

Abstracts

JÓZSEF BODA

Instead of an introduction: The political system change in the Ministry of the Interior and in the law enforcement agencies

This short study outlines the changes in the Ministry of the Interior and law enforcement agencies, as well as in law enforcement higher education, during the period of the political system change and over the past 30 years.

ANDRÁS TÚRÓS

The Hungarian Police during the political system change period 1988–1990

The author, based on his personal experiences, introduces the history of the transformation of the Hungarian Police (HP) between 1988–1990. He gave a short overview on the previous period and its legislative background. Then he evaluates the process of contemporary changes, the different interests and decisions.

GÉZA FINSZTER

Thirty years of Police service

In his study, the author introduces the development of the Hungarian Police, primarily assessing the impact of legislative changes on the organisation during the 30 years since the political system change.

JÁNOS SALLAI

The transformations and termination of the Hungarian Border Guard (1989–2007)

The Border Guard of the Ministry of the Interior went a long way from bringing down the iron curtain to Hungary's accession to the Schengen area. It was completely transformed in terms of both human resources and technology and it carried out a "change of regime" with regard to border guarding and border checks. The leadership of the Border Guard recognised the changes already in the 1980s and made a proposal to remove the electric signalling system from the western state border. Later it played a decisive role in bringing down the iron curtain and constructing the new border guarding system. The Border Guard became an aliens policing authority in the 1990s and, when the Act on the Police of 1994 came into force, the scope of its powers became even wider. The amendment of the Constitution of 2005, which made the Border Guard a purely policing organisation,

fits into this process. From 1998, the Border Guard focused on fulfilling the Schengen requirements in all the areas, after the successful completion of which Hungary became a fully-fledged Schengen member state in 2007.

LÁSZLÓ BARNÓCZKI – ESZTER KENEDLI-TÓTH

The organization and operation of the national security services during the last thirty years – the changes of the sector in the mirror of the most important challenges

This study examines the development of the Hungarian national security system before and after the political system change (from 1990 to 2020) in a perspective of about 30 years. The authors summarise the challenges identified by the government in power affecting the operation of national security, how it sought and found the answers to them, and what changes it brought to the system of national security institutions in Hungary.

JÁNOS BLESZITY

Foundation of the National Directorate General for Disaster Management and its predecessor organizations at the time of the regime change.

The author presents the situation of civil protection and fire protection in Hungary during the period of political system change, and then the process during which different governments tried to establish a unified and effective organization. Lastly we can read about the integrated disaster management organization, which was established in the year of 2000.

ISTVÁN SABJANICS

The Government Guard and the system change

The political, economic, and social changes that took place during the system change – sometimes faster and slower – also resulted in changes in the Hungarian state administration, as was the case with the Government Guard. Despite significant political and social changes, the basic regulation of the organization, the protection of persons and objects has not fundamentally changed. However, political, economic, and social opening has led to increased risks and expectations demanding a higher level of quality. This also involved the increased development of the functioning of the functional areas supporting the basic regulation of the Government Guard.

ZSUZSANNA VÉGH

The immigration organization and its three decades of work

The study presents the development of the Hungarian immigration organization from the change of the political system to the present day. The author was an active participant both in organizational transformations and legislative changes between 1990 and 2020.

JÓZSEF PALLO

Three decades under the rule of law. A brief overview of the professional development of prison service after the system change.

The author provides a detailed introduction to the development of the correctional field during the 30 years following the system change and the end of Communism in Hungary, taking into account the underlying professional values, achievements and solved challenges alike. The study precisely identifies certain key elements of modernization that facilitated the shift from state socialism corrections to a more modern largely similar to the European correctional system while preserving certain peculiarities that are the nation's own.

KRISTÓF PÉTER BAKAI – ÁKOS MOLNÁR – LÁSZLÓ VANKÓ

National Tax and Customs Administration: the chronicle of the custom, excise, criminal and law enforcement tasks

The study summarises the history of the thirty years of the current National Tax and Customs Administration and its predecessors. In the first chapter the authors outline the history of Customs and Financial Guards, the Tax and Financial Control Office and National Tax and Customs Administration. In the second chapter we can read about the job of the financial investigators, and the third chapter summarises the policing activities of the organization.

BÉLA BLASKÓ

The development of law enforcement higher education from the political system change to the faculty of law enforcement

From 1971 to 2011, the centre of police training in Hungary was based at the Police College (PC). The PC issued its graduates a state-recognized degree. Especially since the 1989–1990 system change, the idea to elevate the college to university rank has often been raised by the government. The conditions allowing for this process to take place were created thanks to roughly two decades of consistent work since the 1990s. The University of Public Service, which started its operation on the 1st of January 2012,

integrated the PC as its Faculty of Law Enforcement (FLE), meaning that the PC ceased to exist as an independent higher education institution. This study demonstrates how the PC became a university faculty. The author of this work played an active role during the time period covered by the study. Among other things, he managed the PC for eight years as Director General.

ESZTER ZSÓFIA TÓTH

“Cop, if there’s a problem, aren’t you protecting me?” – police and system change

In my paper, I analyze the relationship between the system change and the police based on contemporary press sources and an article. I present the state of the police during the years of transition, what new problems they had to face. Deteriorating public safety, the emergence of new forms of crime, and the responses the organization found in the mid-1990s.

GÉZA FINSZTER

Law enforcement strategy missed by the researcher

Hungary does not have a public security strategy written in an Act of Parliament. Neither is there any Government Decree about the long-term development of law enforcement administration. Papers on the theory of law enforcement have urged the creation of such documents since 1990. The present study gives an overview of the conditions that can develop strategic considerations to parts of government of internal affairs.

LÁSZLÓ FELKAI

Afterword

In the author’s closing, he deals with the social perception of law enforcement agencies during the period of political system change.