

**KONZERVATÍVNY
INŠTITÚT
M. R. ŠTEFÁNKA**
M. R. STEFANIK
CONSERVATIVE
INSTITUTE

Annual Report 2010

Bratislava, March 2011

Milan Rastislav Štefánik Conservative Institute (hereunder as KI) is an independent non-profit NGO. It defends the values of free society, free economy, individual responsibility, protection of private property, spontaneous forms of solidarity, democratic rule of law, civic society and human rights in an educated and cultured society. As much as possible, KI is striving to support such societal ambience within the public life, which will be perceptive of these values and accept them widely.

KI is a think-tank with conservative orientation established as non-investment foundation on May 4th, 1999. It was registered at Regional Authority in Bratislava on June 2nd, 1999, under no. 99/602/87 – NF. Mr. Ján Králik is the establisher of KI. Mr. Peter Zajac (the chairman), Mr. Ján Králik (deputy chairman) and Mr. Vladimír Čečetka (member) constitute the **Board of Directors of KI**. In 2010, Mr. Ondrej Dostál was the KI administrator, which is its **statutory body**. In 2010, the KI controller was Ms. Andrea Gondová.

In 2010, there were seven **employees** in KI: its administrator and director Mr. Ondrej Dostál, project manager Ms. Dana Feketeová, macroeconomist Mr. Peter Gonda, an analyst for education issues Ms. Zuzana Humajová, communication manager and analyst for agricultural and environmental issues Mr. Radovan Kazda, co-ordinator of foreign relations, Konzervatívne listy editor, KI website administrator and analyst for regional policy and public government issues Mr. Dušan Sloboda and foreign policy and European affairs analyst Mr. Ivan Kuhn. Also the fellow workers were participating in KI activities.

Unlike some other think-tanks, KI does not aim its activities to one single specific area of public affairs and the life of the society. The common factor of these activities is their basement in the conservative values and point of view related to the society and liberal attitude in the economics. Their KI outcomes are freely available to public and to the citizens, media, decision makers, political parties and also to another NGOs.

In 2010, KI carried out projects and activities to fulfill its aim, i.e. mainly the development and protection of conservative values of free and responsible society, support of civic action aimed to develop the conservative democratic values in Slovakia as well as to the support of culture, research and education.

KI Projects

In 2010, KI continued running the **Classic Economy Academy** project, with its third grade, consisting of nine seminars on economics and the thinking thereon. Mr. *Peter Gonda* was the project co-ordinator.

In 2010, KI continued with the execution of „**Civil Rights and Freedoms Defense in Slovakia and Support to Slovak Value-Oriented Foreign Policy**“ project. Mr. *Ivan Kuhn* was the project co-ordinator.

In 2010, KI carried out the „**Program Manifesto of the Reform Government**“, whose main outcome was a document called *Program Manifesto of the Reform Government: A Handbook for Responsible Politicians Aimed to Freer Society and Reduced Government*, published on www.reformnavlada.sk. Mr. Peter Gonda was the project co-ordinator.

Conferences, Seminars, Conservative Clubs and Other Events Organized by KI

In 2010, KI performed various conferences, seminars, Conservative Clubs and lectures with discussions.

On March 8th, 2010, KI organized another Conservative Club discussion in Bratislava. The topic was **T. G. Masaryk and Slovakia**, at the opportunity of the 160th anniversary of the birth of the first Czechoslovak president. The following were the participants: Milan Zemko, Štefan Holčík, Martin Garek a Hana Palkovičová. *Ondrej Dostál* was the discussion moderator.

On March 11th, 2010, KI organized the third year of the **Waste and the Local Governments** conference in Ružomberok.

On March 22nd, 2010 in Bratislava, on March 24th, 2010 in Vienna and on March 25th, 2010 in Košice KI invited Mr. Richard A. Epstein, law professor of the University of Chicago, to give lectures on **Economic and Legal Foundations of a Free Society**.

