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| **Title** | **Comparative Local Governments – in the Light of the System of the V4 countries** |
| **Lecturers:**  | **Dr. András Bencsik,** assistant professor (Department of Administrative Law, Faculty of Law, Eötvös Lóránd University)**Dr. Jarosław Kostrubiec**, professor (Faculty of Law and Administration, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University /UMCS/) |
| **Brief description** | The module covers the knowledge in the field of comparative approach to the organisation and functioning of local government in Visegrad Group countries. It presents the review of the fundamental terms and institutions of local self-government. The module develops the ability of comparative analysis of concepts of local self-government, different legal solutions, as well as mutual relations of the authorities. Firstly, the concept of state in relation to the idea of local self-government will be presented. Local self-government was created in the individual Visegrad countries in forms that were dependent on many factors, in particular political, historical and legal, as well as sociological and even geographical. Therefore, two theories that have influenced the formation of local self-government in Europe, namely the theory of natural self-governance and the theory of state will be discussed in the module. Further parts of the lecture will be devoted to legal issues related to the organisation and functioning of local government in the Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia and Hungary. Students will gain knowledge which will allow them not only to compare the legal solutions in the individual Visegrad countries, but also to understand both the evolution of the concept of local governance and the trends in its development.  |
| **Schedule** | 1. The Concept of state and theories of local governance
2. Historical overview of the European local self-government doctrines
3. Local self-government in the Republic of Poland
4. Local self-government in the Czech Republic
5. Local self-government in the Republic of Slovakia
6. Local self-government in the Republic of Hungary
7. Similarities and differences in the organisation and functioning of local government in the Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary and Slovakia
8. Challenges for the future for the Visegrad Group countries in the sphere of local governance
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| **Materials/Recommended readings** | * Hoffman István, *Local Self-Government in Hungary*, In: Local Self-Government in Europe,B. Brezovnik, I. Hoffman, J. Kostrubiec (eds.), Institute for Local Self-Government Maribor (Lex Localis Press), Maribor 2021, pp. 207-243, <https://doi.org/10.4335/978-961-7124-00-2>.
* Radvan Michal, Mrkývka Petr, Schweigl Johan, Local *Self-Government in Czech Republic*, In: Local Self-Government in Europe,B. Brezovnik, I. Hoffman, J. Kostrubiec (eds.), Institute for Local Self-Government Maribor (Lex Localis Press), Maribor 2021, pp. 89-120, <https://doi.org/10.4335/978-961-7124-00-2>.
* Klimovský Daniel, Nemec Juraj, *Local Self-Government in Slovakia*, B. Brezovnik, I. Hoffman, J. Kostrubiec (eds.), Institute for Local Self-Government Maribor (Lex Localis Press), Maribor 2021, pp. 355-382, <https://doi.org/10.4335/978-961-7124-00-2>.
* Karpiuk, M. & Kostrubiec J., *Rechtsstatus der territorialen Selbstverwaltung in Polen,* (Olsztyn: Uniwersytet Warmińsko-Mazurski w Olsztynie) 2017, available at: <https://www.ceeol.com/search/book-detail?id=621502>.
* Hoffman, I. & Rozsnyai, K. (2015) The Supervision of Self-Government Bodies’ Regulations in Hungary, Lex localis - Journal of Local Self-Government, 13(3), pp. 485-502, [https://doi.org/10.4335/13.3.485-502(2015)](https://doi.org/10.4335/13.3.485-502%282015%29).
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| **Assessment/Exam** | * frequency of attendance
* effort in class
* final paper
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