



**Agreement between the Faculty of Political Science and  
International Relations Matej Bel University of Banská Bystrica**

**and**

**Faculty of European Legal and Political Studies**

With an ambition to launch a Master's Degree study programme Political Science with a double diploma, which is based on the study specialisation Political Science (accredited at Faculty of European Legal and Political Studies in Novi Sad) and study specialisation Political Science (accredited at the Faculty of Political Science and International Relations in Banská Bystrica), and at the same time, in accordance with:

- Act of the Serbia Republic – The Law on Higher Education, “Official Gazette of RS” No. 76/2005, 97/2008, 44/2010, 93/2012 and 89/2013,
- Act of the Slovak Republic – SK No. 131/2002 - Collection of Laws on Universities and about the amendment and completion of some acts subsequently amended,

both parties to the agreement declare that they are equally authorised in their countries to award a diploma in the related scientific, more specifically, study field, at the same academic study level in the below mentioned study programme:

- Faculty of European Legal and Political Studies in Novi Sad: study specialisation Legal and Political Science;
- the Matej Bel University of Banská Bystrica, the Faculty of Political Science and International Relations: study specialisation Political Science, more specifically, in the study programme Political Science.

**PREAMBLE**

Faculty of European Legal and Political Studies in Novi Sad (FEPPS) and the Faculty of Political Science and International Relations, the Matej Bel University of Banská Bystrica (FPSIR MBU), have decided to develop via this agreement mutual cooperation in the sphere of university education, science and research. Their goal is:

- to offer an education of European character, which enables students to obtain knowledge and skills in the specific domains recommended by both partner institutions;
- to realise the Master's Degree level study programme that will thanks to its broad complementary, multicultural and interdisciplinary character contain a theoretical and practical education within the international relations.

## **Article1: Objectives**

### **1. General goals of cooperation**

The implementation of the study system allows students to receive a diploma from both partner universities (hereafter referred to as Double Degree).

The Double Degree will at the same time encompass the cooperation of both universities in the sphere of science and research (supervising of final academic theses, holding conferences, cooperation within European projects) as well as education. Scientific activities realised in this project will be supported and interconnected with scientific activities done in home and international projects at FEPPS as well as at FPSIR Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica.

### **Selection Procedure**

Apart from the offered studies that will result in the double diploma, the objective of this international partnership is mainly:

- to open and realise educational activities in an international dimension and within the frame of the Bologna process, as well as the integration and cooperation of teaching staff from both universities in order to promote the European dimension of this form of studies.
- to enhance the excellence level of the sphere of university education in plural-disciplinarity (international relations, political science, sociology, philosophy, history, management, pedagogy, economic science);
- to prepare specialists in political science, who will be real experts in the given subject;
- to exchange students and teaching staff as well as their placements in Europe;
- to develop the international supervising of final academic theses and mutual research activities in political science, within the context of research activities of groups from the both partner universities (while taking into consideration particular European and national policy, governing, democracy development in Europe as well as in the countries within the policy of neighbourhood, the development of university background in an enlarged Europe, identity, citizenship and the culture of European countries).

The studies are supposed to bring various possibilities of taking professional positions, while taking into account the exclusive specialisation of a particular student, which is also stressed thanks to their respective study mobilities. The specialisation of students itself will provide them with a wide variety of opportunities in order to easily find a proper job.

### **2. Objectives of the double-degree diploma**

The objectives account for the preparation of specialists in the field of political science to meet strict criteria required for getting a position in the sphere of state and local administration as well as the European administrative structures, international and non-governmental organisations. Students will be provided with skills that enable them to work at the local, European and international level.

#### **Professional skills obtained via the educational programme:**

- theoretical knowledge and its proper understanding, in the spheres:
  - political systems,
  - the theory of political parties,
  - comparative political science,
  - international relations,

- sociology
- the basics of law
- European and international law,
- technical skills:
  - the modelling, statistical evaluation of data and information,
  - the management of projects
  - the synthesis and processing of information,
  - the making use of the elements of written and oral presentation
  - the creation of information basis
  - various communication models

## **ARTICLE 2: STRUCTURE OF STUDY**

### **1. The coordination of the Master degree study**

#### **a) Bilateral commission**

The main task of the bilateral commission is to organize the study programme for the students registered in the Master degree programme. The bilateral commission organizes the study programme for the students, nominate the experts for the evaluation of Master thesis and solves every necessary teaching and methodological issues.