On March 23rd, 2010 in the University of Economics in Bratislava, KI co-ordinated the lecture of Richard A. Epstein, law professor of the University of Chicago, on **Classical Liberal Perspective on Intellectual Property**.

On May 17th, 2010, the **Slovakia at the Crossroads of Reform** conference, organized by the TREND weekly and CATO Institute, was held in Bratislava. KI was one of the partners of this conference.

On May 18th, 2010, KI in co-operation with CEBSI organized the **Free Market Road Show 2010** international conference in Bratislava. The representatives of several important US and European think-tanks made their appearances there.

On May 18th, 2010, KI in co-operation with other partners, organized the CEQLS lecture of Charles Murray, a fellow scientist of the American Enterprise Institute, given on **Collapse of the Welfare State and European Social Model**.

On September 20th, 2010, KI invited to Bratislava Tim Evans, Consultant Director of the Adam Smith Institute, Managing Director of Cobden Centre and President of Libertarian Alliance, to give a lecture on **The Relevance of Classical Liberal Politics Economy in Today's World**.

On November 24th, 2010, KI organized the discussion Conservative Club on **How Is the First Budget of Ms. Radičová Government and What Does It Bring?** The discussion was held among the Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Finance Mr. Vladimír Tvaroška, the VOLKSBANK Slovensko analyst Mr. Vladimír Vaňo and the KI economist *Mr. Peter Gonda*.

On November 29th, 2010, KI organized the **Possibilities and Limits of the Value-Oriented Foreign Policy** conference in Devín hotel in Bratislava. In two panels of the conference, *Ivan Kuhn*, František Šebej, Milan Nič, Ivo Samson, Nora Beňáková, Andrea Cox, Ján Mihálik, Marian Gabriel and Svetozár Gavora gave their appearances.

On December 15th, 2010, KI declared the results of the **2010 Student Essay** contest. The topic of this 4th year was: **What Do I Expect From the Slovak Government?**

Lectures, Introductions and Appearances

In 2010, KI analysts and fellows also gave specialized lectures and appearances on events organized by other institutions and participated in public discussions in the media and press conferences.

On March 30th, 2010 the .týždeň weekly organized in GUnaGU theater in Bratislava the .týždeň Evening. Within this event, a discussion on **Interblue Emission Theft** was held among Rado Baťo, Ivan Štulajter, both SME daily editors, and *Mr. Radovan Kazda*, the KI analyst.

On April 22nd, 2010 the KI fellow worker *Tomáš Zálešák* was the guest of the program **Lampa** broadcast in JOJ Plus TV. **Katyň** was the discussion topic. Michal Vašečka and Tomasz Grabinski were another participants of the discussion.

On April 28th, 2010 the KI analyst *Ivan Kuhn* discussed with Radovan Geist from Euractiv.sk on the topic **Did Greece Launch a Domino Effect?** in the TA3 TV program *Téma dňa*.

On April 30th, 2010, the KI economist *Peter Gonda* and Brigita Schmögnerová, the EBRD Vicepresident, discussed in the *Správy a komentáre* program of STV on the topic of **Will Greece Fend Off the Bankruptcy?**

On May 13th, 2010, *Peter Gonda*, Ján Oravec and Marián Vitkovič were the guests in the **Lampa** program of JOJ Plus TV. They discussed on the topic of **How Long This Crisis Will Last?**

On May 17th, 2010, the KI economist *Mr. Peter Gonda* gave a lecture and discussed within the panel of **Welfare State Reform** within the **Slovakia at the Crossroads of Reform** conference in Bratislava.

On May 31st, 2010, the KI economist *Peter Gonda* gave his appearance on the causes of the economic crisis and discussed this topic with Matej Sapák from the Ministry of Finance within a discussion panel of "Café Európa" club, organized by Slovak Debate Association in Trenčín.

