

**CENTRE FOR REGIONAL STUDIES
OF THE
HUNGARIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES**

7621 Pécs, Papnövelde u. 22.

Phone number: (72) 523-801

Fax: (72) 523-803

E-mail: horvath@rkk.hu

www.rkk.hu

ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC REPORT

2010

I. Main duties of the research unit in 2010

As previously, the institute considered its public tasks, i.e. basic research as its main priority in 2010. To showcase its results, it planned the publication of 8 monographs, 10 other volumes, some 400 research papers, its Discussion Papers series (5 issues), the Regions of the Carpathian Basin monograph series (two volumes) and the continuous publication of its journal, *Tér és Társadalom*.

As the basic institute of regional studies in Hungary, the Centre contributed to the survey of spatial principles and the domestic and international dissemination of research results; its research laying the groundwork for the territorial policies and development strategies of the European Union and Hungary. Its applied research has directly contributed to the establishment and management of balanced and sustainable spatial structures.

The eight decentralised research units of CRS have considered the analysis of specific territorial features a major task beyond their own research profile.

In 2010, an emphasis was placed on research contributing to the further development of institutions and instruments for territorial (regional, agrarian and rural development) policies, the better understanding of urban networks (cross-border city regions), preparation for the tasks of the 2011 Hungarian EU presidency (territorial cohesion, Danube strategy), the territorial consequences of the economic crisis (labour market, reindustrialisation, financial markets, business services), sustainable development (green economy) as well as the regional analysis of Western Balkan countries.

The year 2010 brought about fundamental changes in the 15-year long fruitful and mutually advantageous cooperative linkages with decision centres of spatial policy. Interest towards the scientific foundations of spatial policy decisions has drastically decreased; the maintenance of the innovative chain is seriously threatened. IBM has emerged as a new player besides the permanent collaboration with the economic sector, which continuously demanded analyses to provide the territorial foundation of its economic decisions.

Higher education was given high priority in 2010 as well, 48 research fellows of CRS – among them 13 professors – organised or participated as theme leaders in doctoral, masters and bachelor training courses.

The Institute planned the organisation of twenty international, thirty scientific and five cultural events. The year 2010 was highly significant from the aspect of international events and cooperative linkages.

For a long time, CRS has placed a special emphasis on the obtainment of scientific and professional awards, as a result of which ten new awards were acquired in the reporting year.

II. Outstanding research and other results in 2010

a) Outstanding research and other results

The management of spatial development and the future of spatial policy

Several signs indicate the uncertainty surrounding spatial development in Hungary. Since the change of regime, no stable public administrative frameworks have been created for the resolution of these tasks. During the past twenty years, the tenth central public administrative organ has been delegated this task. The reorganisation of the central state level with each new cycle creates uncertainty and weakens the prestige of Hungarian spatial policy in Europe. Spatial development is a complex task which can only be handled through regulation and organisation transcending portfolios. Another element of the image of central administration constitutes rather a theoretical question. This aspect is lacking from the establishment of the prevailing structures. Strong regions require weaker governmental positions; weak regions require strong public administrative centres. Currently, neither of the two models is present in Hungary.

The research sector has submitted proposals to the government on the basis of experiences of the operation of the domestic institutional system and international comparative analyses about possible ways to render the management of development policy more efficient and integrated. The essential elements of the proposed model of governance are the integrated strategic approach, the merging of institutions and decentralisation. These principles can be detected in the development policy documents of the European Union (Green Paper on Territorial Cohesion, Barca Report, Europe 2020, Fifth Cohesion Report). The territorial approach is quite unique therefore its management transcends the scope of traditional sectoral competences. Territorial approach must be an integral part of each sphere of public policy; on the other hand, it has to execute the specific spatial development and cohesion tasks. Therefore, the central management of spatial development does not belong to any traditional sector, since it does not only carry out spatial development tasks in its competence, but fulfils a coordinating role as a horizontal policy. On the basis of international experiences, this double role can be fulfilled by an individual portfolio or office disposing of a special legal status.

The inefficiency of the previous governmental organisational solutions of spatial development is due not only to the lack of stability but to the fact that they were integrated in the portfolios of ministerial departments with a traditionally weak position. In case spatial development becomes an integral part of a sectoral portfolio, it can fulfil this coordinating function within the ministry at best. Therefore, a more viable solution would be to delegate spatial coordination and cohesion policy to a top department.

In the elaboration of the model of central governance, its relationship with the different subnational levels has a primary significance. In the process of attaching state and subnational levels, organisational solutions should be found which enable the centre responsible for strategic-development governance to achieve the spatial coordination of the absorption of resources and strategic planning supported by domestic and European funds simultaneously. This central governmental organ should control the integrated development territorial management network encompassing spatial development institutions, managing authorities

and intermediate bodies as well, which would mark the end of the separation of the control of sectoral ministries and the organisational system.

The spatial distribution of competences among the various administrative levels is always a crucial factor in the establishment of the administrative system. It is particularly evident in case of spatial development policy that territorial stakeholders play a key role not only in the process of implementation, but in strategic planning or even the allocation of resources. The effort to quantify the advantages of decentralised governance for development policy is not uncommon nowadays. Besides determining the appropriate rate of decentralisation and centralisation, in the process of the creation of the model, the most suitable scale and organisational forms must also be designated. In the process of selecting the appropriate territorial levels and actors, an important element is to decide what tasks might be delegated to self-governments and representative frameworks, what functions the state desires to organise within deconcentrated organisational frameworks and the territorial units and levels serving as a framework for organisation and functioning must also be determined. An advantage of decentralised solutions is the direct involvement of stakeholders, their local knowledge, their power to mobilise resources, their complex spatial approach and the increased legitimacy and openness of decisions. Meanwhile, it is also a fact that one benefit of centralised solutions is the fulfilment of the principle of equity and spatial cohesion as opposed to the “egoism” of territorial stakeholders. Placed-based policy flourishing in the Union, i.e. the spatial approach dominating sectoral policies requires the direct inclusion of territorial stakeholders.

