



International Centre for Democratic Transition



*5 years of
Promoting
Democratic
Transition
Worldwide
2005–2010*

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends of Democracy and the ICDT:

As I look back over my five years as President of this Centre it is difficult to believe how fast time has gone by, and, more importantly, what we have accomplished. For the past half a decade, tremendous amount of work has been done in order to sustain and promote what ICDT believes in while learning to deepen the basic respect for cultural differences and learn to accept unconditionally the same in others. I am proud of what we have accomplished together, and I assure you we intend to carry this trend into the following years as we strive to fulfill our mission.

We started, as almost our first event, with the celebration of the birthday of Mikhail Gorbachev, the man, who was crucial to the change of the course of history. Although we never thought that the revolutions in Central and Eastern Europe were made by outside forces, we also recognize that it would have been impossible for them to succeed without the major strategic change that was initiated and largely carried out by Gorbachev.

The logical continuation of this thought was our participation in the celebrations of the 20th anniversary. We co-organized the commemoration of the event that has significantly contributed to the breakthrough: the Pan-European Picnic. Again, this was not the only event that made the difference, but beyond doubt was a considerable and symbolic event and we believe, it was a significant contribution, together with our publications on the same subject, to the celebrations in 2009.

We are even more proud of our contribution to democracy in places, where people still live under dictatorships. Our project in countries like North Korea, Belarus, and elsewhere, give hope to the people that they are not forgotten and their future is also in a democratic community of nations, as is ours.

Any of these, and all other accomplishments, would not have been possible without the absolute devotion and support from our Board of Trustees, and ICDT's International Board. Our Board and Executive Committee members have been a major reason for the continued success of the Centre. I also want to pay tribute to my dedicated staff. Special thanks to Gáspár Várkonyi and Sándor Köles for their dedication and commitment as Vice Presidents over the past years. As well as to those, who left us for other, not less important positions: Anita Orbán and Tamás Magyarics. They truly worked as a team with staff members and have done an excellent job in setting direction, being progressive in


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their approach. We have had our serious moments but have not lost sight of the need to have fun. The initiative, ideas and effort of the administrative team has propelled the Centre forward. And finally thanks to our employees and volunteers who are engaged in the trenches daily. They do an excellent job in carrying out the mandate of the Centre.

It is with great humbleness and appreciation we thank our Donors who have thrown their financial support to us. They no doubt realize the need and support what we stand for, our goals, accomplishments and the positive difference we have made in the lives of those we support.

As I look back, my job has been quite easy over the years as I have been blessed to work with so many motivated, forwardthinking and caring people. And thus I thank you for your trust and the experience! I believe working together as a team we have made a difference in the lives of people we serve.

Today, we are all experiencing that ICDT distinctiveness that we all have been part of. ICDT is well managed and enjoys a reputation of stability, integrity, progressiveness and credibility. We are still a very young organization, but we are far ahead of others our age. What an eternity five years seems. But as we look back, we must also look forward. One Centre, 34 accomplished projects, a lifetime experience and unlimited possibilities for the future.


 Amb. Prof. Dr. István Gyarmati,
 President and CEO of the ICDT



MISSION STATEMENT

Because the International Centre for Democratic Transition was founded in Central Europe, we are acutely aware of the complexity of democratic transition as a process. We ourselves have recently undergone this process and know full well the fragility of new democracies. We firmly believe that a transition can only be judged to be successful when the benefits of democracy are shared by the whole of society. The ICDT's mission is to facilitate the smooth and peaceful process of democratic transition on the basis of participatory principles; the political, economic, legal, cultural, and civil societal aspects of transformation; and the socio-cultural context of regions and countries where the process takes place. We believe that the transition to democracy is a fully transformative and comprehensive process that must infuse and penetrate all facets of a society.

VISION

While the future presents us with imminent challenges and daunting obstacles that could hinder the spread of democracy, the International Centre for Democratic Transition aims to remain an innovative and resilient leader in the field of democratic transition. The accumulation of exceptional practical knowledge, coupled with demanding training and an uncompromising commitment to the complex process of transition, the ICDT stands passionately at the side of those who seek to bring democratic values and democracy's benefits to their own people. By providing the necessary tools today, we hope to help create a more democratic world for tomorrow.

ABOUT THE ICDT

The ICDT is an international non-profit organization based in Budapest, Hungary which collects the experiences of recent democratic transitions and shares them with those who are determined to follow that same path. Within the general promotion of democracy, the ICDT has focused its efforts on creating concrete and pragmatic goals. Through collecting and analysing data, organizing and hosting conferences, drafting and presenting reports, and, perhaps most

importantly, by running field-projects in many transition countries, the ICDT has been able to compile the collective and individual experiences of peoples from all around Europe. The ICDT believes that this research, coupled with the expertise of some of the world's greatest minds and the practical experience gained through our own transitions, facilitates the use of a toolbox that is instrumental to societies preparing to set off on the difficult path towards a well functioning democracy.



HISTORY

The idea of establishing an institute to collect and share the experiences of past democratic transitions originated with former U.S. Ambassador to Hungary Mark Palmer when he was serving as Vice President of the Council for a Community of Democracies (CCD) in 2004. His proposal was followed by a meeting between the Hungarian Foreign Minister Laszlo Kovacs and the U.S. Secretary of State in June 2004. At a conference in Budapest in March 2005, civil society and governmental leaders from Africa, Asia, Latin America, Europe, and the United States, as well as representatives of a number of international organizations, gave a warm welcome to, and clear approval of, the ICDT's concept paper. Subsequently, this idea for a "clearing house" on democratic transitions was presented by the Hungarian Foreign Minister at the Third Ministerial Conference of the Community of Democracies in Santiago de Chile. Once again, the idea was well-received and endorsed by the participating Foreign Ministers representing more than 100 democratic governments of the world. Finally, in September 2005, the Hungarian President announced at the World Summit of the United Nations that "an International Centre for Democratic Transition (ICDT) has been set up in Budapest."

OPERATIONAL METHOD

The ICDT:

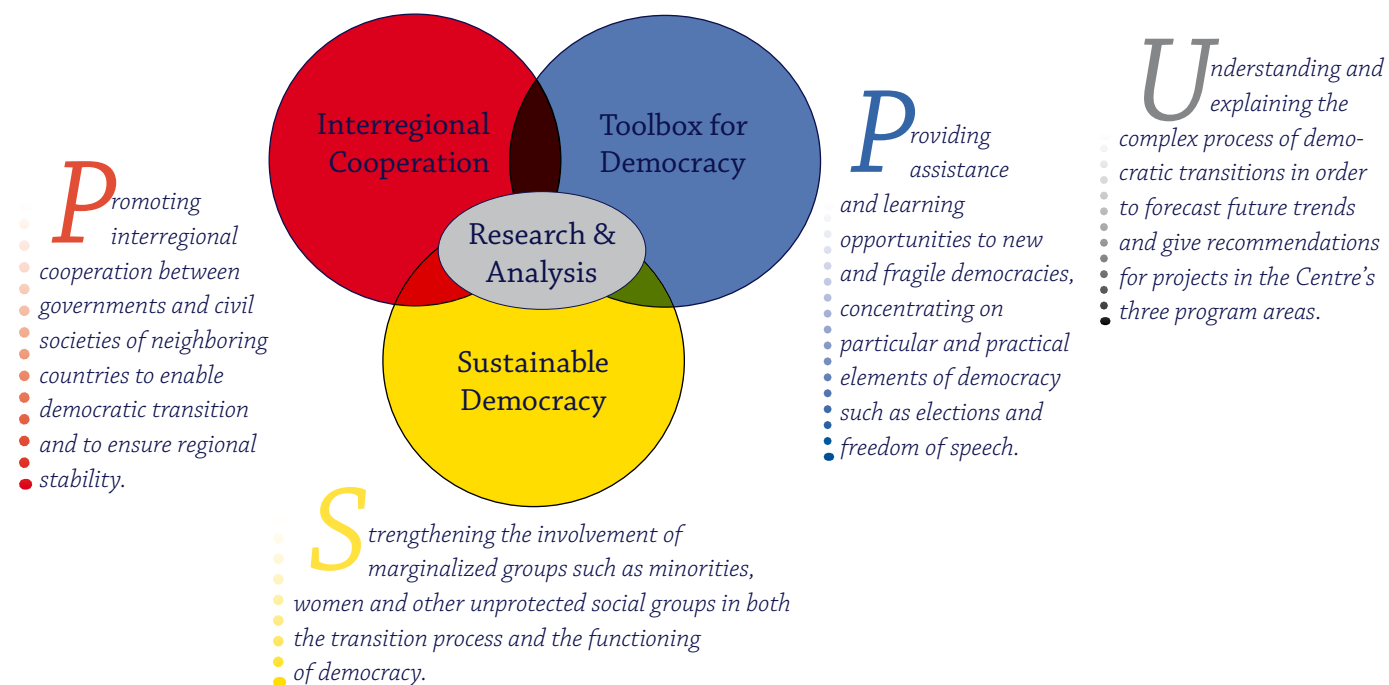
- **Facilitates** the process of democratic transition by using the knowledge pool of transitional experience and by sharing best practices and lessons learned;
- **Convenes** the most important indigenous stakeholders to play key roles in the transition process;
- **Provides** an adaptable toolbox and appropriate models for the creation and consolidation of democratic institutions;
- **Mediates** between cultures and regions by generating dialogue.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Successfully implemented 34 distinct projects worldwide to promote democratic transition and share best practices and lessons learned;
- Established a strong presence in Afghanistan, Western Balkans and Eastern Europe;
- Celebrated the 20th anniversary of the 1989 democratic changes in a dignified way, with a number of conferences and high-level events;
- Reached out to over thousand members of civil society, government officials, and media representatives;
- Earned the trust of leading democracies and secured support from several international organizations;
- Established a long-term partnership with the Helen Bader Foundation;
- Convened and engaged more than 40 world democracies through its Governmental Advisory Board
- Achieved broad international recognition with the publication of *A European Alternative for Belarus: Report of the Belarus Task Force*;
- Published two books, *Peaceful Transition* and *Accelerated History*, in the framework of the project Oral History, addressing the 1989 events;
- Published an Open Letter to the Obama Administration, which attracted international attention and debate