On June 3rd, 2010, the KI analyst *Mr. Dušan Sloboda* made, within the Regional Discussion forum, **Is More Really Always More?**, on the Technical University in Košice, his presentation called *The Municipalization Waiting Room: Bratislava, Košice and another 2885 followers*.

On June 10th, 2010, the AKE co-ordinator *Mr. Peter Gonda* participated on the **NGOs round table** organized by Tatra banka Foundation, where he introduced the Classic Economy Academy cycle.

On June 17th, 2010, a discussion in the Slovak Radio program *Kontakty* was held among the KI analyst *Dušan Sloboda*, the Vicepresident of the Association of Towns and Villages of Slovakia Milan Muška and the lawyer Milan Galanda.

On June 21st, the KI analyst *Ivan Kuhn* and Milan Šikula, director of the SAS Institute of Economic Research discussed in STV on the topic of **Slovakia and the Eurozone**.

On June 21st, 2010, the Slovak Radio cast the program *Z prvej ruky* on the topic of **Should Slovakia Sign the Framework Convention on European Financial Stability Facility?** with KI analyst *Ivan Kuhn* and the EurActiv.sk Chief Editor Radovan Geist as the guests.

On July 9th, 2010, the KI faces, *Mr. Ondrej Dostál* and *Mr. Radovan Kazda*, participated in several discussions within the Pohoda festival in Trenčín airport.

On July 21st, 2010 in *Téma dňa* in TA3, discussed Juraj Smatana, NGO network, Ekofórum, Juraj Rizman, Greenpeace and the KI analyst *Radovan Kazda* on the topic **Will the Ministry of Environment Address the Floods?**

On September 2nd, 2010 discussed on **educational affairs** the Minister of Education Eugen Jurzyca, his predecessor Ján Mikolaj, Miron Zelina and the head of the Association of Public Grammar Schools Pavol Sadloň. Also the KI analyst *Zuzana Zimenová* participated in the discussion via phone call.

On September 7th, 2010, a discussion in Slovak Radio's *Kontakty* on the topic **How the Local Governments Budgetary Cuts Will Affect the Education Quality?** was held by the Vicepresident of Association of Towns and Villages of Slovakia Jozef Turčány, Director of F. A. Hayek Foundation Matúš Pošvanc and the KI analyst *Ms. Zuzana Zimenová*.

On September 10th, 2010, the KI analyst *Mr. Ivan Kuhn* and the investment analyst Vladimír Vaňo discussed in STV program *Hlas Európy* on the **Solidarity in the EU**.

On September 17th, the KI analyst *Mr. Ivan Kuhn* and the Chief Editor of EurActiv.sk Radovan Geist were the guests of the Slovak Radio's program *Z prvej ruky* dedicated to the topic **The EU Summit – Was Slovakia On the Mat?**

On October 12th, 2010, the KI economist *Mr. Peter Gonda* gave a lecture on **Money and Banking System. Free vs. Central Banking System** within the lectures of the Alternative Economics cycle in the University of Economics in Bratislava.

On October 21st, 2010, a debate was held in Žilina between the KI analyst *Ivan Kuhn* and politologist Eduard Chmelár on the topic of **Strong Brussels: Is It Good Or Not Good for Slovakia?**

On November 16th, the guests in Slovak Radio's program *Z prvej ruky* dedicated to the topic of **What the Municipal Elections Are About?** were the KI analyst *Dušan Sloboda* and the executive vicepresident of Association of Towns and Villages of Slovakia Milan Muška.

On November 23th, 2010, the KI analyst *Mr. Dušan Sloboda* discussed in Slovak Radio on the municipal media abuse in the pre-election campaign.

