**Comparative Administrative Law
 – Introduction to the Administrative Law and Administrative Organisational System of the Visegrad Countries (Poland, Czech republic, Slovakia, Hungary) with Special Focus on Simplifications in Administrative Procedural Law**

Course director:

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**Course description**

The aim of this course is to draw the horizon of administrative law in central Europe in a comparative manner. In this vain, the course aims at giving an insight to a very important part of public law of the Visegrad countries, their Administrative Organisation and Administrative Procedural Law. The course is part of a research project conducted with a grant from Visegrad Fund, wich is centered around the recent changes int he four countries all aimed at accelerating and simplifying administrative procedures. The four seminars in March and April give insight to the national systems in a coherent, previously harmonised manner, along the same topics where this is possible. Each lecture begins with an introduction to the history of administrative procedural law in the respective country, continued by the constitutional framework framing administrative organisation and administrative procedure. After this general introduction, the main features of administrative procedure are highlighted. Int he closing part, the focus shifts to the simplifications in administrative procedural law. If there are simplified procedures, they are analysed in depth, as well as other institutions aimed at decreasing bureaucratic burdens and accelerating the handling of administrative cases both in general administrative procedural law and in sectoral law. Given the interdependencies, main features of European Union Law aimed at simplifications are also analysed, as well as the transposition of these rules.

**Competences**

The primary objective of the course is to enable the students to gain a horizontal understanding and appreciation of administrative procedural rules as guarantees of the rights of citizens. Students will gain an in-depth insight on the organisation of the administrative system in Poland, Hungary, Slovakia and Czech Republic on the one hand and to understand the national administrative procedural settings on the other. Competences acquired in this course will include the ability to use the comparative method as well as the ability to identify the pros and cons of legislative reforms in the field of administrative procedure. Students will be also familiar with some of the corresponding case law of the national supreme (administrative) courts and will be able to link that case law to administrative practices.

**Schedule:**

**Dates:** Every second (even) Friday from March to May, 8:00-14:00

**Seminar 1.(March 6)** – Introduction to Polish Administrative System. Simplifications in Polish Administrative Procedure

**Seminar 2. (March 20)** – Introduction to the Slovak Administrative System. Recent changes in order to simplify administrative procedures

**Seminar 3. (April 3)** – Introduction to Hungarian Administrative Law. Simplifications of the new procedural Act of 2016

**Seminar 4. (April 17)** – Introduction to Czech Administrative System. Simplifications

**Seminar5. Oral** **Exam and Wrap up (May 15** or another date to be fixed with course participants, 2 hours)

**Assessment**

Students are expected to regularly attend the classes and not to be absent from more than one class. Students who are to receive grades are required to prepare an essay on a specific field connected to the lectures during the term, mostly a comparative analysis of an institutions of the student’s native administrative procedural system (Deadline May 8). Additionally presentation of the findings of the essay in an oral exam at the end of the term (date to be fixed together with students with respect to other exams).