

GERMAN-LANGUAGE LECTURES AT THE PRESSBURG (BRATISLAVA) ACADEMY OF LAW IN THE MID-19th CENTURY

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From its establishment in 1784 until 1844, lectures at the Academy of Law in Pressburg were delivered exclusively in Latin, and then, from 1860 to 1913, exclusively in Hungarian. During the one decade from 1850 to 1860, lectures were also held in German, for which purpose professors from all over Austria were appointed to Pressburg. In line with the prevailing ideas of training judges and officials in the centralistic, German-led unitary Austrian state, these lectures — intended above all for German and Slovak auditors — were held by professors of various nationalities: in addition to Germans, Hungarians and Czechs, there was also a Pole on the faculty. The Ministry of Instruction in Vienna gave most professorships at the Pressburg Academy of Law to young professors who had just completed their habilitation, but the selection appears to have been made with the utmost care. An impressive number of jurists who were to make their mark in research and teaching, or as judges and politicians in all parts of Austria began their careers during this period at the Pressburg Academy of Law.