



Report from the second study visit to the Iustinianus primus

Faculty of Law University of Skopje within the CABUFAL Project

From December 9th to December 14th, 2018, a delegation of the Faculty of Law University of Montenegro visited the Iustinianus Primus Faculty of Law University „Ss. Cyril and Methodius“ in Skopje. This was the fifth study visit within the Erasmus Project of University of Montenegro - *Capacity Building of the Faculty of Law, University of Montenegro - curricula refreshment, boosting of international cooperation and improving human, technical and library resources* (CABUFAL).

As it was envisaged by the project proposal, the incoming delegation has consisted of representatives of the Faculty of law (Prof. dr Velimir Rakočević, Prof. dr Ljiljana Jokić, Prof. Maja Kostic Mandić, Prof. dr Vladimir Savković, Dr Nikola Dožić and Dr Velibor Korać), and representatives from non-academic partner institutions from Judicial council of Montenegro (Prof. dr Mladen Vukcevic - the president of the Judicial Council) and representative of the Center for training of the judges and prosecutors (Vuk Mandic).

During this visit representatives of the Faculty of law University of Montenegro, and representatives of non-academic partners from Montenegro have met with prof. dr Goran Koevski, the Dean of the Iustinianus Primus



Faculty of Law in Skopje, during which had an opportunity to exchange views on contemporary issues regarding implementation of the three-cycle system of studies, and especially 3 + 2 + 3 system of studies.

During the first day of stay representatives of the Faculty of law University of Montenegro and non-academic partners have attended Celebratory academy for the 10th of December – International Human Rights Day. After the Academy the delegation had a number of meetings with the Vice-Deans of Iustinianus Primus Faculty of Law in Skopje: Assoc. Prof. d-r Aleksandra Gruevska Drakulevski (the vice dean for teaching); Assoc. Prof. d-r Neda Zdraveva (vice dean for finance) and Assoc. Prof d-r Irena Rajchinovska Pandeva (vice dean for international cooperation).

The first part of the second day of the study visit was dedicated to the bilateral meetings of the Montenegrin delegation with representatives of the Criminal Law Cathedra, Civil Law Cathedra, and Political Science Department of the Iustinianus Primus Faculty of Law in Skopje. The representatives of the Faculty of law University of Montenegro have meet separately with their counterparts to discuss specific issues in teaching these law subjects, since Macedonian teachers have in some way already implemented certain aspects of the EU law into their curriculums and already have vast experience in overcoming the difficulties that this process is bringing by implementation of curriculum Europeanization at bachelor level of studies.

One of the major difficulties as it was later recognized, was how to present the curriculum course with the new elements to the students at the commencing years of legal education, and how to clarify a complex terms and concepts on which EU law is resting upon, in a way that will be understandable to the first-



year and second-year students that are still struggling with the traditional legal terms and law concepts.

The adopting of new and different methods in teaching was the goal of the next agenda item. The Montenegrin delegation has attended the the class on Introduction to Law class (held by prof. d-r Karolina Ristova Aasterdu and prof. d-r Aleksandar Spasov) and the class on Political system class (held by prof. d-r Gordana Siljanovska Davkova), at which they had an opportunity to compare their existing methods of teaching with lecturing professor, especially the practical parts of the lectures at subjects that are usually considered as the most theoretical legal disciplines during the law studies.

During the second day a brief recess was dedicated Signing of bilateral Memorandum of Understating which the representatives of the Faculty of law University of Montenegro and non-academic partners have attended.

The second part of the second day of the study visit was dedicated to the Lecture of Monica Martinez (Head of Operations EU/CoE) - Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Turkey Council of Europe Programme Office in Skopje, and Sara Louis (Council of Europe) “The phenomenon of radicalization that leads to violent extremism in the prisons and the standards of Council of Europe for prison and probation services regarding radicalization and violent extremism” which representatives of the Faculty of law University of Montenegro representatives had an opportunity to attend.

The third day of the study visit has started with the visit to the Macedonian Academy of Judges and Public Prosecutors. The Montenegrin partners representatives and the dean prof. dr Goran Koevski, the Dean of the Iustinianus



Primus Faculty of Law in Skopje, and vice dean for teaching Assoc. Prof. d-r Aleksandra Gruevska Drakulevski, have met with Prof. Dr. Natasha Gaber Damjanovska, Executive Director of the Macedonian Academy of Judges and Public Prosecutors. This was the opportunity for the Montenegrin partners to compare the role of the Montenegrin and Macedonian agencies dedicated to training of the judges and prosecutors after their formal legal education was finished. The director of the Macedonian Academy has presented the new system of initial and continual trainings that are being conducted at their premises, and specializations of the candidates at the judicial and prosecutors' offices that are complementary and mandatory for all the candidates that are aiming to become the next generation of judges and public prosecutors in Macedonia. At the meeting the center point was the discussion on similarities and differences between Montenegrin and Macedonian approach in continuous education of legal professionals.

As continuation of the improvement of teaching teaching methods, the Montenegrin delegation attended the class on Law on obligations (held by prof. d-r Neda Zdraveva), dedicated to teaching units regarding individual contracts. After the class teachers had the opportunity to discuss the teaching methods implemented during the class, as well as the curriculum of this individual course, and what was the impact of the implementation of the new teaching methods and tools at this individual course.

Montenegrin delegation has visited the Centre for SEELS (South East European Law School Network) the first academic network of its kind that brings together 12 active distinct Law Schools from the region, which was established with the aim of improving cooperation between the Law Faculties in the region and thus improving their scientific, teaching and administrative capacities,



dedicated to increase of international competitiveness, research and publishing particularly with regard to curricula development, inter-institutional cooperation and integrated study programmes at a regional level, through a planned three-pillar-approach (education, research and publishing).

The second part of the third day was dedicated to the individual meetings of the academic staff of the Montenegrin delegation with professors of the Skopje Faculty of law. During these meetings teachers had an opportunity to individually discuss with their colleagues teaching methods improvement, necessary curriculum changes that will be implemented at the Faculty of law University of Montenegro, as well as other contemporary problems common to both Faculties.

Dr Nikola Dozic