The bilateral commission consists of the scientific and educational staff of both participating institutions; both contracting parts nominate two representatives.

The bilateral commission operation is based on the regular meetings in Banská Bystrica and Novi Sad.

The commission groups together the teaching teams from both Master degree programmes, under the responsibility of guarantees of the individual study programmes - prof. PhDr. Ján Koper, PhD. for FPSIR MBU and assoc. prof. Veran Stančetić, PhD. for FEPPS.

The coordinating persons of this programme from the participating institutions are:

- for FEPPS: assoc. prof. Veran Stančetić, PhD.,
- for FPSIR MBU: assoc. prof. PhDr. Branislav Kováčik, PhD.

#### **b) Master thesis supervisors**

The study supervision is ensured by the qualified scientific and teaching staff. Their role is to provide the study programme for Master degree students. The home university nominates the major scientific and teaching supervisor for every student; the host university nominates the secondary one. Both of them cooperate together closely. The contracting parts have to press for the partner university teacher to become the opponent of the Master thesis.

### **2. The selection of students for the study of the international relations according to this agreement**

Generally, every university selects the students according to its own rules and is fully responsible for the nomination of the suitable applicants to the study within Double Degree programme framework according to this agreement.

#### **The selection and nominations of FEPPS students**

The FEPPS students have to be **fully** accepted to the study at FEPPS, Master degree of Political science. The content of study for the students within the study sojourn in the Double Degree programme is prepared by FPSIR MBU and it is approved by FEPPS. FEPPS nominates the students for the study at FPSIR MBU, based on the tender from the students who had applied to this tender on Double Degree programme and had fulfilled the

preconditions for the acceptance for the Master Degree study at FEPPS.

The selected students have to fulfil the following preconditions for their Double degree diploma acceptance:

- pass the second and third semester at the partner university (FPSIR MBU);
- every student has to obtain separately at least 30 ECTS during the second and 30 ECTS during the third semesters at FPSIR MBU;
- during the study at the partner university, the student has to apply for the acceptance to the Master degree study programme Political science at FPSIR MBU. To be accepted, the student has to submit the documents as required by FPSIR MBU according to the conditions of Matej Bel University;
- successfully pass the Master degree at FEPPS.

### **The selection and nominations of FPSIR MBU**

The FPSIR MBU students have to be **fully** accepted to the study at MBU, Master degree of Political science. The content of study for the students within the study sojourn in the Double Degree programme is prepared by FEPPS and it is approved by FPSIR MBU. FPSIR MBU nominates the students for the study at FEPPS, based on the tender from the students who had applied to this tender on Double Degree programme and had fulfilled the preconditions for the acceptance for the Master Degree study at FPSIR MBU.

The selected students have to fulfil the following preconditions for their Double degree diploma acceptance:

- pass the second and third semester at the partner university (FEPPS);
- every FPSIR MBU student has to obtain separately at least 30 ECTS during the second and 30 ECTS during the third semesters at FEPPS;
- during the study at the partner university, the student has to apply for the acceptance to the Master degree study programme Political science at Faculty of European Legal and Political Studies. To be accepted, the student has to submit the documents as required by FEPPS;
- successfully pass the Master degree at FPSIR MBU.

## **ARTICLE 3: THE PRECONDITIONS FOR THE TEACHING**

### **1. The administration organization**

- the study sojourn of the students lasting for two semesters could be organized within the European programmes;
- the teaching in this programme will be realized within the teaching Schedule of both universities;
- the teaching will be realized in the in English language. Some teaching activities can be realized via modern technology (video-conference).

### **2. The evaluation and the recognition of the study**

- the Master degree programme in full-time/presence form of study lasts for two years, that means obtaining 120 ECTS credits;
- the evaluation of the study will be realized in accordance with the relevant legislation of both involved states and in accordance with the relevant documents of both partner universities;
- every course will be evaluated by the particular number of ECTS credits, the partner universities will mutually recognize the obtained credits of the student in the context of the double degree diploma;

- the final state exam will consist of Master thesis dissertation and specialized state exam from the relevant specialized course issues. Afterwards, the student will obtain the Master double degree diploma in Political science, issued by the Faculty of European Legal and Political Studies in Novi Sad and in Political science, issued by the Faculty of Political science and International Relations, Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica.

