On the 26th to 28th of October 2022, the Faculty of Law and Administration of the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, organised an international scientific seminar entitled “Simplification and Electronisation of Administrative Proceedings” with the following round table discussion, which was organised under the auspices of Mgr. Beniamin Rozczyński from Adam Mickiewicz University, within the framework of the research project “Simplification and Electronisation of Administrative Proceedings” (2020/37/N/HS5/01045) on simplification of administrative proceedings in the Visegrad Group Countries. The project was funded by the National Science Centre in Poland. The seminar was held in person.

The aim of the seminar and following discussion was to determine and compare the legal development and tools of simplifications of the administrative procedures within legal systems of the V4 countries with main regard to electronisation of the administrative procedure.

As lectors of the seminar, a total of seven participants from the V4 countries presented and discussed their scientific findings on the topic. The prime was on domestic participants. From the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, Faculty of Law and Administration, it was prof. Wojciech Piątek, Mgr. Beniamin Rozczyński and Dr. Andrzej Paduch. From Masaryk University in Brno, Faculty of Law, Mgr. Denisa Skládalová...
attended alongside with Dr. Bertold Barányi from Eötvös Loránd University, Faculty of Law. From Comenius University in Bratislava, Faculty Law, JUDr. Matúš Radosa from the Department of Administrative and Environmental Law took part with abovementioned lectors. As an active audience, numerous PhD. students from the domestic university attended the seminar and the following discussion.

Several topics regarding the simplification of administrative proceedings were the subject of the seminar. Mgr. Beniamin Rozczyński opened the conference with a speech and welcomed all participants. His speech was followed with his lecture and presentation of the first module of the seminar. Mgr. Rozczyński firstly introduced aims of the related research and methods used within the research. He continued through the topic of models of administrative simplification in the V4 countries and concluded his lecture with presenting the aims and objectives of administrative simplification from the perspective of the V4 countries.

In the second module named “Constitutional requirements for the simplification of administrative proceedings”, Mgr. Denisa Skládalová highlighted the key constitutional standards for simplification of administrative procedure in Czech Republic. She presented several approaches of the Constitutional Court of Czech Republic in relation with boundaries and hazards of simplification and oversimplification of proceedings with pointing out on relevant decision-making practice.

JUDr. Matúš Radosa continued with his outcome from the research related to theoretical concept and types of simplification in practice of administrative proceedings in Slovak Republic, conceptually explaining unitary, comprehensive and special solutions of administrative simplification. JUDr. Radosa continued with functions of simplification and concluded the module with the impact of simplifications in administrative proceedings on the course of administrative court proceedings in Slovak Republic.

Dr. Andrzej Paduch then continued in module named “Axiological conditions for simplifying administrative proceedings” related to Polish legal system, highlighting the idea and importance of simplification in administrative proceedings followed by presenting the simplification aspects from the perspective of the functioning and powers of the authority and state. Impact of simplification of administrative proceedings on guarantees of the rights of parties to proceedings and rights of other participants in the proceedings were also significantly presented during his lecture.

Dr. Bertold Barányi continued with the module “Electronisation as a special form of administrative simplification”. In this seminar module, Dr. Barányi covered very specific aspects and tools of electronisation in public administration, such as electronic delivery, electronic signature, remote access to electronic procedural files and possibilities of using internal IT resources by public administration entities with accent to Hungarian legal system. Regarding procedural aspects, Dr. Barányi also presented pros and cons of electronic initiation of administrative proceedings, remote participation in procedural activities of a public administration entity, electronic evidence in administrative proceedings and electronic administrative file. Automation of activities of a public administration entity and European administrative e-cooperation were the final topics of the module.

Every lector within the scope of respective research and lecture module also presented the findings regarding partial and specific scientifical theses, e. g. "The COVID-19 pandemic was a motivating factor for both public administrations and litigants to start using e-government" or "Contact between the party to the proceedings and the public administration body should take place primarily in remote form and in case it is not possible to settle in remote form – in mixed form.” These theses reflected the most recent
issues in electronic public administration and simplification of administrative proceedings.

At the end of the lecture part of the seminar, Mgr. Beniamin Rozczyński together with prof. Wojciech Piątek presented the practical research carried out and its overall results. After the final presentation, the lectors and present audience took part in very active discussion about the topics of the seminar and also about de lege ferenda solutions within the V4 countries.

The seminar together with the following general discussion provided a presentation of several interesting views on simplification and electronisation of administrative proceedings. The event represents a valuable result of research within the above-mentioned project, and it is the basis for further research and the contribution of the proposals to the application practice. Significantly valuable was also very strong comparative outcome from respective research of the lectors as all of the V4 countries took part in the seminar and related scientific activities.