

The curriculum vitae of Professor Emeritus Dr Silvo Devetak



“Without doubt, Silvo Devetak is one of the most visionary scientists, social actors and political players whose academic work, as well as civil society initiatives, has contributed to a great extent to the European integration of South Eastern Europe and the European integration process as a whole. His ideas, visions and prospects are especially needed in today’s world” wrote Erhard Busek, former Vice-Chancellor of Austria in the *liber amicorum* published at his 80 anniversary. Professor Devetak was the founder and head of the Department of international law and international relations at the Faculty of law,

University of Maribor, Slovenia. Besides, he founded the European centre for ethnic, regional and sociological studies of the University of Maribor and ISCOMET- Institute for ethnic and regional studies and the ISCOMET international NGO, which enjoys a participatory status with the Council of Europe. In 1997, the government of Republic of Slovenia awarded him with the title “Ambassador of science of the Republic of Slovenia”. In 2016, he became a Professor Emeritus of the University of Maribor.

Professor Devetak has been a lecturer at several programs of European universities and invited as a key-speaker to a great many of international scientific and political gatherings, discussions and events. Only since 1989, he has given more than 100 lectures in 30 countries around the world on international relations, European security system, EU foreign relations and enlargement, human dimensions of European integration, human rights, elimination of discrimination, and protection of minorities, regionalism and cross- border regional cooperation. In postgraduate studies at the Universities of Padua and Athens, he lectured in the 90ties on EU enlargement and the "new European architecture". His bibliography comprises more than 650 units; the vast majority published abroad. He published his works in 19 countries in English, French, Catalan, Chinese, Italian, Hungarian, Macedonian, German, Russian, Serbian and Croatian respectively. He has been member of the editorial boards of five international professional journals and editor of six monographs.

Since 1999, he has been coordinator of numerous international academic and civil society projects that mostly co-financed the EU. The projects deal with the EU relations with Eastern Europe, the EU policy towards the Western Balkans, elaboration of European studies programs,

human rights, and elimination of discrimination and protection of minorities. Among the results of these projects has been the establishment of the first “European studies” programs at several universities in Belarus, Moldova, Russian Federation, Serbia and Ukraine.

Before dedicating himself fully to academic work, Professor Devetak took part in different international activities as diplomat or expert. He was a Special councillor for minorities, borders issues and Balkan cooperation in the Federal secretariat for external relations of Yugoslavia (1974-79). In 1968-75, he was expert and negotiator in negotiations for the Osimo treaty, which regulate the Yugoslav-Italian border. In 1977-78, he was member of the Yugoslav delegation at the CSCE follow-up conference in Belgrade. In 1978 member of the Yugoslav delegation to the first World conference against racism (Geneva). Professor Devetak was member of the Yugoslav delegation to the 34th, 35th and 36th sessions of the UN Commission on human rights and representative to the working group on the UN Declaration on the rights of national, ethnic and religious minorities (Geneva), which Yugoslavia proposed. In the period 1976-84, he was two terms member of the UN Committee on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination. In 1988-90, Professor Devetak was member of the Yugoslav forum for human rights and the protection of citizens and coordinator of its working group on minorities' rights.

In Slovenia, he was secretary and later member of the Commission on international relations of the Assembly of the SR of Slovenia and chairperson of its subcommittee on minorities (1972-74 and 1982-89) and permanently invited to the same Commission (1990-91). In 1986-1988, he was director of the Institute for ethnic studies in Ljubljana.

In the process of independency of Slovenia, he was initiator and vice-chairman of the International expert committee for the recognition of the Republic of Slovenia (12 July 1991 - 3 February 1992). In 1990-94, he was member of the scientific council of the periodical Regions of Europe and of the group consulting the president of Catalonia Jordi Pujol on regionalism topics (Barcelona, Strasbourg). In 1991 he was member of an international group consulting the than Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Catherine Lalumiere on political circumstances and security issues in Eastern Europe. In the 90ties he was expert of the Council of Europe, the European Community and Union respectively and the European bank for reconstruction and development on the situation in Bosnia and Hercegovina, on regionalism and the expansion of European organizations to Central, South-Eastern and Eastern Europe. Later he became, on the proposal of the Secretary General, member of the Committee of Council of Europe for cross-border regional cooperation; in this capacity, he took part at the meetings aimed at supporting the cross-border cooperation and establishing the cross-border Euro-regions between Turkey and Georgia (2004), Serbia, Macedonia and Bulgaria (2005) and Albania, Greece and Macedonia (2005).