The organisational solutions and steering instruments of spatial development policy cannot be totally liberated from the specifics of the institutional system of the state in general and public policy, therefore, a crucial task is to determine the model of the territorial level of development policy in function of the reform of public administration. On the basis of domestic and international experiences, the advantages of the organisation of development policy on the scale of large regions are evident.

Participation in the development of the Hungarian standpoint on EU Cohesion Policy

For a long time, the Institute has supported the government with expert opinions concerning EU Cohesion Policies, which manifested themselves not only in the form of background studies, but in participation at expert conferences and working groups. Within the scope of preparations for the Hungarian EU presidency, various EU Cohesion Policy documents have been prepared. The Institute has elaborated pre-studies for the “Territorial State and Perspectives of the EU” and later provided assistance in the preparation of the text of the Territorial Agenda. An individual expert analyses was composed concerning the Hungarian standpoint concerning the future of EU Cohesion Policy and the document titled “Europe 2020”. As a significant result, we have demonstrated that Cohesion support received by Hungary are most severely jeopardised by the method of the distribution of funds among member states. During the programming period of 2007–2013, new member states receive structural and cohesion funds not on the basis of the Berlin formule adopted in 1999, but on the absorption capacity in relation to GDP. The amount of GDP is determined on the basis of data from the last 2-3 years preceding the new programming period which are supported by final statistical data. GDP in Hungary fell by 8 percent altogether in general in 2008-2009, which has still not been compensated by growth by the years 2010-2011. In case of unchanged methodology, Hungary would receive Structural and Cohesion funds post-2013 which are 7 % less than the present

value, which would imply the loss of HUF 1.6 billion. We have presented the most crucial statements of the Fifth Cohesion Report in the framework of the research.

Territorial dimensions of the green economy

In the framework of the analysis of spatial aspects of the green economy, we have examined the territorial impacts of economic development on the basis of the logic of strategic action embedded in the sustainability approach. According to this concept, green economy is virtually the “greening” of the economy through green sectoral development processes, the reinvigoration of the economy through promoting the creation of sustainable industry and the relevant entrepreneurial environment, job creation, the reduction of environmental hazards caused by the industrial sector, the creation of an economy with low environmental pressure which would guarantee the long-term functioning of the ecosystem besides the creation of jobs. The examination of the spatial aspects of the existing efforts to establish domestic green economy was carried out through green sectors (energy saving building industry, renewable energy management, sustainable transport and agriculture, water management, environmental infrastructure), in the meantime, on the basis of the above written, due to the horizontal nature of spatial development, a global synthesis of the processes can only be realised through an integrated approach. The comprehensive objective of integrated “green” spatial development is the protection of biological diversity, the development of agribusiness and rural economies, and the simultaneous consideration of the aspects of social policy the exploitation of natural and cultural (traditional) opportunities in order to enhance the population keeping power of rural areas together with employment opportunities and to establish an economy adapted to local environmental constraints (ecological agrarian industry). All this must be harmonised with sectoral policy measures directed at the popularisation of renewable energy, the development of the agrarian sector and the preservation of natural and cultural values.

An increase in the rate of renewable energy resources promotes sustainable development and enhances energy security through the reduction of high energy-import dependency. In the meantime, an important requirement in the use of renewable energy resources is mid-and long-term economic competitiveness with non-renewable energy resources as well.

An outstanding result of our research, agriculture may become a catalyst to green economic development in Hungary due to its strong attachment to other sectors. Thanks to the multiplier effect of green agrarian development on other sectors, it may generate positive processes in environmental protection and rural society as well. Hamlets may be the main beneficiaries of this phenomenon, since they provide excellent opportunities for green economy. The impacts would not only be present in distinctive local spots, but on settlement and territorial levels as well, since hamlets, due to their large number, may contribute to the regeneration of rural zones, increase their population preserving force and development as well. In relation to the agrarian sector of green economy: the application of the competitive family farming model would be the most suitable on the sandy soiled areas of the Danube-Tisa Interfluve, on the southern areas of Békés county cultivated by a large number of small farmers, the main directions of which would be vegetable and fruit production and open-air animal husbandry in the framework of bio-production. This activity would also serve the interests of natural environmental protection, just let us consider the grasslands of the Kiskunság or Körös-Maros National Park. Hungarian agriculture is involved in energy challenges in two ways: on one hand, the energy efficiency of production must be enhanced, and this is crucial since the realisation of efforts of WTO negotiations directed at the liberalisation of the agricultural trade would

raise the competitiveness of Hungarian products, on the other hand, the utilisation of biomass for energy purposes would reduce the energy-import dependence of the country, increase the stability of the market of agricultural products, improve the profitability of the agrarian sector and promote the creation of rural jobs. Our research devoted special attention on how the theoretical foundations of green economy are validated in local spatial development policy (integrated urban development). The proper balance between economic growth and environmental sustainability influences the well-being of the population, its living standards and the environmental security of urban spaces in a positive way as well. In order to guarantee the economic prosperity of cities without threatening their viability, the introduction of new strategic and conceptual elements is required. Therefore, sustainable urban policies must incorporate environmental oriented guiding principles which may be embedded in their economies to create the conditions of optimal environmental management.

