



INFORMATION ON COOPERATION BETWEEN THE CARDINAL STEFAN WYSZYŃSKI UNIVERSITY IN WARSAW AND THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST OF SANTA CATARINA FROM BRAZIL

In February 2015 the Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw (hereinafter: UKSW) signed an agreement on cooperation with the University of the West of Santa Catarina (hereinafter: UNOESC) from Brazil. This is a private academic institution with a decentralized structure, currently composed of 5 *campi* situated in cities of the west part of Santa Catarina, namely: Chapecó, Joaçaba, Videira, Xanxerê and São Miguel do Oeste, as well as of units in 5 other cities. Its academic community is constituted by approximately 900 academic staff and 21000 students. The UNOESC runs courses of different levels, including *cursos de graduação*, *mestrados*, and doctoral studies¹.

The UKSW-UNOESC agreement has a general scope, which covers different fields of science and it allows to develop cooperative initiatives by various faculties and units of both partners. However all current actions taken within a framework of the agreement concentrate on human rights and its protection on international and national level. They are carried out by the Institute of International Law, European Union and International Relations,

¹ Consult information available at: <http://www.unoesc.edu.br/unoesc/sobre>

Faculty of Law and Administration, to a large extent, but not exclusively, by the Department of Human Rights Protection and International Humanitarian Law (from the UKSW side) and Centre for Excellence in Law (from the UNOESC). In fact the initiative of developing inter-university cooperation originated first in the will to share knowledge and experience on human rights challenges and solutions, taking into account historical and current dilemmas faced by Poland and Brazil and the European and Latin American regions. Such substantive scope of international cooperation fits in the priority directions of research and teaching established by the Mission and Strategy of the UKSW² and implements goals of the UNOESC, which tends to create a research network on human rights among various Latin American (e.g. Brazilian, Mexican, Chilean) and European (e.g. Polish, Czech, Italian) academic institutions.

Since conclusion of the UKSW-UNOESC agreement on cooperation to this date several joint initiatives within its framework have already been taken. This includes, firstly, visiting lectures in Brazil and Poland. Secondly, joint research projects are carried out. They materialize in the form of publications and conferences. Both, universities undertook to organize joint international conferences and seminars. In October 2016 the UNOESC organized Spring International Seminar on *Human Dignity and Serious Violations of Human Rights*, in which the UKSW academics took actively part, presenting papers and serving as panelists. As a result of this conference a joint monography was published³.

The third, presently implemented, important field of the cooperation consists of exchange and dissemination of research results through publication in scientific periodicals of each of the partner institutions. The UNOESC publishes the *Espaço Jurídico Journal of Law* (EJLL). In the latest issues of this journal several articles of the UKSW academic staff can already be found. The current issue of the *Polski Przegląd Stosunków Międzynarodowych*

² "The Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University Mission and Strategy for the years 2014–2020" adopted by the Senate of the UKSW on 20.3.2014, available at: http://www.uksw.edu.pl/images/dokumenty/misja/zal_do_u_32_14.pdf (text in Polish).

³ See: N. L. X. Baez, E. Karska, A. P. Cobos Campos (eds.), *Human Dignity and Human Rights Serious Violations*, Qualis, Florianopolis 2016.

is the first step taken in order to share research of the UNOESC academics with Polish recipients.

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