

**THE VISIT OF DR SANJA PETKOVSKA TO THE FACULTY OF HUMANITIES OF THE NICOLAUS
COPERNICUS UNIVERSITY IN TORUŃ (POLAND) FROM 4TH TO 15TH MARCH 2024**

A research associate at the Institute for Criminological and Sociological Research, Dr Sanja Petkovska, visited the Faculty of Humanities of the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń (Poland) from 4th to 15th March 2024. Upon the invitation of the Centre for Excellence of this faculty and its head Professor Adam Kola, Dr Petkovska spent two weeks in learning about the activities of this institution and carrying out teaching and scientific activities within the Department of Balkan Studies.

The occasion for this invitation for academic visit was the publication of the international collection Decolonial Politics in European Peripheries: Redefining Progressiveness, Coloniality and Transition Efforts published by the end of 2023 for Routledge. Dr Francesco Trupia, one of the authors included in the anthology and Research Associate at this faculty, organized this event with the help of his colleagues and UMK. Besides Dr Petkovska as the editor and one of the authors of the chapter included in the collection, Dr Łukasz Moll, Associate at the Institute of Sociology at the University of Wrocław, and Dr Naum Trajanovski, Professor at the University of Warsaw, also spoke at the promotion. The promotion was held on Friday, March 15 in a hybrid format, so in addition to the researchers, professors and students present on site, participants have also possible to join the event virtually. The discussion that followed the presentations of the editor of the collection and the authors was extraordinary lively and a large part of the participants present on site took part in it, but also a good part of the participants who joined virtually. The topic that particularly occupied the attention of the participants was the international connection of actors in the shadow of events important for scientific production and the strengthening of their capacities to act at the international level.

In addition, Dr Petkovska used this visit to collect data for research on reflexive constitutionalism in the post-socialist context, with an emphasis on how it resolved the issue of minorities and socio-culturally different strata of society. The specificities of post-socialist constitutionalism are

a particularly significant issue from the side of normative socialization and citizen participation in social management and decision-making. During her stay in Toruń, Dr Petkovska established contacts with researchers dealing with the similar topics with whom she will collaborate on the preparation of an article on the topic based on a presentation from May 2022 held at the conference Socialist Constitutionalism and Diversity Management since the 1970s at the University of Heidelberg (Germany) for publication in a scientific journal.

In addition to the promotion of the international scientific collection, Dr Petkovska also held two seminars for students of Balkan studies in cooperation with professor Dr Agata Domachowska. It was particularly interesting that students of this major learn two languages from the Balkans, in this case Albanian and Serbian. The topics important for understanding the situation in Serbia and topics that Dr Petkovska currently work on were analysed with the students, especially the topic of civic education in the post-conflict context. In addition to extremely commendable efforts in the study of Balkan languages and societies, the solidarity and cooperation of Polish colleagues made a memorable impression, as well as the organization and enviable capacities of the Nicolaus Copernicus University. As a conclusion of the visit, the questions of the form of cooperation and the mechanisms of stimulating a greater dynamic of exchange between the Serbian and Polish higher education and scientific systems in the future were opened.