Cross-border city regions

The analysis of the problem of city regions was achieved in the framework of the annual tasks of the project titled „Borderless urban spaces in the Carpathian Basin” of INNOTÁRS (NKTH). The spatial delimitation of domestic city regions in 2010 was carried out by two quite uncommon methods in Hungary (spatial auto-correlation, gravity model). As a concluding phase of Working Package Nr. 3, we measured the contribution of domestic urban areas to the gross domestic product (GDP) and their changing weight compared with the mid-1990s. Our results have been partially surprising: the contribution of rural areas to GDP has not augmented, yet the impact of the phenomenon of suburbanisation could well be detected, since the weight of non-central settlements has increased as a result of the relocation of the population, jobs and enterprises.

The research results of the analysis of cross-border urban areas differ from those of previous similar analyses:

- Collaboration is higher in the labour markets of city-regions, the only exception is the migration of Hungarian employee to Romania, due primarily to the disparities of wages;
- The real estate market of urban areas becomes unified, the role of foreign residential and industrial estate developers has become more characteristic in the previous years;
- The elimination of the bottlenecks of flows has begun, the necessary development programmes were reviewed by both parties, plans are in the implementation phase, yet the time-span of effective developments can still not be forecasted;
- The global crisis has led to the diminution of the quantitative indices of cooperation, yet this has also made parties more aware of the need for stronger and more integrated collaboration;
- The focal point of development has shifted from the level of institutions and individuals to the business sector and the market of personal where results are easier to quantify;
- In function of the size of urban areas and in each case we were able to identify a well-defined circle of key actors serving as catalysts to the development of linkages.

Reindustrialisation opportunities in Hungary during and post-crisis

During the economic crisis, the more vulnerable member states of the European Union (Central and Eastern European countries, the Baltic and Mediterranean countries) suffered a more severe diminution both in terms of industrial output and employment. In case of Hungary –

compared with its closest competitors – it is not only the domestic industry which suffered gravely from the effects of the crisis, but the chance of rapidly overcoming it is also jeopardised. The signs of the crisis first manifested themselves in the districts of export-oriented companies (more developed rural areas), and, afterwards, with the generalisation of crisis processes, the recession of regions of lower performance has become more marked where the chances of economic renewal are likely to remain low even post-crisis (closing of companies instead of temporary downsizing). The modification of the previously prevailing development paths of counties and regions has not transformed the spatial structure of the industry by the turn of the millennium in depth, thus the spatial inequalities will likely to be reproduced as a result of the future reestablishment of the status quo. Three main elements emerge in the proposals submitted for the relevant development policies designed to counterbalance the dominance of multinational companies and to modify the dual structure of the economy:

- measures directed at the spatial organisation of economic stakeholders and the creation of the institutional background for coordination;
- the need for a new industrial policy linking higher education, professional training, research and development and the subcontracting capacities of Hungarian SMEs to the large-scale industrial bases, thereby raising quality employment;
- the harmonisation of sectoral and spatial planning and the relevant documentation.

Mid-term evaluation of the “New Hungary Rural Development Programme”

The evaluation of the third and fourth (rural development) axes of the New Hungary Rural Development Programme (ÚMVP) has shed light on several facts indicating that

- theoretically decentralised decision-making and the treatment of demands with the intermediation of LEADER groups has led to insupportable delays to such an extent that the trust towards the programmes has been ruined both in the circle of actors and potential candidates. The main reason for this is the “overly controlled decentralisation”, i.e. the reduction of decision-making competences delegated to LEADER action groups and over-bureaucratisation of the judgement of proposals;
- The procedural problems besides the fact that in light of the measures of the 3rd and 4th axes, no deposits can be allocated – have neutralised the benefits offered by the relevant pretences of ÚMVP, therefore, the unified treatment of entrepreneurial development is advisable within the framework of the Economic Development Operational Programme of the New Hungary Development Plan. This would resolve the current problems of delimitation.

Despite the fact that individual measures may increase spatial cohesion, the procedural problems present in the bulk of the rural development measures of ÚMVP, the lack of coordination with ÚMFT and the small volume of development funds result in the aggravation of disadvantages and the strengthening of the peripherisation of rural areas.

Public service development network in the cross-border agglomeration of Bratislava

AGGLONET, the research titled “Hungarian–Slovakian agglomeration of Bratislava” was led by CRS and was realised in collaboration with the Forum Minority Research Institute of Somorja and 3 Hungarian and Slovakian local governments respectively. The focal point of the research was the examination of the impacts of suburbanisation affecting cross-border areas

of Bratislava and Csallóköz with a Hungarian majority, and to find possible solutions to cope with this phenomenon.

Compared with other analyses of suburbanisation, the unique nature of the research focusing on Bratislava was a result of the fact that the inhabitants leaving the Slovakian capital – 80 % of whom are families of Slovak nationality –, settle down in Csallóköz with a Hungarian majority (Slovakia) and the Hungarian side of the national border. In every case, a Hungarian ethnic milieu provided their new dwelling place. The novelty of the investigated phenomenon was particularly relevant from the aspect of Hungary since the massive migration of Slovakian citizens is a phenomenon of the previous four years. At the same time, several similar problems can be detected on both sides of the border; these areas were thus always examined together by the researchers. Their objective was to detect the partially known and partially hidden or latent problems and benefits which local governments, public service providers, inhabitants and civil organisations of settlements encounter in relation to the newly settled population. A further aim was to determine in what manner professional researchers could provide concrete assistance in tackling problems and exploiting opportunities. For this reason, six local governments were included in the project besides professional scientists (among them five receiving settlements, and one sending settlement as a part of Bratislava). They utilised a network building process to achieve their practical objective. In their workshops, besides the partners, professional practitioners of the given fields (regulatory affairs, public services, transport, education, health care, economy, ethnic questions) were also invited. The elaborated cooperation contract was signed by the six participating local governments as the conclusion of the project. The organisation AGGLONET is open to collaborate with further of local governments and public service providers. Its objective is to design development projects for tackling the detected problems.

