

THE CONFERENCE OF THE CHAIRS OF PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW

The first Polish Conference of the Chairs of Public International Law was held in Karpacz, from 26th to 29th of September 1966. The Conference was attended by over 30 members of the Chairs of Public International Law from universities and the Higher School of Planning and Statistics. There was also present the representative of the Department of University and Economic Studies of the Ministry of Higher Education. The Conference was organised by the Chair of Public International Law of Wrocław University.

The topics of the Conference was on the curricular and also didactic problems. The following papers were read as the basis for discussion: *International Law in a New Curriculum*— by prof. dr. Alfons Klafkowski; *The Role of a Lecture and a Textbook* — by prof. dr. Cezary Berezowski; *Practice — its Role, Methods, and Materials* — by dr. Stanisław Nahlik; *Vor-diploma Seminary — its Organization, Methods, and Techniques* — by prof. dr. Remigiusz Bierzanek; *The M. A. Degree Work in Legal Education* — by prof.

dr. Stanisław Hubert; *Training of Young Jurists — Scientific Activity, Doctoral and Habilitation Dissertations*—by prof. dr. Kazimierz Libera; *Programme of Research and Information on Current Activity of the Chairs* — by prof. dr. Alfons Klafkowski.

In the lively discussion that followed there participated the experienced workers in the field of law as well as the representatives of younger generation of legal scholars. The considerable increase of the importance of knowledge of international law was pointed out, which is in close connection with ever greater participation of Poland in all fields of the international cooperation.

Further, the stress was laid on the fact that the specific nature of international law is often neglected by representatives of other branches of legal science. In effect, a number of hours for the international law was diminished in the new curriculum; moreover, this subject was not included in the curriculum of certain new courses that are in close connection with law.

The suggestion was made as to restore in the new curriculum of a full-time course of law the previous number of hours for practice, i.e., 60 and not 30 hours in an academic year, as a minimum time to make students acquainted with the said subject.

Lack of the appropriate materials indispensable for the didactic work in the field of public international law was also pointed out. The suggestion was made to issue the necessary aids in form of photocopies, and then — to publish a collection of materials prepared by members of different centres.

Problems of manpower training and preparation for didactic work were also discussed. The point was to find better forms of training than the existing ones. It was admitted that most desirable would be to establish closer contacts between the chairs of international law at different universities in order to get acquainted with different methods in didactic work and compare the obtained results. Such cooperation could be effected by granting fellowships at different chairs.

Another problem under discussion was too rigorous observation of the so called *pensum* of scientific workers. It would be desirable to lessen it and the suggestion was made that other activities such as doctoral seminars, repetitoria, and consultations be included in the *pensum*.

Final topic discussed was the problem of introducing or extending the public international law in curricula of courses related to law, e.g. Professional Administration Course. It was agreed as to the necessity to include certain elements of the international law in the curricula of political science programmes and let the chairs of the public international law contribute in formulating a curriculum and appointing teaching staff as regards the said subject as the mentioned course.

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¹ The report of the conferences held in 1966 and 1967 will appear in the next issue of the "Droit Polonais Contemporain."