely in German politics and media for their restrictive positions, are mostly looked-at only from outside.

The incoming conference on 4 November 2016, organized by the Institute of East European Law of Kiel University, will be the first academic conference giving a particular forum for representatives of some countries from Central and Eastern (or South Eastern) Europe. It includes speakers from two countries with a direct border with Greece and Turkey: Bulgaria and Macedonia. Furthermore, with Hungary and Poland two Central European countries are represented in the Conference whose Governments have taken particularly vocal positions on the issue of migration. Last but not least, also Russia – mainly a transit country for some groups of migrants – is represented in the Conference.

The purpose of the Conference is to gain direct information and discuss about the views in Eastern Europe on how to cope with the migration crisis from a legal perspective. It is evident that law is very closely linked with politics in this field. The forthcoming conference will therefore undoubtedly also have a legal-political component. However, the primary purpose of the conference is academic, not political. Before making political choices, information should be gathered. Very often, the picture is then more multi-faceted than expected.

Location of the Conference: Kiel, Internationales Begegnungszentrum (IBZ) of Kiel University, Kiellinie 5.

Time of the conference: Friday, 4 November 2016, 9.30 h – 18.00 h. Doors open from 9 h.

Organizer: Institute of East European Law of Kiel University in cooperation with the German Association for East European Studies and the Verein Ostrecht Kiel e.V.

Registration: Online at <http://www.eastlaw.uni-kiel.de/de/events/anmeldung-zur-tagung-am-04.-november-2016> (no later than 2 November 2016). **Conference fee: € 50,--.** Reduced fee of € 5,-- for students and referendars (includes coffee-breaks and conference materials). Free for professors/assistants of Kiel University, members of DGO and Verein Ostrecht Kiel e.V.).

Further information: Institute of East European Law (Institut für Osteuropäisches Recht), Tel. 0431-880-2886 (Ms. Ursula Kirsten) or 0431-880-2995 (Dr. Nazar Panych).

Program:

09.00 Admittance to conference location

09.30 – 09.45 Opening by *Prof. Dr. Alexander Trunk, Director of the Institute of East European Law, Kiel University*

09.45 – 10.15 Welcome address: Prof. Dr. Florian Becker, Vice-Dean of the Law Faculty of Kiel University

10.15 – 12.00 Section 1: Views from Bulgaria and Macedonia

Moderation: *Ass. Professor Dr. Marcel Kau, University of Constance*

Prof. Dr Tsvetana Kamenova, Institute of State and Law of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia, Bulgaria

Ass. Prof. Dr. Nenad Markovikj, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University of Skopje, Macedonia

Coffee Break, then discussion

12.00 – 13.30 Lunch

13.30 – 16.00 Section 2: Views from Hungary, Poland and Russia

Moderation: *Dr. Azar Aliyev, LL.M.*

Prof. Dr. Tamás Ádány, Eötvös Loránd University of Budapest, Hungary

Dr. Jan Olszanowski, Adam Mickiewicz University at Poznań, Poland

Prof. Dr. Wojciech Piątek, Adam Mickiewicz University at Poznań, Poland

Doc. Dr. Alexander Salenko, Immanuel Kant Baltic Federal University, Kaliningrad, Russia

Discussion

16.00 – 16.30 Coffee break

16.30 – 17.45 Panel Discussion: Migration crisis – which future perspectives for legal action?

Moderation: *Prof. Dr. Alexander Trunk, Christian-Albrechts-University at Kiel*

Prof. Dr. Tamás Ádány, Eötvös Loránd University of Budapest, Hungary

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17.45 – 18.00 Wrap-up N.N.