The most crucial finding of the research is that the greatest problem emigrating Slovakian families encounter from the Slovakian side is of linguistic and cultural nature, while on the Hungarian side, these disparities can easily be overcome by the outward migrating population. In Hungarian settlements, the overcoming of language problems does not encounter barriers, a more severe problem is for foreign citizens to tackle regulatory and public service questions. In the future, their growing proportion (which is between 10 and 25 %) gives rise to political and social questions as well. In the meantime, it is evident, that the Hungarian side also benefits from the development of Bratislava due to the favourable spatial structural and geographical assets, since the outward migration of economic stakeholders has succeeded the flow of inhabitants. In the mid-term, this area will belong to the cross-border agglomeration of Bratislava and become integrated into a transnational region with Vienna as its centre. The research has laid down the foundations for the further investigation of this quite rare spatial phenomenon.

The results have been published in Hungarian and English language volumes. The practical messages of the project have been summarised in two languages in a short booklet as well (management, education, health care, public transport). The events and the entire research work has been closely followed by the written and electronic press of both countries, and the Hungarian Embassy in Slovakia was present at every event related to the project. The Ambassador was present at both the opening and closing ceremonies. The present project provides excellent foundations for an international project covering several countries to detect similar cross-border suburbanisation processes.

Regional labour economy

It has become obvious for each decision-maker that the basic explanation of the problems related to growth lie in the disorders of the labour market. The economic and employment policy measures affecting labour demand and supply are also responsible for the stagnating employment. In order to produce positive changes, a close collaboration between employment, economic and sectoral policies is necessary.

The study reviews the domestic labour market processes, primarily the regional inequalities of the labour market, and produces analyses about every region, the focal point of which was constituted by employment opportunities. The study highlights sectors where development and support may serve to tackle regional employment problems, and, if properly managed, may provide breakthrough points for regions.

During the research, we analysed the complex interrelationship between spatial development and employment policy, and placed a special emphasis on the need for coordination between development and employment policies, since spatial development and employment are categories which mutually complement each other. The efficiency of the central instruments and institutions of employment policy is so limited that it is almost unable to take into consideration the local assets and mobilise local resources due to its central nature. Efficient employment policy requires and demands the support of instruments, institutions and resources of spatial development policy. For this reason, it is necessary to establish institutions and procedures which can foster the inclusion of local actors in process of shaping the system of employment policy.

Territorial indices of activity, employment and unemployment reflect the general level of development of individual regions. The gap between the economic performance of the centre and the periphery is gradually becoming larger, all the regions except the one with the capital as its centre show a relatively deteriorating performance which ultimately leads to the aggravation of spatial disparities. All this indicates that economic cohesion is impossible without the existence of spill-over effects. This can well be detected in labour market indices as well. The cluster-oriented approach emerging from the turn of the millennium characterises the regional objectives of development policy in Hungary. Strategies show a growing awareness of the fact that growth based on Foreign Direct Investment cannot resolve the problem of lagging regions. The creation of competitive clusters results in long-term restructuring through the mobilisation of endogenous resources and the creation of jobs less affected by delocalisation and more integrated into the regional economies. This opportunity is particularly beneficial for companies emerging as a result of multiplier effects in innovative industrial sectors where mostly business services constitute the direct resources of employment which flourish thanks to knowledge production and innovative industries.

The task is two-fold: on one hand, the (small number of) locomotive industries must be detected which, if properly developed, may contribute to regional economic development and the (multiplicative) growth of employment. On the other hand, several smaller opportunities must be exploited, e.g. the support of primarily innovative employment projects adapted to small-and microregional aspects (ranging from social economy, social land program to the manufacturing of local products) and regional specialisation opportunities must also be detected in harmony with other regional assets (in some cases tourism, manufacturing or cultural industry).

Regional transformation in Western Balkan countries

The Balkans have been a major focus for the interest of Hungarian political activity and scientific research for centuries, and historically changing Hungarian ambitions long preceded the development of modern social sciences. In this era of modernisation, however, Hungarian science has turned towards defining political objectives in relation to the Balkans.

The disintegration of Yugoslavia added a new dimension to the problem of regional inequalities. The nationalisation of former regions resulted in territorial changes. The disparities between smaller areas within the new countries became more apparent. Serious problems were posed by the new state organisation also. During the initial phases of the organisation of the new state formations, spatial aspects were obviously neglected. The transformation of regions into a state can certainly not be regarded as traditional spatial organisation, and the consequences of social practice lacking experience were clearly visible in the various development paths of the new states of the West Balkans. The requirement for decreasing spatial disparities is among the priorities of state organisation in the new countries, while state policy focusing on the system of institutions and instruments guaranteeing the creation of new national identities placed less emphasis on this.

The questions of the stabilisation of the Balkans region are very much in the limelight of international political thought, planning and action. During the previous decade and a half, a great number of political documents focused on the objectives, instruments and institutions of the peaceful development of the West Balkans. The significant financial resources show the weight of this policy. The EU membership of several West Balkan states has been promoted by several current member-states, and EU accession is counted among the priorities of the development strategies of these new states.

A notable feature of recent decades has been an increase in spatial disparities. The earlier (tenfold) differences in income between regions continue to grow, but, more favourably, in addition to the relatively peaceful political conditions, other key factors in the development of the Balkans may be the strengthening of cohesion and the effective implementation of structural policy.

