

Foreword

We warmly welcome the launch of “The Visegrád Countries and Brazil”, organised by Sándor Gyula Nagy and published by the Hungarian Diplomatic Academy. We are confident that this book will play a very significant role in the research and analysis of the increasingly important relations between Brazil and the four members of the Visegrád Group – the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia.

The high quality of the book clearly reflects the widely acclaimed academic skills and specific knowledge of Latin America by Sándor Gyula Nagy. In recognition to his contribution to the strengthening of academic relations between Brazil and Hungary, my government has decided to bestow on professor Nagy the Order of Rio Branco, one of the most prestigious Brazilian decorations.

The book itself bears witness to the dynamic cooperation in place among the Visegrád countries, as it results from the collaboration between the Hungarian Diplomatic Academy, the Institute for Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary (IFAT), the Institute for International Relations of the Czech Republic (IIR), the Polish Institute of International Affairs (PISM) and the Faculty of International Relations of the University of Economics in Bratislava (UEB).

“The Visegrád Countries and Brazil” is a very comprehensive work, covering every important aspect of the current dialogue and cooperation between my country and the V4 members, from political relations to cultural and sports corporation. It clearly shows that our present relations have a rich history, involving not only fruitful contacts between our governments but also between our peoples.

In the case of Hungary, where I have the honour to serve since January 2020 as ambassador, our bilateral relationship greatly benefited from the significant presence of Hungarian immigrants to Brazil. We are happy to note that their contribution to Brazilian society in different areas is duly acknowledged in this book. I wish also to highlight the presence of a relatively small but very active and hard-working Brazilian community currently living in Hungary, not to mention the many students that come every year to this country in the scope of the Stipendium Hungaricum programme.

“The Visegrád Countries and Brazil” not only provides a rich and insightful perspective about the present cooperation between my country and the V4 members, but also makes a compelling case about the need to keep investing in

its future. In this connection, the Brazilian Government is deeply engaged in promoting increasingly closer ties in different fields with the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia. We are firmly convinced that our common cooperation initiatives will bring clear benefits to our peoples.

We commend the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary and the Hungarian Diplomatic Academy for this brilliant initiative, which will certainly receive widespread recognition in Brazil. We hope that “The Visegrád Countries and Brazil” will encourage new research works that can contribute to further strengthen the relations between Brazil and the V4 member countries.

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