PROGRAM AREAS



PROJECTS

Since opening in 2005, the ICDT has worked on more than 35 projects in over 30 nations throughout Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. These projects have addressed a wide range of issues, varying from institutional reform at the federal level, to creating applicable pragmatic solutions for sustainable economic and rural development.

Note: The titles of people mentioned in the project descriptions represent their positions at the time of the event.

STRENGTHENING DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE BALKANS: OMBUDSMAN SERVICE REFORM IN KOSOVO AND MONTENEGRO

December 2006 – June 2008

Through the recommendations on the draft ombudsman law developed by the ICDT (and with the help of local experts) the effectiveness was significantly improved of both the “Ombudsman Institution” in Kosovo and the “Institution for the Protection of Human Rights and Freedoms” in Montenegro. During this project good working relationships were established between the staff of the Ombudsman Institutions and the leading figures of the different European institutions working for the emergence of human rights, notably the European Ombudsman. As a follow-up, the ICDT organized a conference on the “Functioning of Ombudsman in Fragile Democracies” and assembled the Ombudsmen of Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, and Slovenia to discuss the common challenges of their work. The ombudsmen shared their experiences and elaborated a list of best practices that contribute to stabilizing democracy.

INCREASING LEBANESE WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC LIFE

January 2007 – August 2007

By sharing some of the most relevant experiences accumulated in Central and Southeast Europe in the field of advancing women's rights, the ICDT strengthened the public participation and social rights of women in Lebanon. The Centre provided adaptable tools, techniques and best practices to



a selected group of 25 female politicians, lawyers, journalists, and NGO activists from different regions and religious communities to improve their skills for leadership, negotiation, coalition building, campaign planning and execution, lobbying, and presenting their cause to the media. The group stepped forward to form “Moubadirat”, a group of women active in the social and public life, and organized a nationwide Solidarity Day to highlight the disadvantageous social and health conditions of (particularly female) farmers. As evidenced by the number of participants and the level of both national and local media attention, this event generated considerable interest in promoting women's participation in public life and



protecting the rights of disadvantaged groups. The project reached more than 200 people as direct beneficiaries, affected thousands of indirect beneficiaries and gave impetus for the formation of a new NGO and national network to take up this important cause

SUSTAINABLE DEMOCRACY: PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF VULNERABLE GROUPS OF MALI, MOROCCO, AND MONGOLIA

February 2007 – January 2008

The ICDDT and UNDEF promoted effective legal institutions and mechanisms to protect the rights of marginalized groups in Mali, Morocco, and Mongolia. By increasing the understanding of governmental officials, journalists, and NGO representatives, the ICDDT considerably improved the democratic dialogue in the three target countries. In cooperation with experts from Central and Eastern Europe, participants formulated policy recommendations and elaborated implementation strategies for their respective countries.



THE ROLE OF FEMALE SECURITY EXPERTS IN COUNTERING TERRORISM

February 2008 – April 2008

In cooperation with NATO, the International Centre for Democratic Transition hosted a five-day training workshop in Sarajevo in March. The NATO Advanced Training Workshop provided 30 female security experts from the Western Balkans with information, knowledge, and expertise on terrorism and gender sensitivity. The discussion panels covered a wide array of topics such as Women in War,

Armed Conflicts, and Post-Conflict Situations, The Role of NATO and the EU, and Terrorism and Threat Perceptions in the Western Balkans, as well as various case studies and best practices to raise awareness and mobilize local communities. At the end of the workshop, policy recommendations were formulated in two subjects, namely: “The Issue of Security Sector Reform in the Western Balkan Countries” and “Gender Representation in the Media”. These recommendations are aimed at increasing gender sensitivity within international as well as civil organizations, and among national policy- and decision-makers.

COMPENDIUM OF SUMMARIES OF THE ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS STRUCTURES OF THE MEMBER STATES OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE FOR THE YEARS 2006 AND 2007

September 2008 – January 2009

Having closely monitored the implementation of the ICDDT’s former project, “Ombudsman Service Reform in Kosovo and Montenegro,” the Council of Europe entrusted the ICDDT with preparing the compendiums based on the yearly reports of 2006 and 2007 published by each member of the National Human Right Structures (NHRS) of the Council of Europe. The project aimed to strengthen the National Human Rights Structures and to help create a better overview of the work done by the different institutions.

PREPARATION OF A DEBRIEFING PAPER ON THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE’S CONFERENCE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF ITS “PEER TO PEER” PROJECT

November 2008 – January 2009

The conference was held in Budapest on 2-3 December, 2008 and was attended by about 50 people from the NHRS network representing 16 countries. The ICDDT contacted the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor of the Republic of Hungary in order to secure a representative of the Hungarian Government to speak about the “Promotion and Protection by National Human Rights Structures of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities”. For the preparation of the debriefing paper, an expert of the ICDDT participated in the conference. Based on the feedback of the Commissioner’s Office the draft version was re-

viewed and edited. The final version of the paper was submitted to the CoE in the end of January 2009.

ENHANCING MINORITY INTEGRATION THROUGH IMPROVED IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LAW ON THE USE OF LANGUAGES IN KOSOVO

October 2009 – June 2010

The conference was held in Budapest on 2-3 December, 2008 and was attended by about 50 people from the NHRS network representing 16 countries. The ICDDT contacted the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor of the Republic of Hungary in order to secure a representative of the Hungarian Government to speak about the “Promotion and Protection by National Human Rights Structures of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities”. For the preparation of the debriefing paper, an expert of the ICDDT participated in the conference. Based on the feedback of the Commissioner’s Office the draft version was reviewed and edited. The final version of the paper was submitted to the CoE in the end of January 2009.

LAW ENFORCEMENT INITIATIVE FOR ROMA AND DISADVANTAGED YOUTH

November 2010 – February 2011

The ICDDT has had its active share in launching a new initiative that aims at promoting the participation of young Roma and disadvantaged people in law enforcement mechanisms. Our aim is to activate young Roma people in the fields of peer support, self-knowledge, prevention, law enforcement, and sports. The expected results of the program are on the one hand to exert an efficient prevention and community-building effect on the youth, and on the other, to send an emphatic message to mainstream society, refuting negative stereotypes about Gypsies. The objective is to remove young people from their potentially unfavorable environment, to convey a system of values, and to show them that there is a way out. It is important that they should consider policing as a career.

VISEGRÁD TO VIŠEGRAD

April 2006 – March 2007

The “Visegrád to Višegrad” program conveyed the political, institutional and sectoral experiences of the Visegrad Four (the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and the Slovak Republic (the V4)) to generate similar regional cooperation among the countries of the Western Balkans (The Republic of Albania, the Republic of Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the Republic of Montenegro and the Republic of Serbia). Among the outcomes were the intentions of setting up a “Western Balkan Interregional Fund” to promote regional civil society cooperation and to launch a capacity-building program for local development.

MINORITIES IN TRANSITION

December 2006 – May 2007

By collecting data and experiences, the ICDT analyzed the roles of different minorities within the process of democratic transition on a cross-regional basis in South, Central, and Eastern Europe and raised awareness of the challenges these minorities face. At the closing conference the participants discussed recommendations for relevant national and international organizations.