The volume published as an outcome of the project (part of the “Europe of the Regions” series) presents the spatial specifics of Western Balkan countries. It gives an overview of the more typical features of different eras in the transformation of the area, undertakes an evaluation of the effects of regional disparities and outlines the development perspectives for the region.

b) Dialogue between science and society

The basic principle of the Institute is that regional and settlement development based on solid scientific foundations are the guarantees to European competitiveness and economic growth. In order to achieve this goal, CRS places special emphasis on the dissemination and discussion of research results with a widening circle of professionals and public life actors. From amongst the concrete scenes of dialogue, we can list the following in 2010: As a part of the European Capital of Culture programme series: “Social scientists on the migration of intellectuals”, “Space providing milieu”. With rural society: „Dialogue in favour of rural areas”, “Day of rural developers”, “Hamlet college”. More publicity surrounded the book presentations: “South Great Plain” monograph (book presentation at ten venues), Budapest, the world capital at the turn of the two millenniums” (3 occasions), „Segregated. Rural ghettos at the

country's peripheries". Higher education activities of our Institute transcended the fulfilment of traditional educational and theme leader roles once again: the night of researchers, the programme series at open universities and professional colleges and the spatial development summer university provided an insight for interested domestic and cross-border young students into regional science. As the other side of our bilateral relations, the basic research, project and counselling activities of CRS strongly rely on proposals and opinions of professionals and the local population. The most significant projects include programmes of ÚMFT (The socialisation of regional science, Community–Knowledge–Library), which focus on accessing a wider audience and stakeholder events of IPA programmes for the preparation of Croatian and Serbian EU accession. A growing interest surrounded the participation of leading research fellows of CRS in radio and television debate forums (MTV Ma reggel, MR1 Kossuth Anyanyelve magyar, Jelenlét).

III. A presentation of national and international relations

Domestic co-operation

The year 2010 brought about fundamental changes in the 15-year long fruitful and mutually advantageous cooperative linkages with *decision centres of spatial policy*. The governmental institutional structure of spatial development has not been established, interest towards the scientific foundations of spatial policy decisions has drastically decreased. The internationally recognised results of Hungarian regional science and the maintenance of the innovative chain of research – development – competitive spatial policy implementation are under a serious threat.

A decline can be observed in the intensity of relations with the other important circle of partners of spatial research, *settlement and territorial self-governments*. The indifference of local governments lacking resources is evident towards the scientific bases of development concepts. In the strife to obtain EU funds, the conscious planning of the optimal harmonisation and utilisation of local resources has been replaced with designing project proposals.

A new phenomenon has emerged in the domain of *higher educational linkages* as well. On one hand, the backwash effects of rural universities can be felt in the staff of certain departments of the Institute. The more favourable wage offers of colleges struggling with problems of qualification (and with a more moderate system of requirements) have resulted in the departure of seven qualified researchers during the previous three years. On the other hand, there is a growing demand among departments operated in collaboration with universities for strengthening their positions in PhD training. This has led to a closer collaboration with the Széchenyi István University and the University of Debrecen. The Institute's position occupied in higher education has been strengthened by the nomination of two scientific advisors to professors and the habilitation of one senior research fellow

The permanent cooperation with the *economic sector* (Paks nuclear plant) has been enriched by a new actor, IBM Hungary which constantly requires analyses for laying the spatial groundwork for its decisions.

International relations

The most outstanding international event of 2010 was the international conference titled “Regional responses and global shifts” of the Regional Studies Association. 575 researchers and spatial development experts from 50 countries attended the congress where the number of presentations was 525. The main organiser of the conference was Centre for Regional Studies of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. Dirk Ahner, Director General for Regional Policy of the European Commission was also among the presenters. The results of the conference from the aspect of the development of regional science can be summarised as follows:

- The leader of Hungarian regional science, the Centre for Regional Studies of HAS has become a renowned stakeholder in the international scientific arena. The conference further raised the international prestige of the Institute.
- The conclusions drawn from the scientific programme of the conference provide new resources for Hungarian regional science; future research directions, programmes, cooperation networks have been envisaged.

- The support granted to young Eastern and South Eastern regional researchers to attend the conference influences the image of Hungary in a positive way.
- The marked presence of Eastern European regional science is a result of the scientific organisational activity of Centre for Regional Studies of HAS. This clearly proves that the Institute is among the leading scientific institutes of the area.

The Balkans research, opening a new research field in the analysis of European regional processes has enriched the international network of partners of CRS with *OECD LEED Local Economic Development Trento*. Among the tangible results of the collaboration, the most significant is the publication of the volume titled “Regional transformation in Western Balkan countries”.

The collaboration between *Central and Eastern European regional research units* was represented by a conference on the results of Eastern European regional transformation processes organised by 20 participants of six workshops. The successful internationally recognised collaboration with the Forum Minority Research Institute of Somorja and the Šafarik University of Sciences of Kosice are among our significant scientific results.

There are promising signs in the development of linkages with Croatian and Serbian research units as a fruit of our participation in further three IPA (Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance) projects. Interest towards Hungarian spatial research has grown in Balkans countries as well, and the model of CRS is under close scrutiny in these countries.

Research teams of our Institute attended four FP-7 Framework Programmes and seven other international collaborations in 2010; permanent negotiations with consortial partners were conducted for partnership in new international projects. In the framework of our current international projects, the Institute organised 12 seminars, round-tables and working group sessions with over 100 foreign participants.

The organisation of international events provided a demanding task for the community of our Institute. This has led to the establishment of a professional basis of international relations building in CRS. From organisational aspects, this can be regarded as the chief output of the year 2010.

