**Rector of the Technical University in Zvolen**



*Dr. h. c. prof. Ing. Rudolf Kropil, PhD.*
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Dr. h. c. Prof. Dr. Rudolf Kropil, PhD. graduated in 1987 from the Faculty of Forestry of the University of Forestry and Wood Technology in Zvolen (currently Technical University in Zvolen) with major in Forest Engineering. After graduation he filled position of a research fellow in the Low Tatras National Park Administration in Banská Bystrica. Between 1989 and 1994 he worked as a researcher at the Department of Forest Protection and Wildlife Management of the Faculty of Forestry, University of Forestry and Wood Technology in Zvolen. He earned doctoral degree (PhD.) from his alma mater in 1994, in the scientific branch of Agricultural and Forest Plant Pathology and Plant Protection. He became assistant professor in 1995. In that year he completed the course of academic pedagogy at the Faculty of Humanities of Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica. He was appointed Associate Professor at the Faculty of Forestry (TUZVO) in 2002 after habilitation in the field of Applied Zoology and Wildlife Management. In 2005, the president of the Slovak Republic appointed him university professor of Applied Zoology and Wildlife Management.

Prof. R. Kropil completed several long-term scientific international internships, e. g. at the Forest Research Institute in Han. Münden, Germany (1985), at the University in Bern, Switzerland (1992–1993), at the University in Copenhagen, Denmark (1996), and at the Oxford University, United Kingdom (2001). He visited and lectured at universities and research centres in the USA, Japan, Australia and New Zealand, as well as in the most EU countries, e. g., regularly at the University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences in Vienna. In the years 2003–2006 he served as the national representative to the EU 6th Framework Program Committee dealing with Priority 6 “Sustainable Development, Global Change and Ecosystems”.

In 2001–2007 he served as the Vice-Dean for the Scientific Research of the Faculty of Forestry, Technical University in Zvolen. In October 2007 he was elected the Dean of the Faculty of Forestry and he has held this office since November 1, 2007. He held the position of Dean of the Faculty of Forestry until February 2012. He has been member of various bodies affiliated with the Faculty of Forestry in Zvolen, e. g. the Scientific Council of the Faculty of Forestry (since 2000), joint committees for PhD studies in silviculture, plant protection, applied zoology and wildlife management. Currently, he fills in various positions on both international and national levels, e. g. as the coordinating representative of the WP Wildlife Conservation and Management of the International Union of Forestry Research Organizations (IUFRO), founder and delegate in the International Union of Wildlife Biologists, member of the Advisory Board of the Prime Minister of the Slovak Republic, member of the Advisory Board of the Minister of Environment of the Slovak Republic, member of the Advisory Board of the State Nature Conservancy, as well as delegate to several boards, commissions and institutions in the areas of higher education and forestry research (APVV – Committee of Agricultural, Forestry, and Veterinary Science). He is a member of editorial boards of several international and national scientific and technical journals (Journal of Forest Science, Acta Facultatis Forestalis, Slovak Raptor Journal etc.).
In his capacity as a university professor, he has provided guarantorship for the following subjects: forestry zoology, game and wildlife zoology, biology of wild animals. He is also associate guarantor of Introduction to Ecology, the principal guarantor of bachelor study program Applied Zoology and Wildlife Management, and co-guarantor of the master and PhD. study programs Applied Zoology and Wildlife Management at the Faculty of Forestry in Zvolen. He has supervised and advised 100 bachelor and master theses and 13 doctoral theses, respectively. His research is being focused on applied zoology and forest ecology issues as related to other forestry fields, wildlife management, as well as ecological and environmental problems.

Prof. Kropil has acted as a national coordinator within 10 international projects, published or co-authored more than 200 scientific and technical articles that have been cited in more than 300 papers. Prof. Kropil was awarded the Outstanding Doctoral Research Award and Golden Medal for his substantial scientific contribution in research areas monitored by IUFRO at the World Congress of International Forestry Research Organizations Union in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia 2000.

Following the election of the Academic Senate of the Technical University in Zvolen held on November 15, 2011 the President of the Slovak Republic appointed Prof. Kropil as the Rector of the Technical University in Zvolen for a four years term with effect from February 18, 2012; to a second four years term with effect from February 18, 2016.

At the 67th session of the Slovak Rectors‛ Conference on May 30, 2014 Prof. Rudolf Kropil was elected as its President for a two years term with effect from June 5, 2014. At the 76th session of the Slovak Rectors‛ Conference on May 30, 2016 Prof. Rudolf Kropil was re-elected at SRC President for the next two years term with effect from June 5, 2016.

Prof. Rudolf Kropil is a member of the National Monitoring Committee of the National Strategic Framework, the Monitoring Committee for the Economics of the Government of Slovak Republic, the Council of Solidarity and Development of the Government of the Slovak Republic, the Government Council for Science, Technology and Innovation, European University Association Research Policy Working Group and a member of the European Economic and Social Committee in Brussels.