EDITORIAL

Upon the founding of the journal, we wish to continue and at the same time completely renew the content and operation of the highly successful cooperation in the science of public administration that we started in 2016 when we established the Public Governance Administration and Finances Law Review (with the generous support of Wolters Kluwer and then the University of Public Service, for which we would like to express our thanks once again).

Our primary goal was, and still is, to create a major forum for public administration, administrative law scholars, academics and key professionals of the “Visegrad countries” as part of a thriving and meaningful collaboration.

The time elapsed since 2016 has clearly shown that administrative law and public administration have become so complex in the context of the global world economy and modern state functioning that they can only be developed in a truly meaningful way through joint effort and comprehensive academic and research cooperation. Yet it has also become obvious that there is very strong demand for this kind of cooperation. Not only did excellent public administration theorists from the faculties of law in Hungary join forces to develop public administration studies in line with our times, but in the other Visegrad countries there was also a general interest in such joint work, and even a resolve in this context that surprised us. The public administration scholars of the individual countries have taken up this cause without any “comments or questions”, thereby establishing an excellent network of contacts, which is not only unique but also very fruitful for the development of administrative law and jurisprudence.

Several significant results have already been achieved as part of this framework, including the conferences on Understanding Public Bureaucracy (2018) and Pandemic and Governance (2020), and the volume of studies entitled European Financial Law in Times of Crisis of the European Union (2019). As this international cooperation has developed and strengthened, more and more research networks have joined, such as the Information and Organization Center for the Research on the Public Finances and Tax Law in the Countries of Central and Eastern Europe, an institute affiliated to the Bialystok Law Faculty.

These successes also justify the foundation of this international academic journal; in fact, it is precisely these successes and experiences that made it increasingly imperative that this cooperation – while moving away from the constitutional law issues of governance, government, and public finance – focus on public administration and its intrinsic theoretical foundations. In this way, we can define our scientific objectives and the scientific field of research of this community in an appropriate and clear manner.

The successes achieved so far have also made it necessary to place this new scientific periodical in a broader context, to further emphasise the excellent human and professional cooperation that has been established, and to provide the latter with a “framework” and “organisation” by creating the Central and Eastern European Association for Public Administration, based in Győr. This association manages our scientific journal, and within this organisational structure we can raise the standards and organisation of the journal and the events of this great cooperation to an even higher level; besides, as
a non-governmental organisation, we can develop public administration research, education and academic work in the Visegrad countries much more effectively.

The National Media and Infocommunications Authority is the primary supporter of the foundation of the journal and the Association as well, for which we express our thanks.

We are confident that together we will be able to achieve these goals, whilst also enjoying ourselves. In other words, we want this effort to be not only hard work, but also a collaboration in which every stakeholder is happy and willing to participate. In any case, we now have every opportunity to achieve our goal thanks to the excellent network of contacts already in place, and we have now received almost all the professional, human and financial support we need to realise these goals and achieve success.

Gábor Hulkó - András Lapsánszky
Editors-in-Chief