

# Report on the activities of the Czech Center for Human Rights and Democratization International Institute for Political Science 2010/2011

The Czech Center for Human Rights and Democratization was established in September 2009 as an impartial non-profit institution engaged in multidisciplinary research in the human rights and democratization fields. Until the end of the year 2010 the Center operated within the International Institute for Political Science of Masaryk University. Four members and 12 interns were involved in the Center's activities in the academic year 2010/2011.

**Members of the Center:** Lukáš Hoder, Ľubomír Majerčík, Hubert Smekal, Ladislav Vyhnánek

**Interns:** Helena Bončková, Veronika Dokulilová, Kristina Hornáčková, Linda Janků, Tereza Kubíčková, Lenka Lakotová, Monika Mareková, Zuzana Melcrová, Lenka Popovičová, Petr Příbyla, Ivan Prouza, Katarína Šipulová.

## Bulletin and other publishing activities

The Center issues a monthly bulletin *Current Human Rights Issues* which provides information and short analysis of human rights related issues and which is divided into four sections: International Criminal Justice, European system of Human Rights Protection, International Politics and Human Rights, Czech Republic and Human Rights. Between September 2010 and August 2011 in total 11 Czech issues (no. 9–12/2010, no. 1–7-8/2011) and two English issues under the name “Czech Human Rights Review”, which were focusing on human rights topics within Czech, had been published.

Between the regular sections of the bulletin there is an interview with a personality working in the field of human rights either in the academic, non-governmental or governmental sphere. One of the interesting interviews was conducted by Monika Mareková with Roméo Dallaire, a chief of the UNAMIR units in Rwanda during the genocide in 1994. The interview can be found in both the Czech and English version. A new regular section of the bulletin was introduced. It focuses on recently published articles on human rights from different professional magazines dealing with law or international relations.

During the period of 2010/2011 the members as well as the interns of the Center had published in various books, symposiums and magazines – in the new commentary to the Constitution of the Czech Republic, which was published by Linde in September 2010, in the symposium “The Right for privacy”, which was published by the IIPS, in the magazines *International Relations*, *International Policy*, *Defense and Strategy* and *Global Politics*, or on the blog *Jiné právo*.

## Conferences and other events

In its second year of existence the Center had organized two expert events. In December 2010, it was a debate on “Democracy at Cuba?” with a former Cuban dissident Roland Jimenéz Posada, which took place at the Faculty of Social Science, Masaryk University.

In April 2011, the Center hosted an expert seminar on “Protection of Social, Economic and Cultural Rights by Constitutional Courts” at the Faculty of Law, Masaryk University. The debate hosted various professionals from the governmental, academic or legal environment. The members and interns had also actively participated in many other conferences.

In the beginning of 2011 the Center had supported the preservation of the archives of Hungarian Secret State Police.