BELARUS TASK FORCE

October 2007 – August 2009

The Belarus Task Force was comprised of intellectuals, political leaders, experts, and researchers (both from Belarus and outside) who were working together to analyze the current political situation in Belarus. Aleksander Kwasniewski, former President of Poland has agreed to chair the Task Force. Its members included, among many other esteemed experts, Professor Mihajlov, Rector of the European Humanities University in Vilnius, Lithuania; Pavol Demes, Director of the German Marshall Fund's Bratislava office; and Markus Meckel, last Foreign Minister of the GDR. The publication, A European Alternative for Belarus - Report of the Belarus Task Force of the ICDT, is the initial outcome of the project and contains the Task Force members' recommendations for action by the international community towards Belarus. The last phase of the project was an

information campaign in various capitals of Europe and the United States with the aim to raise awareness of the situation in Belarus, as well as to deliver the report to political leaders, opinion makers, and the general public.



SHARING THE EXPERIENCE OF THE VISEGRAD COOPERATION IN THE WESTERN BALKANS AND THE EASTERN NEIGHBORHOOD

November 2008 – March 2011

The main objective of the project is to strengthen democracy, partnership, and regional cooperation in two neighboring regions of strategic importance to the EU. In particular though, the ICDT aims to share the experience of the Visegrad cooperation with the Western Balkans and Eastern Neighborhood to encourage cooperation in achieving common goals, such as EU and NATO integration. In March 2009, an international expert team met to review the current main issues in the partner regions and to draw up a firm conceptual framework for the project. Main activities centered on workshops in Kiev, Tbilisi, Chisinau and Sarajevo, where stakeholders from the partner regions have met with representatives of the EU and international organizations to discuss possible regional and cross-border cooperation of national and local governments, civil society organizations, and businesses. Final Conference of the project is to be held in Budapest in 2011. The outcome includes a preparatory study summarizing best practices and lessons learned from Visegrad cooperation, as well as a final study containing case studies and conclusions from the partner regions. Project's website with all information available for download was launched at the end of 2009 (<http://interregional.icdt.hu>)



CIVIL SOCIETY AND STATE IN THE PROCESS OF SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION

November 2008 – July 2009

The goal of this project was to elaborate an objective and standardized index system in order to measure the relations between state and civil society in regions which are either at the genesis or in the process of democratic transition and social transformation. In the initial phase, a group of experts from the Western Balkans assessed the political, legal, economic, social, and cultural context in which civil societies function in different countries of their region. They discussed and set the basic principles and methodology of the project and elaborated a draft index system. Based on this methodology, the index system was discussed and put through a “reality check” in several countries of the Western Balkans. As a result of this complex program, a standardized yet flexible evaluation system measuring state-civil society relations has been elaborated. In June 2009, the ICDT organized together with the Foundation for the Future (FFF) a two-day workshop in Amman, which discussed how this evaluation system can be adapted to the Middle East region. The ICDT is currently looking for funding to put this evaluation system to use and implement a survey on a larger scale on relations between state and civil society in several regions.

ENERGY SECURITY 2011 – CHALLENGES OF THE HUNGARIAN EU PRESIDENCY

May 2010

The project aimed at organizing a conference where Hungarian and international professionals, businessmen and politicians had the chance to analyze how Hungary could prepare for the energy security challenges that may emerge during its current EU presidency and tried to calculate how these problems could accurately be assessed. The lecturers engaged in the issue within two main panels, one addressing the general role and scope of the EU presidencies and another one assessing the specific tasks of the Hungarian chairmanship. The conference „Energy Security 2011 – Challenges of the Hungarian EU Presidency” was organized by the ICDT and the Centre for Euro-Atlantic Integration and Democracy (CEID) in Budapest, and was financed by the National Civil Fund (NCA). The overall conclusion of the conference was that fostering competitiveness, sustainability and cooperation between the EU and the V4 countries are crucial for decreasing the energy dependency. The lecturers agreed that the energy security issue should be detached from security policy and an affordable level of security of supply should be assessed.





EU INTEGRATION OF THE WESTERN BALKANS AND THE HUNGARIAN EU PRESIDENCY

November 2010

The project aimed at organizing a conference where outstanding Hungarian and international individuals, representing a number of governmental and non-governmental organizations, could discuss the challenges of the EU integration process of the Western Balkan region, one of the priority issues of the ongoing Hungarian EU presidency. The debate approached the issue of the enlargement from the perspectives of each Western Balkan country and European Union, as well, and also focused on the role of civil society in the integration process. A food-for-thought paper had been prepared for the participants in order to enhance the discussion and the findings of the event were concluded in a summarizing study. The overall conclusion of the conference, which was organized by ICDT and the Centre for Euro-Atlantic Integration and Democracy (CEID) in Budapest, was that the European integration of the Western Balkans is seen as a desirable outcome of the future enlargement of the EU. Emphasis was put on the intraregional cooperation among countries, such as solving bilateral conflicts or developing common strategies in various EU policy areas. The Hungarian EU Presidency was described as an excellent chance for the region to enter the spotlight of the EU's political agenda; however, there is a number of policy topics, mainly related to the global financial and economic crisis,

which have recently emerged to reach top priority status on the EU's agenda, thus representing a potential threat to the key issue status for the topic of the Western Balkans' EU integration during the 6-month Hungarian presidency. As for the role of civil society in the countries of the Western Balkans, speakers of the third panel considered problems of political independence, media presence and the access to funds to be major problems for the CSO sector of the region.

PREPARATION OF A FEASIBILITY STUDY ON THE CREATION OF DNIESTER/NISTRU EUROREGION

February 2010 – December 2010

ICDT provided technical assistance and know-how to the representatives of the districts involved (northern districts of Moldova, such as Floresti, Soldanesti, Soroca, southwest districts of Ukraine such as Vinnitsa Oblast, and two districts of Transnistria, namely Kamenka and Rybnitsa) and the central authorities in identifying the specific legal and institutional prerequisites of creating the Euroregion. The Feasibility Study itself that was published in English and Russian languages is an analytical paper to comprise and synthesize the results of a needs assessment and socio-economic analyses and other background documents prepared based on research done in the area and interviews with local stakeholders.



During the course of the project the following goals were achieved: (a) drafting of the legal documents (statutes and bylaws) of the Dniester/Nistru Euroregion b) a study tour for local stakeholders in the Carpathian Euroregion was organized to learn firsthand about the functioning of a euroregion and best practices; (c) two workshops on initial presentation of the draft and executive summary of Feasibility Study to key actors such as local and national stakeholders as well as interested international organizations - including potential donors - where the Dniester/Nistru Euroregion officially could be launched and the stakeholders could sign the founding documents.

Once officially established, with the appropriate legal framework, consistent financial support, outside professional experience and the willingness to lobby for key changes, a Dniester-Nistru Euroregion can start to create a momentum for change that can serve the region positively and possibly model an alternative solution to protracted regional conflicts in and outside the EU.

STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY OF BELARUSIAN WOMEN'S MOVEMENTS AND ORGANIZATIONS

October 2007 to July 2008

The Belarus Women's Project transferred to Belarusian women first-hand experience gained in the building of women's movements under authoritarian regimes throughout Central and Eastern Europe. The main objectives were to educate and train the

participants in areas such as project management, communication, and fundraising, as well as to facilitate networking and enable them to better promote women's rights. During project implementation the participants developed their own project proposals and the ICDT helped them to find funding opportunities. The ICDT also provided consulting and assistance in refining and improving the proposals. As a result, one participant will supervise the extension of the Global Media Monitoring Project (GMMP) to Belarus. In 2010 the GMMP surveyed for the first time how the media portray gender stereotypes and whether the genders are treated equally in Belarus. Two other project participants are set to receive funding for their initiative group aimed at local community building in an outlying district of Minsk. In addition, one Belarusian women's organization will receive funding for a women's rights conference to be held in Poland. An additional output of this project was the publication of the book 'Democratic Change and Gender: The Foremother Exercise.'

STRENGTHENING CIVIL SOCIETY IN BELARUS BY TRAINING AND EDUCATION

January 2007 – June 2007

The ICDT transferred first-hand experience gained in the building of civil societies under authoritarian regimes throughout Central and Eastern Europe to Belarusian civil society leaders. Additionally, a network between Belarusian NGOs was facilitated to enable them to work together in promoting civil society.





**DIPLOMACY AND GOOD GOVERNANCE:
TRAINING OF NORTH KOREAN DIPLOMATS**

June 2008

At the request of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Hungary, the ICDT implemented a one month-long professional training program for diplomats of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The topics covered included: international relations, diplomacy, modern international routine, good governance, civil society, a history of Central Eastern Europe from the 1980s, and experiences and lessons learned.