IV. Brief summary of national and international research proposals, winning in 2010

- *ESPON SEMIGRA*: Concerned with the exposure of selective migration processes in sample areas of two Hungarian and three other countries.
- *Hungarian–Romanian CBC CrisKör „Environmental cadastre and ecological action plan of the Rivers Fehér-, Fekete- and Kettős-Körös”*: The objective of the project was to examine and evaluate the environmental impacts of activities in the investigated areas, and elaborates proposals for future sustainable environmental use and natural protection methods.
- *Hungarian–Serbian IPA InnoAxis project*: The project aims to design joint development objectives, strategic directions and related operational programmes of areas lying on both sides of the border which share similar assets and problems.
- *„Plan for Hungary–Croatia regional touristic product IPA cross-border cooperation programme 2007–2013” (2010–2011): Hungary–Croatia Regional Touristic Product Plan Project*. The collaboration aims to design a joint, comprehensive plan for defining the directions of future touristic and cultural development programmes. Its outstanding significance lies in the fact that this product plan will have to be integrated into every future project aspiring for funds of “Hungary-Croatia IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme”. Our researchers have designed a geographic information system (GIS) for the direct development of tourism.
- *„Regional Universities as Generators of a Transnational Knowledge Region (UNIREG IMPULSE) IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme 2007–2013”*: The project aims to reap the regional development benefits of cross-border cooperation, counselling, coordinating and organising activities of “service universities”. The project is organised around themes of rural development, experience economy and environmental protection, with the Croatian-Hungarian cross-border territory as its field of investigation. The studies contain strategic proposals for the development of the region. As a result of the project, joint data and information bases and interactive web pages were constructed.
- *The socialisation of regional science (TÁMOP, 2010–2011)*: The Institute organised presentation series and an international conference in the framework of the project, developed the Institute’s web page, which contributed to the more efficient dissemination of regional science.
- *Mid-term evaluation of New Hungary Rural Development Programme (2007–2013)*: Through the examination of the implementation of the programme, its results and impacts, the evaluation aimed to establish the groundwork for necessary adjustments and provide inputs for the coming strategic planning and programming cycle.
- *IQ-Net Paper on EU Cohesion Policy and the Implementation of the Lisbon Agenda: Lessons for EU2020*: Researchers meticulously analysed the three selected operational programmes commissioned by the European Political Research Centre operating at the Strathclyde University, and undertook the general presentation of each OP sustained by EU funds.
- The project titled *AGGLONET* realised in the framework of the HU–SK cross-border programme was concluded by the publication of Hungarian and Slovak language volumes. The main focus of the investigations was the cross-border agglomeration of Bratislava.

- The NETINNOV project, supported by NKTH, is approaching the end of its two-year time span. The previous Western Transdanubian innovation research extending to a national scale is currently in the phase of the evaluation and summary of surveys, which is likely to gain broad interest in the given field and constitute the starting point for future international collaborations.
- The three-and four-year *ESPAN* and *IRIS* projects supported by the Austria-Hungary Cross-border Cooperation Programme are in the second year, similarly to *E-Ruralnet* financed by the Leonardo Programme. The objective of *ESPAN* is to design an Austrian-Hungarian cross-border renewable energy strategy and the energy strategy of Western Transdanubia.
- The research related to the Danube Strategy commissioned by the ministry in charge of spatial policy (NFGM, NFM) has reached its concluding phase.

V. List of important publications in 2010

BOOKS

- Barabas D, Mezei I, Hardi T, Koós B, Gallay M, Kandráčová V (szerk.): Geografické poznatky bez hraníc.: výber z maďarských a slovenských príspevkov z fyzickej a humánnej geografie. Kosice: Univerzita Pvl Jozefa Safarika, 2010. 281 p. (ISBN: 978-80-7097-810-8).
- Barta Gy, Beluszky P, Földi Zs, Kovács K (szerk.): A területi kutatások csomópontjai. Pécs: MTA Regionális Kutatások Központja, 2010. 531 p. (ISBN: 978-963-9899-32-2).
- Barta Gy, Keresztély K, Sipos A (szerk.): A "világváros" Budapest két századfordulón. Budapest: Napvilág Kiadó, 2010. 373 p. (ISBN: 978-963-9697-72-0).
- Gál Z: National financial centres with international aspirations IFC development in the CEE region. In: Regional Responses and Global Shifts: Actors, Institutions and Organisations: Regional Studies Association Annual International Conference 2010. Pécs, Magyarország, 2010.05.24-2010.05.26. Regional Studies Association, p. 62. (ISBN: 9781897721360).
- Glatz F, Csatári B, T Gémes T (szerk.): A magyar tanyás vidékek.: (A kötet a II. Országos Vidék Fórum, Lajosmizse, 2009. június 3-4. előadásai és hozzászólásai alapján készült.) Lajosmizse, Magyarország, 2009.06.03-2009.06.04. MTA Történettudományi Intézet - MTA Társadalomkutató Központ, 2010. 143 p. (Párbeszéd a vidékért).
- Hajdú Z (szerk.): Szubszidiaritás és regionalitás az egyház- és államszervezetben. Pécs: MTA Regionális Kutatások Központja, 2010. 147 p. (ISBN: 978-963-9899-25-4). Bibliogr. a lábjegyzetekben. A könyv a Szubszidiaritás és regionalitás az egyház- és államszervezetben című konferencia (Pécs, 2009. szept. 17.) szerkesztett előadásait tartalmazza.
- Hardi T, Lados M, Tóth K (szerk.): Magyar-szlovák agglomeráció Pozsony környékén = Slovensko-maďarská aglomerácia v okolí Bratislavy. Győr; Somorja: MTA RKK Nyugat-magyarországi Tudományos Intézet - Fórum Kisebbségkutató Intézet, 2010. 223 p. (ISBN: 978-80-89249-43-5).
- Horváth Gy, Hajdú Z (szerk.): Regionális átalakulási folyamatok a Nyugat-Balkán országaiban. Pécs: MTA Regionális Kutatások Központja, 2010. 614 p. (Régiók Európája; 4.) (ISBN: 978-963-9899-35-3).
- Kovács K, Cartwright A: Controlled Decentralisation.: Institution-Building and Regional Development in Hungary. Pécs: Centre for Regional Studies of Hungarian Academy of Sciences, (Discussion Papers, 78.) ISBN 978-963-9899-26-1, p. 58 (2010).
- Kovács T: A paraszti gazdálkodás és társadalom átalakulása. Budapest: L'Harmattan, 2010. 256 p. (ISBN: 978-963-236-247-2).
- Mészáros R, Nagy G, Nagy E, Boros L, Pál V: A globális gazdaság földrajzi dimenziói. Budapest: Akadémiai Kiadó, 2010. 391 p. (Modern regionális tudomány szakkönyvtár). (ISBN: 978-963-05-8936-9).
- Pálné Kovács I, Kutsar D (szerk.): Internationalisation of Social Sciences in Central and Eastern Europe.: The „Catching Up” – a Myth or a Strategy? London ; New York: Routledge, 2010. 234 p. (Routledge/European Sociological Association Studies in European Societies; 13.).