On November 25th, 2010, the KI economist *Peter Gonda* and the M.E.S.A.10 economist Ján Marušinec discussed in the TA3 TV program *Analýzy a trendy* on **What the Budget Is Disclosing?**

On November 25th, 2010, in the discussion of Slovak Radio's program *Nočná pyramída*, the KI analyst *Mr. Dušan Sloboda* debated with the Director of the association Citizen, Democracy and Accountability Šarlotta Pufflerová, the representative of the Metropolitan Elections Committee in Bratislava Ľubica Trubíniová and the executive vicepresident of Association of Towns and Villages of Slovakia Milan Muška on the topic of **Local Government and the Citizen.**

On December 7th, 2010, **Zasiahol svetová diplomaciu 11. september? Ako bude vyzerat svetová diplomacia?** *Ivan Kuhn* and the politologist Eduard Chmelár were the guests of Slovak Radio's *Z prvej ruky*.

Analyses, Studies and Another KI Expert Activities

In 2010, KI analysts and fellow workers published specialized articles, analyses and studies in media and KI website. They also presented various professional opinions by the mean of press conferences and press releases.

On May 31st, 2010, we published and introduced in press conference for media the **Program Declarations of Reformatory Government: A Guidebook for Responsible Politicians on Their Road to Freer Society and Reduced Government.** KI developed this paper within the *Program Declarations of Reformatory Government* project in partnership with F. A. Hayek Foundation and with the collaboration of more than thirty experts and several institutes.

On June 3rd, 2010, we published on infovolby.sk, the paper **Government Evaluation – Program Declarations for Agriculture vs. Reality**, developed for MEMO 98 by the KI analyst *Mr. Radovan Kazda*.

On June 10th, 2010 the KI analyst *Mr. Dušan Sloboda* published a study, which analyzed the **foreign trips carried out by the members of parliament during the 4th election period** from 2006 to 2010.

On December 9th, 2010, the KI analyst *Mr. Ivan Kuhn* introduced the results of the current **public opinion poll on postures of Slovak citizens towards non-democratic regimes and support of democracy and civic freedom abroad**.

The project of **Evaluation of Economic and Social Measures in Regions of Slovakia** carried out by the Institute for Economic and Social Reforms (INEKO) includes the opinions of the analysts, businessmen, mayors, university teachers, scientists, representatives of branch associations and NGOs with regard to the proposed and executed measures of the local governments at the level of municipalities and regions. During 2010, one of the evaluators was the KI analyst *Mr. Dušan Sloboda*.

The KI economist *Mr. Peter Gonda* was one of the evaluators within the INEKO project of **Evaluation of Economic and Social Measures (HESO)**, which includes also the evaluation of nationwide economical and welfare-related measures.

Communication Activities of KI

Also in 2010, KI operated the website **www.konzervativizmus.sk**. By the mean thereof, as well as by e-mails to wide group of people interested on KI activities, KI provided the information thereon and on further affairs related with the issues of conservatism. KI operated also the English version of it's website at **www.institute.sk**.

Moreover, KI operated the following single-topic websites in 2010: www.reformnavlada.sk (introducing the Program Declarations of Reformatory Government project), www.sfp.institute.sk (aimed to Slovak foreign policy), www.ake.institute.sk (introducing the Classic Economy Academy project), www.usainfo.sk (dedicated to information on US society and politics and the Slovak-US relationship), www.euroustava.sk (dedicated to issues of the European Constitution and Treaty of Lisbon), www.noveskolstvo.sk (dedicated to issues of education and its reforms) and www.monitoringfondov.eu (dedicated to the monitoring of euro-funds allocation in Slovakia during the 2007-2013 programming period).

Mr. Dušan Sloboda was the KI websites administrator.

KI is one of the partners of the **EUserver** project. This is an internet portal aimed to provide all relevant informations (new journals, books, studies, invitations to conferences, seminars) from the eurorealistic organizations working within Czech Republic and Slovakia in one single web site.

In 2010, KI published monthly it's newsletter called **Konzervatívne listy**. Authors from among the staff and fellow workers of KI publish their analyses, studies and comments on current issues, drafts of new laws and various affairs of public policy therein. Also the information on KI activities and happening within the Slovak and foreign conservative communities can be found there. In 2010, 11 numbers of *Konzervatívne listy* were issued. Mr. Dušan Sloboda was the editor of *Konzervatívne listy*.