**STRENGTHENING RULE OF LAW INSTITUTIONS
IN MOLDOVA: THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT
AND THE OMBUDSMAN SERVICE**

July 2008 to May 2009

The objective of this project was to help Moldova to reform two of the most important institutions of democracy: the Constitutional Court and the Ombudsman Service, so as to improve local and international visibility, accountability, and transparency. The ICDT believes that the reforms improved the overall effectiveness of the two bodies, enabling them to assist citizens in the fight against maladministration; and strengthening the protection of the fundamental constitutional and human rights. In the first phase of the project, the ICDT has sent an expert mission to Moldova to identify and engage

the key stakeholders, to study the functioning of the existing institutions, and to analyze the current legal environment. Subsequently, Moldovan and international experts created a new concept and framework for the two institutions. In the second phase of the project, the Constitutional Court and the Ombudsman Service will be restructured according to the findings and recommendations of the experts.



CENTRAL ELECTION COMMISSION OF ALBANIA

September 2008 to May 2009

In this project, the ICDT assisted the Albanian government in the formation of the institutional background of the new electoral system. In cooperation with the Hungarian National Election Office the ICDT prepared an interactive distance learning program for the members of the Albanian Electoral

Commission. The program is based on the new legal background in Albania and summarizes the experiences from the successful and effective Hungarian Distance Learning System. With this project the ICDT aimed to ensure the background for the officials to prepare for the elections in Albania in June 2009. The ICDT plans to use this project as master project for a series of projects in other countries, which will face similar challenges in the upcoming years.

TRAINING OF YOUNG MOLDOVAN POLITICIANS

October 2008 – December 2008

With regard to Moldova's 2009 elections, the project focused mainly on the election process and the functioning of the democratic institutional system. Young Moldovan politicians learned how to build, run, and use a political party in practice. In addition, the party representatives were provided with the know-how successful transition countries like Hungary have acquired in the organizing and functioning of democratic political parties, and received preparation for significant participation in the political life of Moldova. The participants met with representatives of Hungarian political parties, political analysts, campaign groups, and experts in the field of political management. The experts, many of whom were involved in the first democratic elections in the region 20 years ago, shared their experience and gave advice on how to choose the best model for Moldova. Part of the training also included a site visit to the Hungarian municipality of Eger, where the participants learned how parties work in a local government.

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVING THE
MINORITY COMMUNITIES SITUATION IN
KOSOVO**

November 2008 – September 2009

Based on interviews with community representatives in the municipalities of Peja/Pec, Prizren, and Strpche/Strepche, the ICDT developed recommendations for increased cooperation between minority communities in Kosovo. The paper entitled "Proposals to Improve the Situation of Minority Communities in Kosovo" suggests changes regarding regulations and legislation on the minority rights in Kosovo, analyzes the situation of ethnic groups in different municipalities, and addresses the main challenges as well as possibilities for improvement of relations between community groups. In September 2009, the ICDT presented the content of the paper in Kosovo that was also be presented in Brussels. The project led to new project proposals, including the concept for the follow-up project "Enhancing Minority Integration through Improved Implementation of the Law on the Use of Languages in Kosovo.."

**ENHANCING SUSTAINABLE LOCAL AND RURAL
DEVELOPMENT IN THE SAP COUNTRIES BY
INTRODUCING THE 'LEADER' EXPERIENCE**

March 2008 to September 2009

In this project the ICDT transferred Hungarian and European experiences and best practices associated with LEADER, a European Community initiative for assisting rural communities in improving their qual-



ity of life, to the countries in the EU's Stabilization and Association Process (SAP). After several training sessions, participants prepared their own Local Action Plans for potential LEADER pilot areas in their countries using the Handbook on the LEADER approach, which was provided by the ICDT in Serbian. The identified opportunities for the areas in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, and Kosovo included, among others, the use of natural resources, regional, national, international and cross-border cooperation, production and processing of organic food, expansion of tourism, and the development of (agricultural) infrastructure. As a follow-up, the ICDT has supported the implementation of a number of training workshops in partnership with national governments, including Serbia and Macedonia, and the UNDP and organized a study tour in September 2009 with members of the Serbian national rural development network entitled "Strengthening the Capacity of Local Communities in the Management of Area-Based Rural Development Based on the Hungarian Experience." In presenting the Hungarian experience on adopting LEADER, special emphasis was laid on showing examples of cross border activities to promote similar projects between Hungary and Serbia.

SUPPORTING CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

November 2008 – September 2009

In this project the goal of the ICDT was to help facilitate the constitutional reform process by examining possible institutional and legal solutions. At a round-table discussion in Sarajevo in December 2008 local and international experts discussed how to build and drive a constitutional reform process that involves all major stakeholders, but also avoids the pitfalls that led to the failure of previous reform attempts. The event attracted significant attention and involvement in both the national and the international community. At a second meeting, the ICDT planned to analyze potentially applicable international models on federal structures and lessons learned of European integration by new member states from a constitutional point of view. At the same time, the ICDT sought to target and involve parliamentarians in the discussions. As result of the project, specific recommendations were developed with regard to shaping a new constitution and a framework outlined for future action.



PROVIDING SUPPORT AND TRAINING FOR AFGHAN POLITICIANS AND ELECTION OFFICIALS

January 2009 – April 2010

This project aimed to prepare four electoral experts and 14 politicians of the Baghlan Province for the elections in Afghanistan. The two training sessions in Budapest included field trips, lectures by Hungarian and international experts, and meetings with Hungarian politicians and high-ranking civil servants. The goal was to prepare qualified election officials who are ready to transfer and put the acquired knowledge and lessons learned into practice, and take the necessary steps to build a political community, including political parties and factions. The project was being implemented in cooperation with the Association of European Election Officials (ACEEEO) and the Foundation for Afghanistan.



ADVANCED RESEARCH WORKSHOP ON HUMAN SECURITY IN THE WESTERN BALKANS

April 2009 – June 2009

An advanced 3-days research workshop in Skopje in May brought together 15 experts and 30 practitioners from the Western Balkans and V4 countries to examine the perceptions on human security challenges in the region and to formulate ways to overcome them. The participants examined well-proven institutional models and ways to adopt them with focus on the promotion of regional civil society cooperation. In addition, they studied how NATO and EU engagement policies in Southeast Europe can be synchronized to catalyze the stabilization and integration of the region.

TRAINING MOLDOVAN POLITICIANS AND EXPERTS IN SECURITY POLICY

August 2009 – January 2010

This project aimed to provide young Moldovan politicians and experts with fundamental knowledge, a tailored toolkit, and an overview of the NATO coun-



STUDY TOUR OF HUNGARIAN MEDICAL SYSTEM FOR NORTH KOREAN DOCTORS

February 2009 – March 2009

The ICDT sought to encourage North Korea in a multi-phase process for a gradual opening towards foreign countries by sharing Hungarian experience with North Koreans representing various professional fields. This project focused on transferring theoretical and practical knowledge on modern medical technologies and methods, as well as on discussing the development of the Hungarian health care system from the 1980s to the current system.

tries' best practices, so as to create a military strategy based on the security concept approved by the Moldovan Parliament on May 8, 2008. The training concentrated on skills and activities needed for close cooperation between NGOs, international organizations, and politicians during the drafting period of the strategy. The ICDT's toolkit contains a communications strategy and a "Plan for Public Debates." The ultimate goal was to convince the young politicians and NGO leaders that Moldova can participate in peacekeeping and conflict prevention missions and stay neutral at the same time.



SUMMER SEMINAR FOR YOUNG LEADERS OF THE WESTERN BALKANS

March 2010 – October 2010

The adherence of the Visegrad countries to the European Union has been helped by their partnership because the difficulties emerged within the countries were alike in a number of cases, and solutions could be found easier by trying to work together. With this project, the ICDT aimed at identifying a common agenda for the participating parties in the first place. The European integration is not going to be the only topic in the seminar. The courses showed the participants how interregional cooperation contributes to the successful process on the path of joining the EU integration. The ICDT believes that by bringing together talented young students from Kosovo, Macedonia and Serbia we can contribute to the development of the region. By introducing them the effectiveness of regional cooperation – through the examples of Central and Eastern European cooperation models – and the cooperation of the these countries during the EU integration, we can share how cooperation is possible despite of political disputes among the parties.