### **3. The end of the study, the issue of the Master diplomas and the Appendix to the diploma**

Double Degree programme realized under this agreement guarantees the separate diplomas issued by FEPPS and MBU for the students, who fulfilled the preconditions of this agreement, successfully pass the Master degree study programme and defend their Master thesis at their home university (FEPPS or MBU). Both diplomas will be given to the students during the graduation ceremony by her/his home university. The participation of the delegate/delegates from the partner university on the graduate ceremony is possible. The Appendix to the diploma expressly confirms the fact that Master title was awarded within the Double Degree programme. Every student will be awarded by one Appendix to the diploma relevant for both diplomas.

## **ARTICLE 4: GENERAL PROVISIONS - STUDENTS STUDY VISITS**

The number of accepted students depends on decision of each institution in accordance with its capacity and specialization of students.

Hosting students have the same rights and shall respect the same laws as full-time students at the host university.

Each hosting student has:

- to fulfil special requirements required by his/her own university and host university as well
- to obey laws and internal regulations at host university

Host university is obliged to provide the enrolled MA students with counselling, support and all information needed.

Chosen students are obliged to submit all documents which are necessary for MA study mobility (the following proof is necessary: health insurance, accident insurance, personal insurance for the damage caused to the third person during study visit) etc.

Both related universities do not take responsibility for covering travel and study visit costs at a partner university. Nevertheless, they are obliged to make effort for gaining financial means from the funds of the involved organisations in their own territory/location.

Parties to the agreement shall support and help the enrolled MA students to be provided with accommodation but they are not obliged to do so. The enrolled MA students do not have the right to claim and get accommodation from both mentioned universities.

## **ARTICLE 5: TEACHERS MOBILITY**

Universities may accept teachers participating in tuition according to the laws and regulations which are valid in the territory of each state. All expenses closely connected with this mobility are paid by home university on the ground of the bilateral Erasmus mobility agreements.

Host institution:

- according to this agreement persons participating in the exchange programmes are provided with the equipment for tuition and information about the educational and research activities where work premises, laboratories, libraries, secretarial and management services, technical support and Wi-Fi are included

- adopts measures facilitating one or more visits for participating persons resulting from this partnership

#### **ARTICLE 6: QUALITY**

This agreement insists on a guarantee of quality and bilateral committee is bound to submit an annual evaluation report.

#### **ARTICLE 7: IMPLEMENTATION**

Teachers of particular subjects shall define conditions, forms and methods of the educational process and its completion. This information will be published in English language on the official webpage of both partner universities.

#### **ARTICLE 8: MAKING A DOCUMENT VALID, TERMINATION OF VALIDITY**

The agreement is signed for the indefinite period.

This agreement may be terminated in written form signed by both parties to the agreement on the date agreed by both parties to the agreement.

Three months' notice need to be given by the parties to the agreement. This notice starts on the first day of the following month after its delivery to the second party to the agreement. This notice of the party to the agreement who wants to cancel the agreement must be submitted to the other party to the agreement early enough to avoid causing damage or problems to the students enrolled for the official stipulated length of study.

#### **ARTICLE 9: ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTENTION**

Submitted agreement shall not be interpreted as a basis for legal and financial obligations between parties to the agreement. The above-mentioned agreement presents an announcement of intention to spread mutual beneficial relationship as the basis of university cooperation.

#### **ARTICLE 10: CONFLICTS AND CONFRONTATION**

All the confrontations related to the interpretation and execution of the agreement will be solved in a session of the representatives of both parties to the agreement.

#### **ARTICLE 11: NUMBER OF COPIES**

This agreement is made in two copies in English version, one pair for each party to the agreement.

Novi Sad 6.05. 2016

Banská Bystrica 26.05. 2016

Faculty of European Legal and Political Studies

Matej Bel University Banská Bystrica

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Jelena Šogorov Vučković, LL.D.  
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Rector