KI analysts and fellow workers published articles in professional and other media, gave their opinions for media and participated in several discussions in electronic media.

In 2010, KI continued out also with activities aimed to the edition of **Explanatory Dictionary of Economics**.

Support for Culture and Art

On March 15th, 2010, the **Dominik Tatarka's Prize for 2009** was awarded solemnly in Pálffy Palace in Bratislava This year, the Jury of Dominik Tatarka's Prize and KI awarded the Prize to Mr. Juraj Mojžiš for his book *Voľným okom II*.

KI and the Jury of Dominik Tatarka's Prize are awarding this prize yearly. Dominik Tatarka's Prize is considered to be the most prestigious Slovak prize for literature and it is dedicated to the author for an exceptional work, which meets the humanistic traditions of Slovak culture and links thereby to the intellectual heritage of the writer Dominik Tatarka.

KI Library

Within KI, there is a **Conservatism Library – KI Documentary Center**. The goal of KI is to build up a documentary basis containing the fundamental works with conservative orientation, conservative magazines, professional texts on conservatism, literature, analyses and studies from different areas of public policy, which would become a professional information base for expert and analytic teams of KI staff, fellow workers and Board of Directors. The library contains KI publications and simultaneously it is being completed with foreign and national volumes oriented on conservatism and classical liberalism. With regard to the extension of the library, we established closer co-operation with the partner think-tanks from abroad. Mr. *Dušan Sloboda* was the co-ordinator of the project of Conservatism Library.

Civic Activities of KI

On January 9th, 2010, KI joined the call of NGOs and renowned personalities of Slovak public life to **stop the Irani government's violence and infringement of human laws against the Bahá'í minority.**

On January 12th, 2010 *Mr. Peter Zajac, Mr. Ondrej Dostál* and another **members of the petition committee related to the expertise of professor Labaš on Hedviga Malinová's case have asked the General Prosecutor of the Slovak Republic by open letter** to cease infringing the law by ignoring the petition.

On January 28th, 2010, the representatives of NGOs (including KI), associated in an independent monitoring team, **asked the government to proceed with systematic changes in the EU funds management.**

On February 3rd, 2010, was published the nomination of **Chinese dissident Liu Xiaobo for the Nobel Peace Prize.** Fifty-one members of the National Council of the Slovak Republic and more than 30 other renowned personalities of social, cultural, scientific and civic communities signed jointly the Slovak Nobel Peace Prize nomination draft developed by several NGOs including KI.

On February 25th, 2010, a meeting was held in front of Cuban embassy in Bratislava honoring, by lighting up the candle, the **memory of the defunct Cuban dissident Orlando Zapata Tamayo.**

On March 14th, 2010, KI, jointly with another organizations, organized **public meeting Fascism Does Not Belong to Slovakia!** in Hodža's Square in Bratislava.

On April 6th, 2010, KI joined the NGOs, which during the visit of Russian President Dmitri Medvedev reminded in front of the Presidential Palace that **the human rights is an universally applicable value, which must be respected also in Russia.**

On April 13th, 2010, KI and another NGOs published jointly the **declaration For Just Justice**, which expressed his support to the initiative No Waste Depot In the Town aimed to the Constitutional Court as well as his consent with the posture of all honest investigators, lawyers, prosecutors and judges who mind the fairness and independence of Slovak justice.

On May 6th, 2010, the **Call for Roses for Hedviga** has been published. Their initial signers were *Mr. Ondrej Dostál, Mr. Egon Gál, Mr. Jozef Hašto, Mr. Ľuboš Kubín, Mr. Martin Mojžiš* and *Mr. Peter Zajac.*

On May 11th, 2010, the **Call for Purge of Public Life from Racist Phenomena** has been published, whereas KI was one of the initial supporters.