PREPARING LEADERS AND EXPERTS OF THE WESTERN BALKANS FOR NEW CHALLENGES IN INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

November 2010

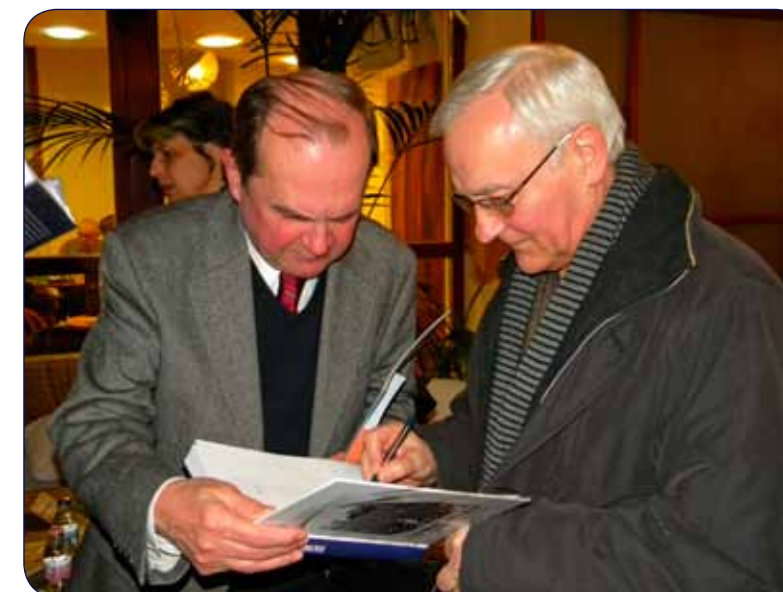
The project aimed to assist regional leaders in analyzing and preparing their countries for the security challenges of the next few decades. ICDT introduced innovative tools and strategies, and prepared them to be able to demonstrate high quality needs assessment in these questions. In line with its mission the ICDT is committed to promote interregional cooperation, and political dialogue on the security of the region. In accordance with the above mentioned principles the goal was to create an active debate about the threats which both the region and individual countries would likely face. ICDT had the intention to analyze the nature of these threats and provide alternative solutions to reduce them based on our extensive experiences in shaping the security policy of the governments of the Western Balkans. The program included both civilian and military stakeholders to help fostering the continuous exchange of views between the public, private and non-profit sector, as well as among practitioners and academics.



ORAL HISTORY

December 2005 – February 2011

The first phase of the “Oral History” project, from December 2005 to February 2007, aimed at examining democratic transition in Hungary and the CEE region through more than 60 video interviews with prominent figures of international politics. It has later evolved to become a several-year long major programme of the ICDT and a second phase was launched in November 2008. In this next stage, more than 30 additional interviews have been conducted, two-thirds of which were recorded with Hungarian figures, while a dozen sessions were scored with foreign politicians of the time, from countries including the (then) United States, East and West Germany, Poland, Austria, Czechoslovakia and Romania. Based on the these discussions, a series of publication is to be released, including two Hungarian volumes, one collecting Hungarian interviews and another one gathering mostly non-Hungarian reports, and a detailed study in English, summarizing the conclusions and the lessons learned. Furthermore, three major events have been held within the framework of the project. A large-scale international conference commemorated the 20th anniversary of the CEE countries’ democratic transition in March 2009. Another conference celebrated the 20th jubilee of the Pan-European Picnic and the border breakthrough in Sopron in August 2009, while the annual conference of the ICDT in October 2009 examined civil society in the CEE region 20 years after the transition.



TASK FORCE ON US FOREIGN POLICY TOWARDS CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

May 2009 – July 2009

The Task Force was composed of experts and former ministers from the region, namely: Ivan Krastev (Bulgaria), Adam Daniel Rotfeld (Poland), Kadri Liik (Estonia), Pavol Demes (Slovakia), Aleksandr Vondra (Czech Republic), Ronald Asmus (US), and Istvan Gyarmati (Hungary). The group met three times in different European cities (Budapest, Warsaw and Brussels) to discuss the topic and to edit the text of the policy brief. The positive feedback moved the group to reedit the text as “An Open Letter to the Obama Administration from Central and Eastern Europe”. Signatories included Valdas Adamkus, Martin Butora, Emil Constantinescu, Pavol Demes, Lubos Dobrovsky, Matyas Eorsi, Istvan Gyarmati, Vaclav Havel, Geza Jeszenszky, Rastislav Kacer, Sandra Kalniete, Karel Schwarzenberg, Michal Kovac, Ivan Krastev, Aleksander Kwasniewski, Mart Laar, Kadri Liik, Janos Martonyi, Janusz Onyszkiewicz, Adam Rotfeld, Vaira Vike-Freiberga, Alexandr Vondra, and Lech Walesa. The Open Letter was dominantly positively received on the other side of the Atlantic and provoked an unexpected media debate over the issue of the US-European relations.

ANNUS MIRABILIS: COMMEMORATING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRANSITIONS IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

January 2009 – October 2009

Central and Eastern Europe was celebrating the 20th anniversary of its countries’ transitions in 2009. This project aimed to analyze the political, historical, and social background of the late 1980s, to assess and synthesize the essence of the peaceful transitions of Central and Eastern Europe, and to commemorate the events of the exceptional year 1989. Throughout 2009, the Centre collected (and continues to collect) the experience and personal memories of key figures of the transitions and events in the late 1980s. Two of the main events, the ‘1989 - The Year of Change’ conference in March and the Pan-European Picnic in August are described in greater detail in the events section of this brochure.



EVENTS

1956 AND HUNGARY: THE MEMORY OF EYEWITNESSES – IN SEARCH OF FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY

September 2006

To commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Hungarian Uprising of 1956, the Embassies of Australia, Canada, France, Italy, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United States of America, as well as the ICDT, the Regional Offices of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and the International Committee of the Red Cross, organized an international conference in Budapest in September 2006. The conference reviewed 1956 Revolution, its effects and its aftermath, as well as its influence on the transition process, which began in 1989. An exhibition displayed contributions from all partners, and included books, documents, and several hundred contemporary photos.

20 YEARS AFTER PERESTROIKA

September 2006

To assess the results of the transition process of Eastern Europe, ICDT co-organized a two day event by the abovementioned title with the participation of over 200 people in Primošten, Croatia in September 2006. The conference discussed Perestroika, a process recognized as the stimulus for the transition of the Soviet bloc, and its long-lasting effects on the region. Speakers were Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, former President of the Soviet Union; Stepan Mesic, President of Croatia; Roland Dumas, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of France; Emil Constantinescu, former President of Belarus; Janusz Onyszkiewicz, Vice President of the European Parliament; and János Martonyi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Hungary.



THE EU AND ITS POLICY TOWARDS BELARUS

September 2006

This policy paper presentation and discussion in September 2006 drew attention to the issue of democratization in Belarus and discussed what the European Union and its new member states (with Hungary among them) can do to promote democratization in Belarus. Speakers included Luboš Vesely, Director of Research Centre, Association for International Affairs (AMO); Grzegorz Gromadzki, Analyst, Batory Foundation; and Mátyás Eörsi, Chairman of the European Affairs Committee of the Parliament of Hungary.

ANNUS MIRABILIS – 1989, HUNGARY, THE YEAR THAT ACCOMPLISHED WHAT 1956 STARTED EXHIBITION

October 2006

The ICDT, with the support of the Mission of the Republic of Hungary to the United Nations and the Hungarian News Agency presented its photo collection by the abovementioned title at the UN Headquarters. Most of the photos were from private

collections and published for the first time ever. „Annus Mirabilis” captured the different ways in which 1989 and 1956 intermingled, producing a simultaneous sense of both creation and reification of history. Images, an accompanying text, as well as a movie, highlighted the peaceful nature and the indigenous character of the Hungarian transition. The exhibition demonstrated ICDT’s commitment to promoting democracy and freedom all over the world.

DEMOCRATIC TRANSITIONS: LESSONS LEARNED FOR DEMOCRACY ASSISTANCE

April 2007

In April 2007, ICDT and the UN Democracy Fund organized an experts’ meeting on „The Experience of Democratic Transitions” in Budapest. At the two-day event models and examples of successful transitions and outside assistance were reviewed. Amongst the speakers were Magdy Martinez-Soliman, Executive Head a.i., United Nations Democracy Fund; José Miguel Insulza, OAS Secretary General; and Vidar Helgesen, Secretary General of IDEA. At the same time, ICDT and the UN Democracy Fund signed a Partnership Agreement.



DEMOCRACY AND SECURITY – WHICH ONE FIRST? SECURITY RISKS IN THE PROCESS OF DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

May 2007

In partnership with the Helsinki Process on Globalization and Democracy and with the support of the Finnish Embassy in Budapest and the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, the roundtable illustrated ways to provide security and democracy in transitional democracies by comparing experiences of the transitions in Central and Eastern Europe and the Middle East. The resulting policy recommendations served as the basis for a future Road Map in the framework of the Helsinki Process. Speakers included H.E. Giorgi Baramidze, Vice Prime Minister and State Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration, Georgia; Ambassador Kai Eide, Former Special Envoy to Kosovo of the UN Secretary General, and Dr. Andrew Dolan, Senior Associate Fellow, UK Defence Academy, Edinburgh.

DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION IN HUNGARY: LESSONS LEARNED FOR CUBA

June 2007

In cooperation with the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and with the Directorio Democrático Cubano, ICDT hosted a delegation of eleven emigrant Cuban pro-democracy activists in Budapest in June 2007. During their visit the Cuban emigrant opposition members, led by Orlando Gutierrez-Boronat, Secretary National of Directorio Democrático Cubano, learned about the negotiating nature of the Hungarian transition by meeting politicians and taking part in roundtable discussions. Among others, they met with Chairpersons of Hungarian parliamentary parties, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Parliament. They also discussed the experiences of the Hungarian transition with participants of the 1989-1990 roundtable negotiations and learned of their applicability to Cuba.

TRANSITIONS TO DEMOCRACY IN EASTERN EUROPE AND AFRICA: IMPLICATIONS FOR THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

October 2007

Under the sponsorship of the Kawakibi Democracy Transition Center, the ICDT, the American University Center for Democracy and Election Management, and the Council for a Community of Democracies, brought together scholars and democratic activists from around the world with leaders of democratic transitions in Eastern Europe and Africa, as well as with leading voices from the Middle East and North Africa seeking to advance democracy in their region. Together they explored the lessons of the democratic transitions in Eastern Europe and Africa.

FIRST ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE ICDT: THE CHANGING ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE CHANGING WORLD

November 2007

The ICDT firmly believes that the empowerment of women, the advancement of women’s rights, guaranteeing their equal access to political, economic, and other spheres of social life, should not be seen as merely a consequence of democratic transition, but as the foundation for the start and progress of the process of democratic transition itself. Therefore, the Centre dedicated its first Annual Conference to “The Changing Role of Women in The Changing World.” After the inauguration of the event by the Speaker of the National Assembly of Hungary, Dr. Katalin Szili, internationally renowned and distinguished women leaders from around the world discussed how women’s responsibility has changed in the last decade, in view of global issues. Case studies were shared on the roles women play in countries that are facing the challenges of political and socio-economic transition. Women leaders at the Conference included: the Chair of the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission, Dr. Sima Samar; the Secretary-General of the World Federation of United Nations Associations, Ms. Pera Wells; and the President of the Hungarian Democratic Forum Ibolya Dávid, among others.



MINORITIES IN AN EVER WIDER EUROPEAN UNION CONFERENCE

February 2008

Minorities in the 'countries in transition' in Central and Eastern Europe are discriminated against and marginalized because of the lack of legal provisions to protect them adequately, speakers agreed at a European Policy Centre Dialogue, held in cooperation with the King Baudouin Foundation and the ICDT in February 2008 in Brussels, Belgium. In the introductory part, Fabrice de Kerchove, Project Manager of the King Baudouin Foundation, explained the main findings and recommendations of the expert report Minorities in Transition in South, Central, and Eastern Europe prepared and published by the ICDT that provided the occasion for the event. The publication is the result of a research project on minorities in South, Central, and Eastern Europe, run by the ICDT with support from the King Baudouin Foundation, which aims to identify the role of minorities in transition processes as well as the policies, legal structures, and best practices to support minority rights in these diverse regions.

CUBA SOLIDARITY DAY

May 2008

On the occasion of the first global "Day of Solidarity with the Cuban People" on May 21, 2008, the ICDT expressed its solidarity with the quest for democracy in Cuba and so informed the public by organizing a press conference. Chair of the ICDT Foundation Council Dr. Iván Vitányi, and Co-Chair of the ICDT Foundation Council Dr. István Stumpf, called not only upon the Government of Cuba to release all political prisoners and to establish democratic institutions in the country, but also drew attention to the positive developments which had been achieved in Cuba since Raul Castro assumed the presidency. Finally, they declared the Centre's readiness to support the process of providing information on the transition experience of the Central and Eastern European countries to those in Cuba who want it.

UKRAINE IN FOCUS SEMINAR

September 2008

In co-operation with the Open Ukraine Foundation and the Central European University, the The ICDT held a "Ukraine in Focus Seminar" in Budapest. Ukrainian and Hungarian politicians, experts, and

diplomats analyzed the most important political and security challenges Ukraine is currently facing. In the first panel, reviewing Ukraine's perspectives regarding the European Union, speakers assessed the criteria system the EU applied to candidates in its former enlargements and applied those criteria to Ukraine's current political and economic situation. They also urged the EU to set a clear and definite criteria system for Ukraine's integration. In the second panel, dealing with the role of Ukraine in the wider European security architecture, conference participants reviewed how the divided political elite and public opinion impacted on Ukraine-NATO relations. All speakers agreed that, after the events of August 2008 in Georgia, a strategic partnership with Ukraine is even more important than ever before, and all welcomed the European Union's Eastern Europe Policy, recognizing Ukraine's key mediation role in European Union-Russian Federation relations.

SECOND ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE ICDT: "GLOBALIZATION AND DEMOCRACY"

November 2008

Dr. Imre Szekeres, Minister of Defense of Hungary, inaugurated the ICDT's Second Annual Conference on "Globalization and Democracy," co-organized by the Centre for EuroAtlantic Integration and Democracy (CEID), in the Corinthia Grand Hotel Royal on Monday, November 10, 2008. Afterwards, internationally renowned and distinguished leaders and experts presented and held open discussions on the influence of globalization on security, society, economy, and democratic transitions. These leaders and experts included, among others, Ricardo Lagos, former President of the Republic of Chile; Dr. Sima Samar, Chair of the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission; Dr. MS Gill; Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports of the Republic of India; Governor George E. Pataki, Co-Chairman of the Council on Foreign Relations Independent Task Force on Climate Change Issues; David J. Kramer, Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor; Alyson Bailes, former Director of the Stockholm International Peace

Research Institute; Dr. Andrei Illarionov, Director of the Institute of Economic Analysis in Moscow; LT Gen. László Tömböl, Commander of the Hungarian Joint Forces; and Robert Benjamin, Senior Associate and Regional Director of Central and Eastern Europe Programs at NDI.

ANNUS MIRABILIS: 1989 – THE YEAR OF CHANGE

March 2009

Nine Budapest-based embassies and the ICDT commemorated the 20th anniversary of the CEE countries' transition to democracy on March 5, 2009 with the international conference entitled "1989 – The Year of Change." Prominent figures of the 1989



PARLIAMENTARY FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE HELD SESSION AT THE ICDT

March 2009

In an historic first, the Hungarian Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee did not hold its session in the Parliament itself, but at a different Budapest-based venue: the ICDT. As hosts of the March 24, 2009 session ICDT's President and CEO, István Gyarmati, and Vice President, Tamás Magyarics, presented a report on US foreign policy and relations with Hungary. "Hungary-US relations are not at all excellent these days and the next government will not be able to change the situation," stated Dr. Gyarmati at the committee's meeting. Gyarmati cited as the most apparent problems Hungary's hesitation toward the Nabucco gas pipeline project and what he termed a too strong friendship with Russia. Dr. Magyarics urged closer cooperation between the prime minister's office and the foreign and the defense ministries, so as to create a more effective policy towards the United States. Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Zsolt Nemeth said that the European Union was no longer the focus of the new US administration's foreign policy, whereas transatlantic relations were a priority in the Union's common foreign and security policy. The session concluded with a lively conversation on the ICDT projects and project proposals, as well as an exchange of views regarding American foreign policy.

ANNUS MIRABILIS: PAN-EUROPEAN PICNIC IN SOPRON

August 2009

On August 17-19, 2009 the municipal administration of Sopron celebrated, in cooperation with the ICDT, the Centre for Euro-Atlantic Integration and Democracy and others, the 20th Anniversary of the Pan-European Picnic and the border breakthrough that took place in Sopron in 1989. The ICDT contributed to the "Conference of Historians," on August 17, by holding a "Round Table Discussion with Leaders of the System Change." In the discussion, Iván Bába, István Hegedűs, Csaba Kiss, Imre Mécs, and Zsolt Németh described the complexity of the 1989 events and shared their personal experience with the audience. Thanks to the interaction of the participants the round table offered an outstanding approach and was a great as-



events – even though they stood on different sides of the Iron Curtain – all agreed on one fundamental point: the collapse of the Soviet Union was not a result of the actions of politicians, but was due to the optimism of, and pressures from, society. The speakers recalled their positive as well negative memories and encouraged a common European History of Freedom. While the first panel focused on the circumstances of 1989 and how the transition unfolded, the second panel offered a view from Western countries like France, Italy, and the United Kingdom. In the third panel – addressing issues related to interaction between states during the course of 1989 – foreign and Hungarian diplomats described how they saw the events from Budapest and from other European capitals. The last panel was dedicated to an analysis of states' internal policies, from the perspective of distinguished historians.

set to the overall event. One of the event's highlights was a video message from former U.S. President, George H. W. Bush, recalling his personal memories of the summer of 1989. Furthermore, a "Memorial Conference" commemorated 1989 with speeches of witnesses and protagonists and discussed the results of the Pan-European Picnic and Hungary's special role in the events at the border. In addition, a "Jubilee Celebration" was held on August 19 with guests of honor Dr. László Sólyom, President of the Hungarian Republic, and Angela Merkel, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany. Other noted guests of the event included ICDT invitees Alexander Kozulin, former Leader of the Belarusian Social Democratic Party; Andrej Sannikov, former Deputy Foreign Minister of Belarus; as well as the Swedish Minister of Foreign Affairs, Carl Bildt, and Pavol Demes, the Director of the Bratislava Office of the German Marshall Fund of the United States.

