

# International Institute of Political Science

## Annual Activity Report 1998

head: Assoc. Prof. PhDr. Petr Fiala, Dr.

In 1998, the activities of the Institute focused on the organising of seminars and conferences, the publishing of periodical journals and professional publications and the implementation of academic research projects.

In the first half of April 1998, the Institute, together with the Department of Political Science of the School of Social Studies, played host to Senator Jaroslava Moserová, who gave a lecture on the tradition of democracy in the Czech Republic and its renewal.

On May 19<sup>th</sup>, 1998, the Library of Konrad Adenauer for European Integration was opened, and at the opening ceremony MU representatives (for the Rector's Office Prof. Dr. Pavel Bravený) and German partners (the Minister for the Federal Affairs of Thuringia) were present. The Institute founded the Library with the support of the Prague branch of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation. The following day, an international conference on "The Expansion East of NATO" was held, at which prominent experts in the field of safety issues from the Czech Republic and abroad gave papers.

In the middle of September 1998, a cycle of seminars focusing on the entry of the Czech Republic into the European Union took place. A seminar titled "Regional Politics of the European Union" dealt with issues of the internal functioning of structural funds, the politics of Brussels with regard to individual EU areas, etc. Prospects for the use of EU resources after the entry of Central European countries were roughly forecasted.

The Institute continued to publish the quarterly journal *Politický časopis (Political Magazine)* journal and the bimonthly monitoring journal *Politika v České Republice (Politics in the Czech Republic)*.

Along with regular periodicals, the Institute published studies which originated in the framework of the "Interdisciplinary Student Programme" academic research project supported by the Open Society Fund Prague:

- B. Dančák (ed.): *Attempts at Integration in Central European Area I.*
- V. Šimiček (ed.): *Political Parties Financing In the Czech Republic.*
- M. Strmiska (ed.), *Political Parties and Party Systems in Non-European Countries I.*
- P. Fiala (ed.): *Political Parties in the European Parliament.*
- M. Strmiska (ed.), *Political Parties and Party Systems in Non-European Countries II.*

The Head of the Institute, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Petr Fiala, edited a collection of proceedings entitled *Political Extremism and Radicalism in the Czech Republic*, which is of great importance for the further development of political science.

The circle of experts co-operating closely with the Institute was left by its founder and first managing director Dr. Jaroslav Bohanes, who died on March 13, 1998, after a long illness.