

PRAGUE SUMMER UNIVERSITY

«CENTRAL EUROPE: EAST OR WEST ?»



REPORT OF THE SESSION

PRAGUE (Czech Republic)

September 24th to 30th, 2017

The autumn university of Czech Republic took place for the first time in Prague from September 24 to 30 with the collaboration of CEVRO INSTITUTE.

CEVRO is located in a very convenient location, very close to the old town and all the interesting places of Prague.

*The foreign students were accommodated in Caesar Hotel (****) also very close to CEVRO Institute and to the city centre of Prague and, even if only triple rooms were available, all the students appreciated the comfort of the hotel with very large space in all the rooms and a large buffet offered each morning.*



The academic program intended to develop a lot of topics regarding the all aspects of Europe, from East to West. The Academic sessions contained approximately 30 hours of lectures, discussions and debates. They were conducted in English by international experts from Czech Republic and from abroad.

22 candidates took part in the program, selected either by CIFE or by CEVRO, representing 13 different nationalities, including a small group of Czech students.

All the participants enjoyed a rich program of additional activities that allowed them to appreciate the culture of this country. A full day excursion was organised to visit Karlstein Castle, a very famous place in the landscape around, and a guided walking tour of Prague made easier for everyone to find their way around the city from the first evening.

All the candidates who completed the program successfully received a certificate of participation. Additionally, students who presented some more work after the session acquired ECTS Credits.

We also asked our students at the end of the session to fill out the evaluation questionnaire and comment upon our programme. Their observations, which can be found further on in this report have been of a great value for us.

We hope that this session in Prague will be a very nice memory for each one and we thank the partner, CEVRO Institute, for giving its confidence in CIFE for this first collaboration, which we hope will continue in the future.

PROGRAMME

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 24TH 2017: **Arrival of the foreign participants – Accommodation**

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 25TH, 2017:

10.00h: Opening session.

Presentation of the partners:

- **Mr. Josef Šíma**, President of the CEVRO Institute
- **Mme. Marie France Perdigon**, Director of the summer university program of CIFE.



Presentation of the students



11.00h: Historical and cultural presentation of Czech Republic
Mr. Tomáš Pojar, Vice President for International Relations, CEVRO Institute, former Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic and Ambassador to Israel

12.00 h : Lunch

14.00 h “The European Defense Policy”

- EU Security
 - EU Security directives in Central Europe
- Mme. Madeleine Hubin**, HEC Liège (Belgium)



16.00 h: "The role of Army in Czech Republic and in Central Europe"

Mr. Otakar Foltýn, Joint Operational Centre, General Staff, Czech Republic



**17.30h:
Walking tour in the old city**



*Free time
for dinner*

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 26TH, 2017

10.00h: "The neighbourhood policy"

- definition and areas activities,
- neighborhood policy in the Central Europe context

"Cross border cooperation"

Mme. Madeleine Hubin, HEC Liège (Belgium)

12.00h: Lunch



13.30h: "Security Threats in Central Europe "

Mr. Tomáš Pojar, Vice President for International Relations, CEVRO Institute, former Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic and Ambassador to Israel



15.00h: "European Energy Security"

Mr. Václav Bartuška, Special Envoy of the Czech Republic for Energy Security

Free time for dinner

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 27TH, 2017:

10.00h: "Defence Cooperation in Central Europe"

Mr. Jaromír Jahoda, Defence Policy and Strategy Division of Ministry of Defence



12.00h: Lunch



13.30h: "Euro-Atlantic Relations and CE Perspective"

Mr. Alexandr Vondra, Director of the Prague Centre for Transatlantic Relations, CEVRO Institute, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic and Ambassador to the U.S.