EUROPEAN TRANSITION COMPENDIUM INITIATIVE ROUNDTABLE

September 2009

On September 24, 2009, the ICDT organized, in cooperation with the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a roundtable discussion on the experience of political and institutional reforms in Hungary during the period of democratic transition. Guest of honor was the chief consultant of the EU's European Transition Compendium (ETC) project, Adolfo Sanchez, who headed up a multi-disciplinary panel of experts in his work to compile and summarize

the transition experience and best practices of new Member States –on this occasion with special emphasis on Hungary.

The ETC project aims to create a compendium of knowledge and expertise based on the common democratic tradition and the transition experience of the EU-12. The compendium will become an important tool in EU development policy by sharing this knowledge and expertise with developing countries. The ICDT welcomes the ETC initiative and is looking forward to working with the European Union, its Member States, and other NGOs to realize the compendium.

CHANGING THE ODDS BEYOND BORDERS CONFERENCE ON ADAPTING THE HARLEM CHILDREN'S ZONE PROGRAM TO FOSTER THE INTEGRATION OF THE ROMA IN HUNGARY

June 2010

The Hungarian Embassy in Washington, in cooperation with the Woodrow Wilson Centre and SAIS, supported by the ICDT, organized a conference to discuss if and how the Harlem Children's Zone program could be used as one example to foster the integration of the Roma in Hungary. The conference was attended by the representative of the Hungarian Government, Special Envoy of the State Secretary for Social Inclusion Rita Izsák. U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Mr. George Soros and European Parliament Special Rapporteur on Roma Issues, Hungarian MEP Livia Járóka welcomed the conference via video message.

ICDT POPULARIZING THE WESTERN BALKANS AT THE SZIGET FESTIVAL

August 2010

The International Centre for Democratic Transition (ICDT) in cooperation with the Corvinus Society for Foreign Affairs and Culture (CKKE) took part in a one week-long event, titled the Sziget Festival, Hungary's largest music and cultural festival held on the Óbudai-Island in Budapest between 9 and 15 August 2010. The ICDT and its partner NGO shared the common goal to introduce and popularize the region of the Western Balkans with a special focus on the Republic of Kosovo. Along many other events the organized programmes included several discussions with experts on the region, as well as with foreign and Hungarian diplomats.



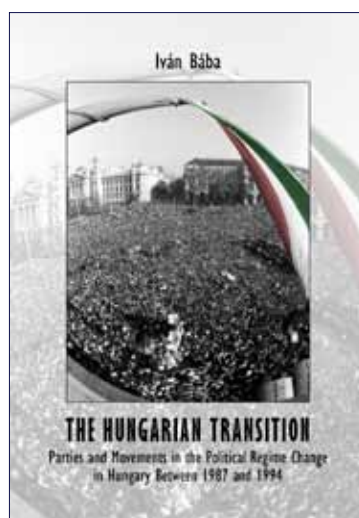
PUBLICATIONS

ICDT PAPERS NO.1 – MINORITIES IN TRANSITION IN SOUTH, CENTRAL, AND EASTERN EUROPE

The content of the ICDT Papers series is based on the lessons learned from the ICDT projects implemented in countries undergoing democratic transition. The series summarize the input of civil society leaders, politicians and scholars. Its primary focus is to draw concrete lessons from the transitions and to offer policy recommendations for the future. The ICDT Papers are disseminated to policy makers all over the world. The report Minorities in Transition in South, Central, and Eastern Europe is the outcome of the Minorities in Transition project, which aimed to identify the role of minorities in transition processes as well as the policies, legal structures and best practices to support minority rights in South, Central and Eastern Europe.

DEMOCRATIC CHANGE AND GENDER: THE 'THE FOREMOTHER EXERCISE'

The publication analyzes democratic changes using the methodology of oral history, applied to research in the life of a female ancestor. The introduction by Andrea Pető, Professor at the Central European University of Budapest, and Berteke Waaldijk, leader of the ATHENA3 network, describes how the foremother experience contributes to the expansion of democratic thinking, as well as the theoretical study on the methodology of research. The comments by the authors complement the seven essays written by the project participants about their personal foremothers. The publication also contains a photo-essay on the foremother installation prepared by the participants, a short description of the project, and welcoming words by Sonja Licht, Chair of the ICDT's Executive Committee, that express the ICDT's commitment for support of women's movements in transitional countries.



FELGYORSULT TÖRTÉNELEM – 18 BESZÉLGETÉS A SZOCIALIZMUS BUKÁSÁRÓL (ACCELERATED HISTORY – 25 INTERVIEWS ABOUT THE REGIME CHANGE IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE)

This publication, launched in February 2010, is the first volume of a book series on the democratic transition of CEE, published within the framework of the second phase of project Oral History. In this book, editor Bába Iván collected and arranged 18 interviews

with prominent Hungarian personalities of the transition, presenting their personal experiences and memories of the era, and thus introducing the reader to the "subjective" side of the events. This can, on one hand, enrich our understanding of this exceptional period of history and, at the same time, serve as a lesson for other evolving democracies.

A EUROPEAN ALTERNATIVE FOR BELARUS – REPORT OF THE BELARUS TASK FORCE

Belarus Task Force is a group of intellectuals, political leaders, experts, and researchers, who analyzed the political situation in Belarus. The Task Force's recommendations for action by the international community towards Belarus were published in the report A European Alternative for Belarus - Report of the Belarus Task Force of the ICDT in October 2008 in English, Russian, and Belarusian. The report has been introduced, discussed, and raised awareness in Berlin, Brussels, Helsinki, Oslo, Stockholm, Warsaw, Washington, and Vilnius. Written under the lead of the former President of Poland and member of the ICDT's International Board, Alexander Kwasniewski, the report received a great deal of attention in both the EU and Belarus and has also come to be known as the 'Kwasniewski Plan.' Since the publication of the report, the European Union has largely been following its recommendations in its policy towards Belarus. While the report's most important provisions are being translated into EU policy, particularly with regard to an engagement and rapprochement policy with Belarus, some important recommendations remain unaddressed, most notably the recommendation to decrease Schengen visa fees for Belarusians, following the example of Russians, Ukrainians or Serbians.

THE HUNGARIAN TRANSITION

This publication, to be launched in early 2011, is the second volume of a book series on the democratic transition of CEE, published within the framework of the project Oral History II. In this book, published in English, author Iván Bába summarizes the conclusions of the "Oral History" interviews and draws lessons learned for countries which are in a similar transitional period now. This volume is designed specifically – but not exclusively – for the non-Hungarian audience, and presents the birth and evolution of the social movements, organizations and political parties that played significant role in Hungary's peaceful democratic transition in a way that enables those that are not familiar with Hungarian internal affairs to understand the whole process.

ELBESZÉLT TÖRTÉNELEM – HUSZONÖTEN A KÖZÉP-KELET-EURÓPAI DEMOKRATIKUS ÁTMENETRŐL (ORAL HISTORY – TWENTYFIVE INTERVIEWS ABOUT THE DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE)

This publication, to be launched in early 2011, is the third volume of a book series on the democratic transition of CEE, published within the framework of the project Oral History. In this book, editor András Heltai collected and arranged 25 interviews with prominent Hungarian and non-Hungarian personalities of the transition, presenting their personal experiences and memories of the era, and thus introducing the reader to the international environment of the transition and Hungary's outstanding foreign policy between 1987 and 1992. Among the interviewees of the volume there are a number of leading political figures of the time, from countries including the (then) United States, East and West Germany, Poland, Austria, Czechoslovakia and Romania.

PROJECT PREPARATORY STUDY ANALYZING THE VISEGRAD EXPERIENCE

This in-depth study serves to lay the conceptual and intellectual groundwork for the project "Sharing the Visegrad Experience in the Western Balkans and the Eastern Neighbourhood Countries". Regarding its structure, it analyzes the Visegrad experience in six units: after a substantive introduction,

four chapters follow as the main body of the study, with a sturdy conclusion. Each unit contains also a brief analysis of the applicability of the particular segment of Visegrad experience. The introduction outlines Visegrad history. Chapter One focuses on presenting the structure of intergovernmental cooperation and Visegrad cooperation's role in regional security. In Chapter Two delves into how the Visegrad Group has fared within the EU while the economic aspects of Visegrad are analyzed in Chapter Three. The themes of civil society and cross border cooperation consume Chapter Four. Finally, in the Conclusion an elaborate analysis of the successes and lessons learned of Visegrad cooperation is presented with special regard to the applicability of these experiences.