- Szirmai V (szerk.): Közép-Dunántúl. Pécs ; Budapest: MTA Regionális Kutatások Központja - Dialóg Campus Kiadó, 2010. 503 p. (A Kárpát-medence régiói; 12.). (ISBN: 978-963-9899-31-5).
- Váradai MM (szerk.): Esélyteremtők. Budapest: Vita, 2010. 247 p. (ISBN: 978-963-508-596-5).
- Virág T: Kirekesztve.: Falusi gettók az ország peremén. Budapest: Akadémiai Kiadó, 2010. 266 p. (ISBN: 978-963-05-2228-7).

PAPERS

- Beluszky P, Sikos T T: Changing Village: Typology of Rural Settlements in Hungary at the Beginning of the Third Millennium. Pécs: Centre for Regional Studies of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, (Discussion Papers, 66) p. 53, ISBN 978-963-9899-02-5 (2008).
- Czirfusz M: Faktoranalízis, a látszatmegoldás. TÉR ÉS TÁRSADALOM 24:(1) pp. 37-49. (2010).
- Czirfusz M, Szabó P: The nearest-neighbour analysis and its application. In: Kulcsár L, Kulcsár JL, Marosi L (szerk.). Regional Aspects of Social and Economic Restructuring in Eastern Europe: The Hungarian Case. Budapest: Hungarian Central Statistical Office, 2010. pp. 167-177. (ISBN: 978-963-235-293-0).
- Duray B, Keveiné Bárány I: Tájdinamikai vizsgálatok - a tájhasználat-változás és regenerációs potenciál összefüggéseinek modellezése. In: Unger J (szerk.): Geoszféra 2009: A Szegedi Tudományegyetem Földtudományok Doktori Iskolájának eredményei. Szeged: SZTE TTIK Földrajzi és Földtani Tanszékcsoport, 2010. pp. 99-149. (GeoLitera). (ISBN: 978-963-306-013-1).
- Erdősi F: A klímavédelem eddigi mérlege és kilátásai. TÉR ÉS TÁRSADALOM 24:(1) pp. 1-14. (2010).
- Faragó L: A tervezési rendszer korszerűsítésének indokai és szemléleti alapjai. PÉNZÜGYI SZEMLE 55:(3) pp. 448-451. (2010).
- Gál Z: Miért nem lett Budapest a kelet-közép-európai régió pénzügyi központja?: Budapest pénzügyi szerepköre az ezredfordulón. In: Barta Gy, Keresztély K, Sipos A (szerk.). A "világváros" Budapest két századfordulón. Budapest: Napvilág Kiadó, 2010. pp. 137-165. (ISBN: 978-963-9697-72-0).
- Gál Z: The role of research universities in regional innovation.: The case of Southern Transdanubia, Hungary. In: Longworth N, Osborne M (szerk.): Perspectives on Learning Cities and Regions: Policy Practice and Participation. Leicester: &, 2010. pp. 84-106. (ISBN: 978-1-86201-448-0). Kiadó: NIACE (National Institute of Adult Continuing Education)
- Hamar A: Megújuló folytonosság.: Közfoglalkoztatás egy észak-alföldi kistérségben. ESÉLY 21:(1) pp. 65-78. (2010).
- Horváth Gy: Inequalities in the Central and Eastern European research area.: Challenges of regional decentralisation. In: Pálné Kovács I, Kutsar D (szerk.) Internationalisation of Social Sciences in Central and Eastern Europe: The „Catching Up” – a Myth or a Strategy?. London ; New York: Routledge, 2010. pp. 115-129. (Routledge/European Sociological Association Studies in European Societies; 13.) (ISBN: 978-0-415-54823-6).
- Horváth Gy: Regionalism in a unitary state.: The case of Hungary. In: Scully R, Wyn Jones R (szerk.) Europe, Regions and European Regionalism. London: Palgrave MacMillan, 2010. pp. 184-202. (Palgrave Studies in European Union Politics) (ISBN: 978-0-230-23178-8).

