

I am proud that three from ten Czech/Slovak students, who have qualified for this year's International Student Conference in Budapest, are from my classes. Several of my students have also used CEP sources for obtaining useful information concerning the possibility of studying abroad and relevant funding.

I should not forget the dozens of books which I was able to buy for our department's library with CEP's support.

My own career has developed as well during these two years. In 1997 I was offered the position of Deputy Director for Studies at the IIR and in the spring of 1998 I became the Director of this institute. Despite the amount of work related to this job, I kept my engagement with the university since for me, working with students is by far the most rewarding professional activity. This dual hatting also enables me to pull my students into the activities of the IIR. Students can use our library or

participate in our public events; I encourage them to publish in the IIR's periodicals (two excellent seminar essays and one book review written by my students were already published). Furthermore, two of my students joined our research teams as research assistants. Besides a modest side earning, being involved in practical academic research is for the students a strong incentive for studying even harder and, hopefully, also for remaining in the academic field after they finish their studies. I am sure that some of the best of them will in the future join the IIR as full-timers.

Looking back over the two years with CEP, I can only conclude that it was a happy and successful period both for me and, above all, for my students. I will miss the CEP spirit, the dedicated care of *Zora Vidovencova*, our country Director, as well as the CEP e-mail traffic. However, I am sure that as a CEP alumnus I will not lose touch with the Project's future development in which I am prepared to participate in terms of help and advice.

*Jirý Sedivý
Charles University, Prague*

and discussions took place, however, by the end of the second day between the two major opponents – the European Union and the Bulgarian Government.

The negotiation sessions were moderated by IOANA BESTIUC, a student from the American University in Bulgaria. The CEP lecturers provided just the general guidance at the beginning, and formed the "press" team – provocative questions from the "journalists" additionally heated the discussions before the final agreement was signed. The students greatly enjoyed to work in teams, and most of them felt that the atmosphere was close to that in real negotiations. Says Diana Dragova from the Varna University of Economics: *"It was great that we tried to walk in our governors' shoes"*.

Other people around heard that it was being decided to close the Kozloduy Power Plant, and, worried and surprised, they asked CEP Country Director Maria Popova: *"Aren't they too young? Who authorized them to do that...?"* The Negotiation Seminar was a simulation game, but many of Bulgaria's problems have indeed not yet found a solution, and these young people may be the future decision makers. Their performance at the seminar showed commitment, an effort to professionally interpret and work with facts, ability to compromise, and reach agreements. This makes us believe that the next generation of leaders will provide for better future of Bulgaria.

*CEP Students Monitor Elections in Georgia
Continued from page 8*

Democratic Institute. When they realized that the monitoring effort required many more interpreters than were available, Shea and Stefes acted quickly to ensure that several of their international relations students were engaged for this task. The students were grateful for the opportunity to contribute to the democratic process in their country. As TEA TABIDZE, a third year international relations student at Tbilisi State University, put it, *"if Georgia didn't help itself to develop, support from the outside wouldn't be enough."*

Chris Waters – CEP VL, Georgia

News in Brief

Human Rights Educational Initiative

"The Human Rights Educational Initiative (HREI) website is a small step toward cultivating interactive, interdisciplinary discussion and generating ideas for new courses and problem solving, community outreach projects. CEP lecturers will be critical in making the website effective in their respective host countries."

Janet Helin, CEP Russia 1997-99

Plans are in progress to establish an internet journal on human rights.

If you want to read the entire article:

The CEP Human Rights Educational Initiative Website:
Electronic Gateway

to Educational Reform, please visit the

CEP Website:
<http://www.cep.org.hu/>

Human Rights Poster Contest in Tomsk

On February 10, KWADWO APPIGIEY-ATTUA, Visiting Lecturer in Law at Tomsk State University, hosted a small ceremony to award prizes to the winners of the Poster Contest he organized in November and December under the title *"Protection of Human Rights"*. The contest had been announced in local newspapers and was open to the public. The winner, twelve-year-old VADIM PAVLOV, received a small set of paints and a certificate. The winning poster has now been placed in one of the halls in the Main Library of Tomsk State University.

CEP Students to Present Research to Mayor

Students of Visiting Lecturer NORBERT HOHL at the Slovak Agricultural University, who participated at the special *Honours Seminar on Internalisation*, have just returned from an excursion in Brussels. They will give presentations on their research at the office of the Mayor of Nitra, Slovakia, at the end of May.