SUMMARIZING STUDY: EUROPEAN INTEGRATION OF THE WESTERN BALKANS AND THE HUNGARIAN PRESIDENCY – THE WAY BEHIND AND AHEAD

This study summarizes the findings of the lectures and discussions of the conference „EU Integration of the Western Balkans and the Hungarian EU Presidency”, held on 11 November, 2010. It presents the current state of the EU accession process of each of the Western Balkan countries, evaluating past developments and possible future prospects. Prepared as a background material for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Hungary, with the aim of supporting political decision making with regards to the Hungarian EU Presidency, it also serves as a comprehensive overview for all those interested in the recent EU enlargement process of the Western Balkan region.

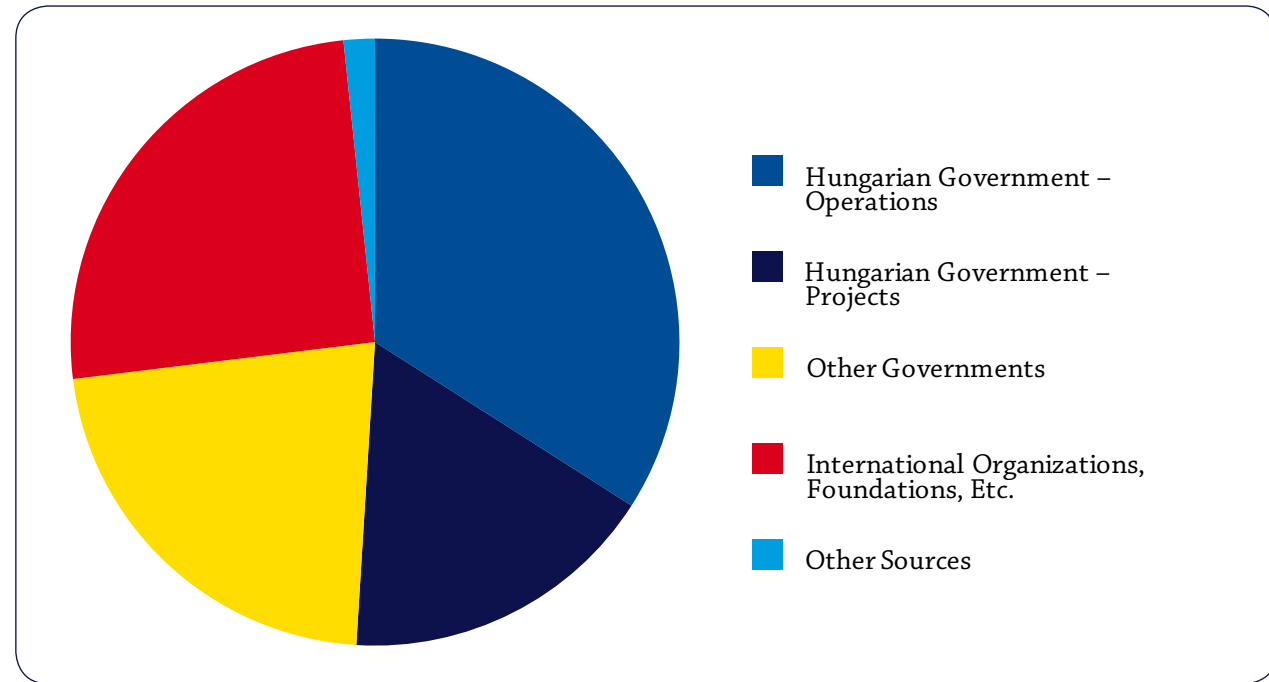
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE FEASIBILITY STUDY ON THE CREATION OF DNIESTER/NISTRU EUROREGION

The Feasibility Study is an analytical paper which comprises and synthesizes the results of a needs assessment and socio-economic analyses and other background documents prepared based on research done in the area and interviews with local stakeholders. It describes and proposes programmatic activity and the legal background as well as the potential organizational structure of the Dniester/Nistru Euroregion as a "road map". This publication is bilingual summary (English/Russian) of the actual Feasibility Study.

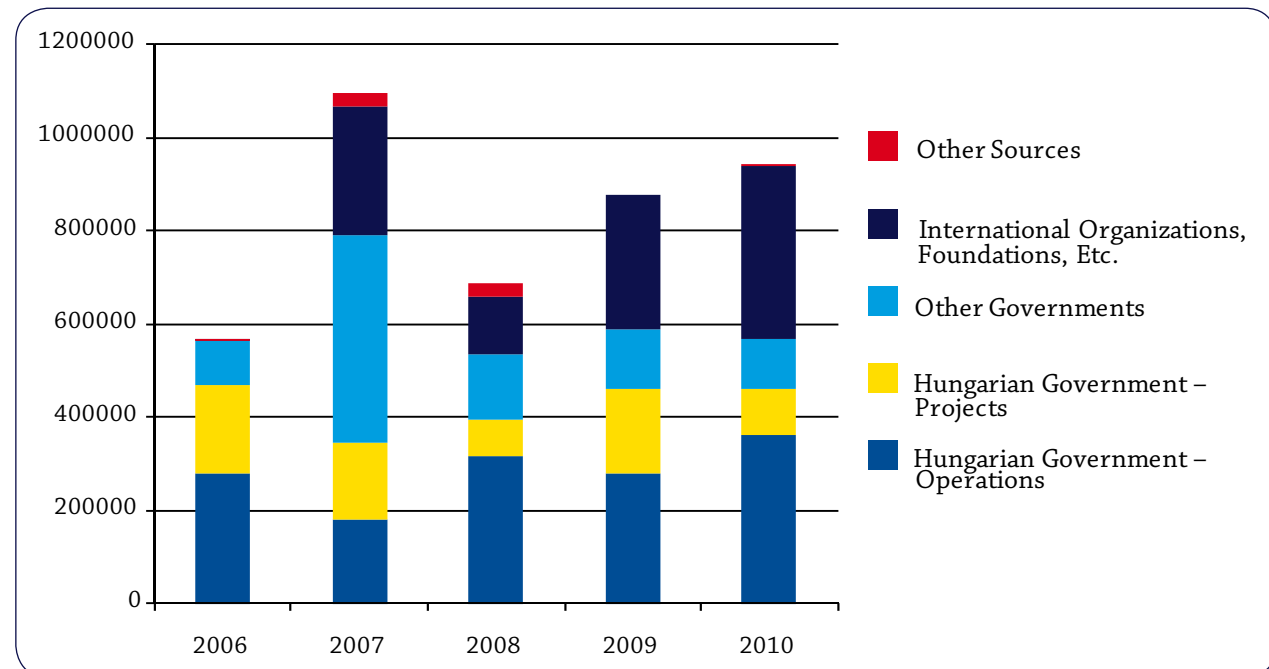
FINANCIAL SOURCES AND USES OF FUNDING

During its five years of existence the ICDT has been successful in raising EUR 4,2 million. Approximately 34% of this amount came from the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to help operational financing. Its current contributors are the Governments of Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Sweden, and Switzerland, the EEA - Norwegian Financial Mechanism, the European Fund for the Balkans, the Helen Bader Foundation, the Hungarian National Cultural Fund, the International Visegrad Fund, NATO PPD, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, and UNDP.

TOTAL INCOME BY YEAR 2006-2010



DONATION STRUCTURE 2006-2010



LIST OF OUR DONORS BETWEEN 2006-2010:

 CENTRAL EUROPEAN INITIATIVE  COUNCIL OF EUROPE	  GOVERNMENT OF LUXEMBOURG   GOVERNMENT OF NORWAY	 HUNGARIAN NATIONAL CULTURAL FUND  INTERNATIONAL VISEGRAD FUND
 EEA - NORWEGIAN FINANCIAL MECHANISM  EUROPEAN FUND FOR THE BALKANS	  GOVERNMENT OF ROMANIA   GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH-KOREA	 KING BAUDOIN FOUNDATION  NATO PPD
 STRENGTHENING TRANSATLANTIC COOPERATION GERMAN MARSHALL FUND   GOVERNMENT OF CANADA	  GOVERNMENT OF SWEDEN   GOVERNMENT OF SWITZERLAND	 OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE  ROCKEFELLER BROTHERS FUND
  GOVERNMENT OF ESTONIA   GOVERNMENT OF FINLAND	  GOVERNMENT OF THE NETHERLANDS   GOVERNMENT OF THE USA	 UNDEF  UNDP
  GOVERNMENT OF ITALY  HELEN BADER FOUNDATION		

PERSONNEL

INTERNATIONAL BOARD

The International Board of Directors consists of prominent personalities from the areas of international politics, economics, the arts, and the sciences. Among other duties, this body approves the annual work plan and the strategy of the ICDDT and consults on the annual budget

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