

socio-political aspects connected with political background, electoral law, political parties and their programs, candidates, voting patterns, election campaigns and their outcomes, post-election scenarios, citizens' reflections, media influence, role of polls, etc. The research field is systematized according to the two cross-section criteria of state arrangements (federal or other) and economic reform. The project "Election Czechoslovakia 1992" is scheduled to be completed by the end of this year and the results published shortly afterwards.

Among the preliminary research now under way - which stems from the personal

political science interests of individual unit members, the studies of political élites in post-communist countries (including empirical surveys of the domestic scene), the study of the forms of participatory democracy, and introductory comparative studies of policy-making systems should be mentioned. These topics provide an initial choice for later, more comprehensive projects, conditioned by consistent information exchange and requires an inevitable strengthening of the unit's research staff.

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About the department

The department was founded in 1923 by professor I. A. Bláha, a disciple of Emile Durkheim, as a department of sociology with a strong orientation towards social problems. Closed in 1939 by then Nazis, it was reopened in 1945 by Bláha, closed in 1949 after the Communist coup d'état, reopened in 1964, closed in 1969 after the Russian invasion, and finally reopened again in 1973.

In 1990 the former Department of Sociology was enlarged, becoming the Department of Sociology, Social Policy and Social Work, and started to offer not only a M.A. degree in sociology (a five-year course) but also a B.A. in social work (a three-year course).

The department's reputation both for research and teaching is outstanding in Czechoslovakia. The research orientation follows a relatively long sociological tradition in Brno, started by the founder of the Sociology Department professor Bláha, whose stress on the necessity of field-work resulted in the "Brno Sociological School". The Department of Sociology, after its re-

establishment in 1964, set up a research unit, The Laboratory of Sociological Research, which conducts at least three social surveys annually. Some of the research topics are based on the demands of various institutions (local government, industry, cultural and health institutions), but the majority of them are conducted in the context of the research interests of the academic staff. Thus, topics researched recently include the areas of family sociology (Czech paths to marriage, non-marital cohabitation), the sociology of social change (social and cultural aspects of Czechoslovakia's transformation), social problems (teen-age pregnancy and marriage, social determinants of abortion), the sociology of work and unemployment and social ecology. Results have often been presented at international conferences in Brno, organized bi-annually from 1982. The department has good contacts with various foreign universities and department members often lecture abroad and take part in international conferences. Some of the teaching activities in the sphere of social policy and social work programs will hopefully be funded by TEMPUS, in which we will co-operate with Dutch and British colleges. The aim of the department is to become an organic part of the international sociological community.

Course structure

Sociology

Introduction to Sociology, History of Sociology (19th cent.), Research Methods I, Urban Sociology, Demography, Statistics, General Sociological Theory, Research Methods II, Data Processing, Sociology of the Family, Sociology of Work and Industry, Contemporary Sociological Theories, Sociology of Culture, Sociology of Public Opinion, Sociology of Knowledge, Social Ecology, Sociology of Politics.

Social policy and social work (combined with sociology)

Introduction to Social Policy, Social Policy in Czechoslovakia, Methods and Institutions of Social Work, Introduction to the Czechoslovak Legal System, Social Psychology, Social Pathology, Social Gerontology.

Academic staff (and their research interests and foreign scholarships)

Ivo Možný (1932), Head of the Department, Associate Professor, Vice-President of the Masaryk Sociological Association, Prague.

Sociology of Marriage and the Family, Sociology of Social Change, Social Demography.

Visiting scholar in Vaestoliitto, Helsinki (1987), Fellow in residence at the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Studies, Wassenaar (1990-1991).

Jan Keller (1955), Associate Professor.

Contemporary Sociological Theory, Theory of Bureaucracy.

Visiting scholar at the University of Bordeaux III (1985), the University of Marseille (1988), and the Sorbonne-Paris (1991).

Hana Librova (1943), Associate Professor. Social Ecology, Demography, Environmental Ethics.

Petr Mareš (1948), Senior Research Fellow. Sociology of Work, Social and Cultural Aspects of Social Change.

Libor Musil (1959), Assistant Professor. Sociology of Work, Social Ecology, Social and Cultural Aspects of Social Change.

Liliana Nerudová (1947), Assistant Professor.

Family Sociology, Social Deviance, Social Policy.

Visiting scholar at the University of Munich (1982).

Pavel Pacl (1932), Senior Research Fellow. Sociology of Leisure, Sociology of Mass Communication.

Svatomíra Pňadková (1940), Associate Professor.

Sociology of Youth, Theory of Management.

Ladislav Rabušic (1954), Assistant Professor. Social Demography, Family Sociology, Sociology of Values, Social and Cultural Aspects of Social Change.

Visiting scholar at the University of Copenhagen (1984), the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, (1989); visiting lecturer in Beijing Foreign Studies University, China (1985-1987).

Jaroslav Střitecký (1941), Associate Professor.

History of Sociology, Sociology of Culture.

Humboldt Grant, Munich (1969, 1987).

Ladislav Rabušic

The Institute of Central European Studies (ICES) and The Centre for Social Analysis (C.S.A.), Bratislava

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After November 1989 a change in the problem orientation of a certain part of Slovak sociologists took place and this led to the origin of some new research institutions.

Among them are the Institute of Central European Studies at the Faculty of Management of Comenius University in Bratislava and the private association The Centre for Social Analysis in Bratislava.

The Institute of Central European Studies (ICES)

The Institute of Central European Studies (ICES) at the Faculty of Management of