On June 20th, 2010, the **Declaration of Civic Initiative of the Citizens of Slovak Towns and Villages** has been published and addressed to the new Slovak Government, with the support of KI. The goal of the declaration of citizens, who find permanently paralysed the run of municipalities and infringed the rights of the citizens caused by the action of some mayors who abuse the imperfection of the act on municipalities, is the introduction of the solutions of these problems into the Program Declarations of the new Government.

On October 28th, 2010, with the opportunity of the 92nd anniversary of foundation of Czechoslovakia, took place **a solemn unveiling of the statue of the first Czechoslovak President, T. G. Masaryk**, which completes the Czechoslovak Statehood Memorial on Vajanský Quay in front of the Slovak National Museum building. The outcome of the public fundraising declared by KI for the statue of T. G. Masaryk in Bratislava was donated to the Bratislava City District of Staré Mesto for the purposes of fabrication and erection of the statue of T. G. Masaryk and the payment of the related costs.

Mr. *Ondrej Dostál* was the co-ordinator of the KI civic activities.

KI Economy

The non-investment foundation of Konzervatívny inštitút Milana Rastislava Štefánika keeps the double-entry bookkeeping and has had the total revenue of €96,019.68 and total costs of €96,019.68 in 2010.

In 2010, the KI income was equal to €52,478.25 and the expense to €102,627.36.

In 2010, KI received two donations totalling €1833.00. One donation to KI was made by a natural person – Mr. Jesús Huerta de Soto (€1,500.00), for the translation of his book. The second donation to KI came from a legal person: Geoplán Rožňava donated €333.00 for the financing of the „2010 Student Essay“ project.

The KI income from grants and foundations were equal to €44,203,40 in 2010. The grantors were Tatra banka foundation (€5,000.00), for the financing of the „2010 Classic Economy Academy“ project; Open Society Institute for „Civil Rights and Freedom Defense in Slovakia and Support to Value-Oriented Slovak Foreign Policy“ project (€37,540.31) as well as the *Reading Literacy As Education Quality Problem within Slovak Elementary School System* project (€1463.92) and Ekopolis (€199.17) as the costs refund for the „*The Government and Non-Profit Sector Environment*“ project.

In 2010, the KI income from the paid income tax 2-% assignation totalled €2,531.49.

In 2010, KI gained the income of €2517.77 from his own activities. This includes the participation fees for seminars within the KI events (€2,352.00) and the sale of the book *In Defense of the Free Market* (€165.77).

KI also obtained the income from the public fundraising for the statue of T. G. Masaryk (€1,375.00) and the income from the banking interests (€17.59).

KI expenses in 2010 were used to ensure the activities meeting the goal of this non-investment foundation (€96,667.26) as well as for its administration (€5,960.10, i.e. 5.81% from its total expenses).

The following was the KI expenses structure in 2010 by projects and the most important activities:

The expenses for the *Civil Rights and Freedom Defense in Slovakia and Support to Slovak Value-Oriented Foreign Policy* project represented €54,417.36; for the Support to Slovak Value-Oriented Foreign Policy project €8,468.38; for Classic Economy Academy €6,967.93; for *Eurofunds Watchdog – Decrease of the Risk of Corruption through Monitoring of Projects Financed from the EU Funds* project €5,671.97; for the *CEQLS* project €84.25; for Dominik Tatarka's Prize €1,963.47, for *Konzervatívne listy* €1,557.20; for *2010 Student's Essay* €333.00; for public fundraising for the statue of T. G. Masaryk €1,375.00 (donated to Bratislava City District Staré mesto) and for the translation of the book of Jesús Huerta de Soto €1,000.00.

The income statement, balance sheet and list of donations, contributions and incomes of the non-investment fund M. R. Stefanik Conservative Institute for 2010 are attached hereto.

Peter Gonda
the Administrator of the non-investment fund of
M. R. Stefanik Conservative Institute