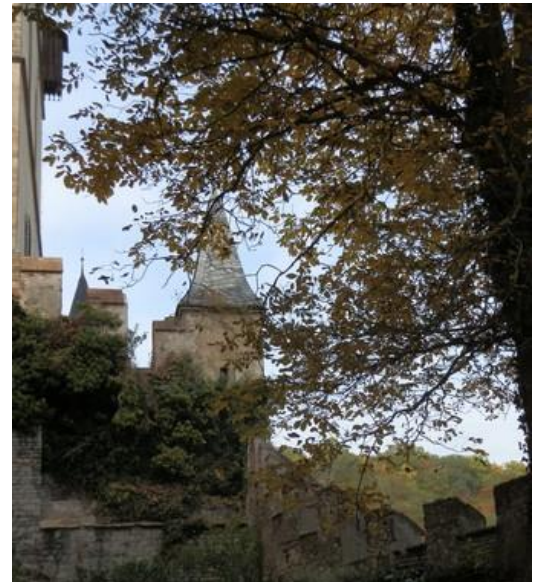
15.00h: "Visegrad Cooperation"

Mr. Cyril Svoboda, President of The Diplomatic Academy in Prague, former Minister of Foreign Affairs

Free time for dinner

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 28TH, 2017: Full day excursion out of Prague

KARLSTEIN Castle, one of the famous castles in the Czech Republic.



FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 29TH, 2017

9.00 h *“The Energy Policy: the strategy of the European Union for sustainable development”*

- **Environmental policy of the EU**
 - * Europe 2020
 - * European Union climate and energy package
- **Central Europe Programme in renewable Energy**
 - * Nuclear safety
 - * Renewable sources of Energy

Laurent Baechler, Director of the MAEIS of CIFE - Anglophone branch (France/Turkey)



12.00 Closing sessio

Distribution of diplomas



Friendly drink









Lunch








pm
Oral exams for students wishing
to acquire ECTS Credits

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 30TH,
2017 : DEPARTURE OF THE FOREIGN GROUP**





PARTICIPANTS

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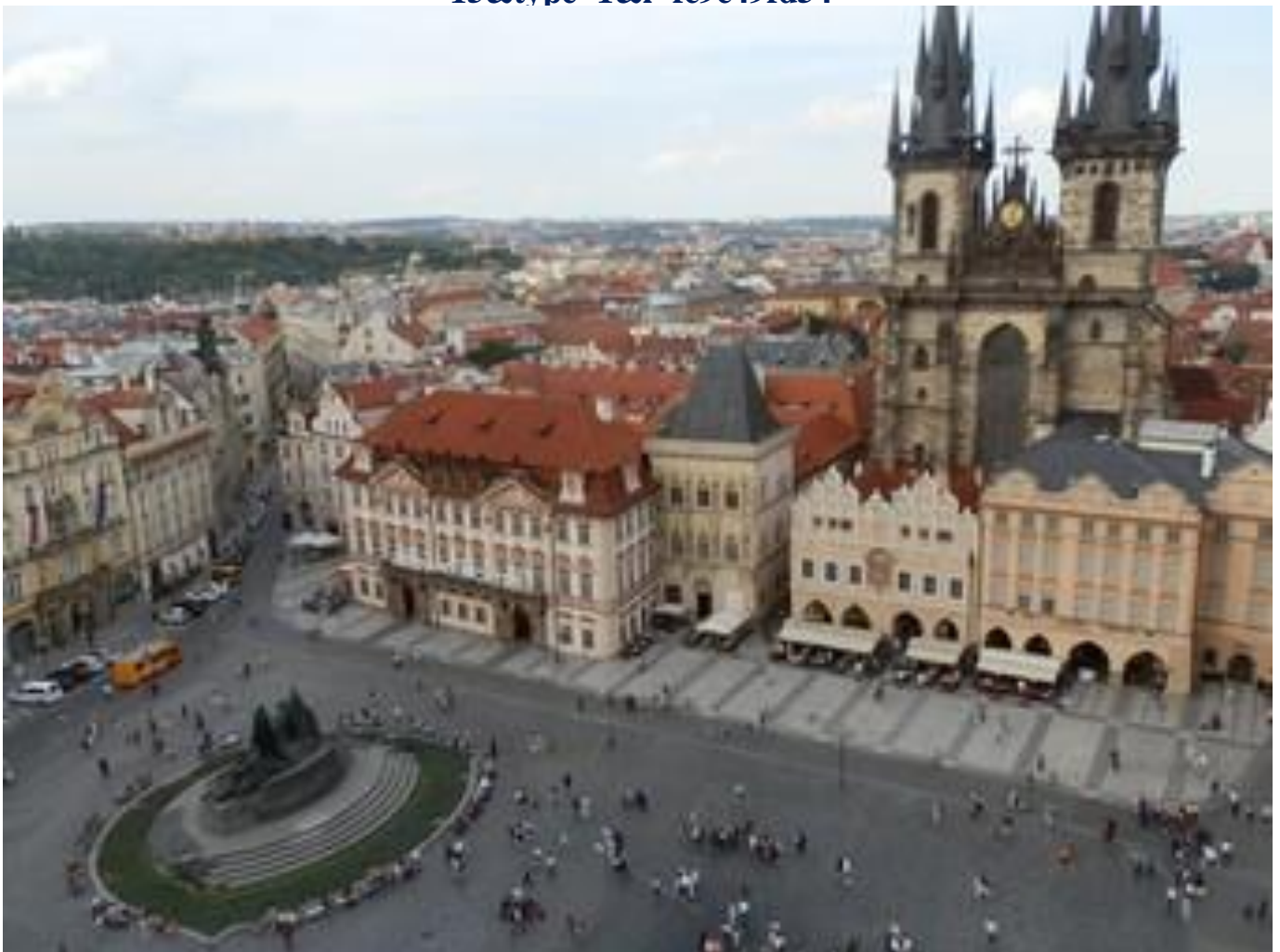
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Find all the photos of the session on facebook “Summer University Programme-CIFE”



