

CZECH NATIONAL REPORTS TO THE 2ND INTERMEDIATE CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF COMPARATIVE LAW, TAIWAN 2012

Introductory remarks

The International Academy of Comparative Law, founded at The Hague on 13th September 1924, is a corps of scholars the principal aim of which is the comparative study of legal systems. The Academy is composed of eighty Titular Members, elected by a two-thirds vote of the Titular Members preceding them. The candidates are proposed by one of six groups within the Academy. Additionally, the Academy comprises the associate members. They are elected by the Titular Members and in the same manner. National committees represent the Academy in more than fifty countries. The Academy's primary activity is to convene at intervals of four years international congresses of comparative law; recently, also intermediate – thematic congresses in the two years period between the international congresses have been established.

Czech engagement in the International Academy of Comparative Law has been considerable since its foundation in 1924. Let us remind remarkable activities of Professors Jan Krčmář (Civil law) or Vladimír Solnař (Criminal law) connected with International Academy before World War II. After a long absence of Czech lawyers at the forum of International Academy, in early 1970's Professor Viktor Knapp became one of editors-in-chief of International Encyclopedia of Comparative law. Professor Knapp presented Czechoslovak national reports at the IACL congresses in Caracas in 1982 and in Montreal in 1990.

New Czech National Committee was created shortly after declaration of independent Czech Republic. Czech lawyers became to be very active in IACL events. Particularly at the 17th International Congress in Utrecht in 2006, at the 1st Intermediate Congress in Mexico City in 2008 and at the 18th International Congress in Washington D.C. in 2010, strong Czech delegation presented national reports in majority of sections. Czech national reports were consequently published with other national reports in foreign law reviews. Since last year, on the occasion of 150th anniversary of the oldest law journal *Právník* we established its English parallel *The Lawyer Quarterly* and we decided to publish Czech national reports for this year IACL congress in Taipei in the present

volume. Because the 2nd Intermediate Congress in Taipei will be held from 24th to 26th May 2012, we changed the normal appearance of The Lawyer Quarterly as a supplement to the journal Právník from June issue to May issue. We hope this arrangement will help to the present volume of The Lawyer Quarterly to reach the delegates in order to introduce to them Czech ideas on recent and future development of main legal disciplines.

Professor Monika Pauknerová
Chairwoman of the Czech National Committee of
The International Academy of Comparative Law

Professor Michal Tomášek
Head of Editorial Board of
The Lawyer Quarterly