- Horváth Gy: Ways and experiences of regional transition to market economy in Eastern and Central Europe.: The case of research area. In: Heimpold G (szerk.) 20 Jahre deutsche Einheit: Von der Transformation zur europäischen Integration. Halle: Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung, 2010. pp. 133-147. (ISBN: 978-3-941501-05-8).
- Horváth Gy, Lelkes G: Területi kohézió a Kárpát-medencében: trendek és teendők [Regional cohesion in the Carpathian basin. Trends and tasks]. In: Bitskey B (szerk.) Határon túli magyarság a 21. században: Tanulmánykötet. Konferencia-sorozat a Sándor-palotában, 2006-2008. Budapest: Köztársasági Elnöki Hivatal, 2010. pp. 233-262. (ISBN: 978-963-06-8928-1).
- Koós B: A gazdasági tevékenységek agglomerálódása egy vállalat-demográfiai modell tükrében. TÉR ÉS TÁRSADALOM 24:(1) pp. 51-64. (2010).
- Kovács K: Social and administrative crises interlocking: the misery of rural peripheries in Hungary. EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRYSIDE 16: pp. 89-113. (2010).
- Kovács K, Nagyronai J, Nyakó M: Egy (kis-) iskolatörténet és tanulságai. In: Lányi A, Farkas G (szerk.) Miért fenntarthatatlan, ami fenntartható?. Budapest: L'Harmattan, 2010. pp. 62-100. (Környezet és társadalom; XXI. századi forgatókönyvek). (ISBN: 978-963-236-322-6).
- Lux G: Az ipar hagyományos terei: A régi ipari térségek. TÉR ÉS TÁRSADALOM (ISSN: 0237-7683) 23: (4) pp. 45-60. (2009).
- Lux G: From industrial periphery to cultural capital?: Restructuring and institution-building in Pécs. In: Sucháček J, Petersen JJ (szerk.) Developments in Minor Cities: Institutions Matter. Ostrava:2010. pp. 103-126. (ISBN: 978-80-248-2213-6).
- Maurel M-C, Póla P: L'émergence du développement local.: le cas de Bóly en Transdanubie méridionale. In: Halamska M, Maurel M-C (szerk.) Les acteurs locaux à l'épreuve du modèle européen LEADER: France - Hongrie - Pologne. Prague: 2010. pp. 149-184. Prague, CEFRES ; Varsovie, IRWiR PAN. (ISBN: 978-80-86311-22-7).
- Pálné Kovács I: Equal status and different conditions of local governments in Hungary. In: Hoff W (szerk.) The Critique of Law: Independent Legal Studies. Warszawa: 2010. pp. 131-146. (Equality; III.). (ISBN: 978-83-61408-42-0).
- Pálné Kovács I: Középszintű reform és/vagy területi léptékváltás. ÚJ MAGYAR KÖZIGAZGATÁS 3:(1) pp. 13-21. (2010)
- Póla P: Problémák és dilemmák a magyarországi gazdasági kamarai rendszerben. In: Dobák M, Kardos J, Stausz P, Zachar PK (szerk.) Társadalmi és gazdasági érdekérvényesítés a XX. században. Budapest: L'Harmattan, 2010. pp. 239-253. (ISBN: 978-963-236-255-7).
- Rácz K, Tóth M: Identitás, etnicitás, önszerveződés egy kistalusi közösségben. In: Lányi A, Farkas G (szerk.) Miért fenntarthatatlan, ami fenntartható?. Budapest: L'Harmattan, 2010. pp. 101-126. (Környezet és társadalom; XXI. századi forgatókönyvek) (ISBN: 978-963-236-322-6).
- Rechnitzer J: A régiók a magyar területi politikában. JOG - ÁLLAM - POLITIKA 2:(2) pp. 3-25. (2010).
- Rechnitzer J, Smahó M: Cross-border co-operation of higher education institutions in Western Hungary. In: Langer J, Vlasic G, Alfircic N (szerk.) Knowledge Region: Alps-Adriatic Challenges. Frankfurt am Main ; New York ; Berlin ; Bern ; Bruxelles ; New York ; Oxford ; Wien: Peter Lang Verlag, 2010. pp. 183-190. II. Actors and Cases. (ISBN: 978-3-631-58557-3 pb).
- Romelić J, Nagy I, Bjeljac Ž: Degradation processes in rural borderline settlements in the region of Vršac Mountains. ZBORNIK RADOVA GEOGRAFSKI INSTITUT JOVAN CVIJIC 60:(1) pp. 1-15. (2010).

- Sikos T T, Beluszky P: Classification of rural settlements in Hungary at the beginning of the third millennium. SELYE E-STUDIES 2010:(1) pp. 1-22. (2010).
- Smith A, Timár J: Uneven transformations: Space, economy and society 20 years after the collapse of state socialism. EUROPEAN URBAN AND REGIONAL STUDIES 17:(2) pp. 115-125. (2010). IF: 1.128*
- Somlyódy P Pfeil E: Emerging local authority networks within the framework of local administration reform in Hungary. GEOGRAPHIA POLONICA (ISSN: 0016-7282) 82:(2) pp. 5-20. (2009).
- Somlyódy P Pfeil E: Hungarian public service reform.: Multipurpose microregional associations. In: Swianiewicz P (szerk.) Territorial Consolidation Reforms in Europe. Budapest: Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative, Open Society Institute, 2010. pp. 255-264. (ISBN: 978-963-9719-16-3).
- Timár J, G Fekete É: Fighting for recognition: feminist geography in East-Central Europe. GENDER PLACE AND CULTURE - THE JOURNAL OF FEMINIST GEOGRAPHY 17:(6) pp. 775-790. (2010). IF: 1.043*
- Váradai MM: A közfoglalkoztatás újtjai és útvesztői egy aprófalvas kistérségben. ESÉLY 21:(1) pp. 79-99. (2010).
- Váradai MM: Az "Út a munkához" program hatásvizsgálatának eredményei. In: Ferge Zs, Darvas Á (szerk.). Gyerekesélyek Magyarországon: A "Legyen jobb a gyermekeknek" Nemzeti Stratégia Értékelő Bizottságának 2009. évi jelentése. Budapest: MTA GYEP Iroda, 2010. pp. 221-256.