<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10155977745653816.1073741857.617453815&type=1&l=fc9c49fd54>



EVALUATION

This program, organised in Prague for the first time in collaboration with CEVRO Institute was very appreciated. The examination of the evaluation forms have proved a large satisfaction.

The candidates were very surprised to be accommodate in such an hotel (****), with a very good location, and very comfortable with a large breakfast buffet. The reason of the choice of such an hotel was that the hotel initially booked (a more modest hotel) promised single beds for all the candidates but, finally, gave nearly only double beds. It was necessary to choose another place at the last moment and this ****stars hotel, proposed an interesting price but only for rooms with 3 single beds. General agreement was that the rooms were very comfortable and with a large space so this choice was highly appreciated.

The location, very close to both CEVRO and all the touristic sites of the city, was really ideal. Everything was easy to reach with less than 5 mn walking.

The lecturers, accommodated in another place, were also satisfied even if unfortunately the hotel was not so luxurious, but very comfortable and close too.

Evaluation of the lecturers

The global evaluation of the students regarding the lecturers was gave a very good result. Some were judged "at the top", for a small number of them, some students indicated some rather monotonous presentations (maybe because of the language). There was a great deal of discussion going on very regularly, especially in relation to migration issues or specific topics regarding relations with Russia.

Evaluation of the program

The choice of the different topics was very appreciated and for the majority of the group, all the topics were relevant and presented in a very interesting and proper way. Most of the students made many positive comments about the team of lecturers, and judged the programme interesting and some of them have indicated that perhaps little more guiding would have been necessary to link the different interventions. The major complain was about lack of group activities, workshops or simulation games during the courses.

The majority of the candidates were very satisfied. They all noticed a very large satisfaction about relations with the staff and the good balance between courses and leisure time. Free time was left each evening to allow everyone to discover the marvelous sites offered by this majestic city.

The general opinion was that the opportunity of an academic program and experience of living together with so many representatives of other nationalities benefit each and everybody in the future. Unfortunately the Czech candidates were not enough included in all the activities of the group of foreign candidates and would have liked to have chance to be a part of this group not also during the academic program but also during free time, meals and excursions.

CONCLUSION

CIFE warmly thanks CEVRO for its confidence in the organization of this first summer school together and hopes that this program will continue in the future.

SUMMER UNIVERSITY ORGANISATION

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