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OF THE
HUNGARIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES**

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ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC REPORT

2011

I. The main tasks of CRS in 2011

CRS closed its most difficult year since its foundation in 2011. The economic circumstances have drastically deteriorated as regards funds received from research projects as well as budgetary financing. The fact that the institute “lost” 21% of its staff during the recent year had a significant impact on performance. The most painful fact was that three-fourth of the retiring employees who left the Institute were researchers. Despite these highly unfavourable circumstances, the public officials of CRS managed to perform their duties with honour.

The institute considered its public tasks, i.e. basic research as its main priority in the year 2011 as well. To showcase its results, it planned the publication of 4 monographs, 9 other volumes, some 300 research papers, its Discussion Papers series, the Regions of the Carpathian Basin monograph series and the continuous publication of its journal, *Tér és Társadalom*. These tasks were successfully accomplished despite the reduction of its staff number; the number of references to the publications of our Institute was outstandingly high, 1804 in 2011.

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

In 2011, emphasis was placed on research contributing to the border regions of the Carpathian basin (cross-border urban regions and environmental impacts, transnational knowledge regions), the territorial and network aspects of innovation (the role of state borders, R&D linkages), the aspects and further development of institutions and instruments for territorial (cohesion, public education and rural development) policies, the territorial impacts of the economic crisis, the settlement network and sustainable development (smart and viable cities, brown-field areas) as well as the comprehensive research on the programme area of the Danube Strategy.

The unfavourable changes in the 15-year long fruitful and mutually advantageous cooperative linkages with decision centres of spatial policy continued in 2011 as well. There has been a lack of interest towards the scientific foundations of spatial policy decisions; the maintenance of the innovative chain is seriously threatened. IBM Hungary, which continuously requests analyses to provide the territorial foundation of its economic decisions was an important player besides the permanent collaboration with the economic sector.

Higher education was given high priority in 2011 as well, 45 research fellows of CRS – among them 13 professors – organised or participated as theme leaders in doctoral and masters courses.

The institute planned the organisation of fifteen international, thirty scientific and five cultural events. The year 2011 was highly significant from the aspect of international events and cooperative linkages with the Western Balkans and Russia.

II. Outstanding results and other achievements in 2011

a) Outstanding research results and other achievements

Cross-border relations between urban regions in the Carpathian basin

The strengthening of cross-border urban areas may ameliorate the disadvantageous situation of peripheral, isolated areas. The services provided by macro-centres on the other side of the Hungarian border may respond to the demands of the population faster. The rapidly developing cross-border economies provide opportunities for SMEs operating in the Hungarian border area to join prosperous economic networks. The infrastructural and rehabilitation programmes in large cities may provide potential subcontracting roles for the domestic construction industry. The space-organising potential of centres is enhanced if they do not only provide central functions for their domestic, immediate catchment areas but also reintegrate the background areas lying across the border. Due to the cross-border demand, certain economic functions may become stronger and the demand may stabilise as well. The current processes are a new challenge since there is a visible tendency on part of Hungarian, Romanian and Slovakian businesses to move out of their immediate border areas and search for more distant and concentrated markets once their “learning years” are over. The research explored the system of relations between Hungarians living in the mother country and in neighbouring countries, and also the relationship between the majority nation of the neighbouring countries and the Hungarian “nationalities” living there. The political role of cross-border Hungarians is primordial in the development of linkages. This does not relate to their involvement or absence from national policy-making but their weight in the territorial meso-level and local units as well. The most significant development of linkages was observed in the retail and services sectors in the case of each investigated urban region. The research demonstrated that the level of prices and wages in individual countries influenced, but by no means determined the direction and balance of relations. Komarno is an outstanding example of this, where the higher level of average wages and number of inhabitants would lead us to conclude that the flow of workforce is directed from Hungary towards Slovakia; nevertheless, experiences prove just the contrary. In the field of civil relations no significant development can be discerned, the linkages established in culture and sports during the change of regime are still functioning, however, due to differences in regulation, in other domains, for instance in social areas they are lacking or occur only randomly. Even though the national regulation does not favour the establishment of relationships in the domain of public services, forward-looking initiatives can still be detected (e.g. a cross-border sister department, cooperation in emergency care). The real estate market is a specific domain of the examined relationships, where the initially significant price differences led to intensive traffic in the Hungarian-Slovakian border region. The suburban development in Bratislava and Košice transcended the borders and hundreds of Slovakian citizens purchased real estates in Hungary. Currently, as concerns Komárom–Komárno with its special status, we can talk about a unified real estate market despite the national frontier.

The border as an innovative revitalisation axis

Even though the primary objective of the project INNOAXIS was the elaboration of development programmes along the Hungarian-Serbian border area, in our empirical research which provided the basis of the situation analysis we have established several significant scientific statements. The areas lying on the opposite sides of the border were sharply divided by the national frontier; therefore the former, natural spatial-structural relations deteriorated, which hindered the development of the area. Due to unfavourable economic processes and the impacts of the Yugoslavian war, the frontier situation is currently identical with a peripheral situation in most parts of the region. Nevertheless, it is evident that the region is characterised by countless similarities up to our days. While the presence of similar assets implies identical opportunities and problems whose joint exploitation and resolution through exchanging experiences would be highly beneficial, differences, on the contrary, offer solutions in situ for the development of a certain internal division of labour, the exploitation of local resources within the region and the diffusion of innovation. The area's internal system of relations is not sufficiently developed, and being divided poses a tremendous threat to the long-term functioning of the area. There is no other way to assure the catching up of the area but through the elimination of the dividing role of the frontier and through local cooperation between regional stakeholders. This implies, on one hand, supporting the creation of a competitive, cross-border regional economy based on internal assets and environmental sustainability, and on the other hand, strengthening the existing socio-cultural community cooperating on the level of the region. In order to achieve these development objectives, we elaborated an economic and human operational programme based on a common strategy, whose proposed fields of intervention focus on the mid-term activities of local actors and place emphasis on the environmental and social sustainability of the region.

Environmental impacts in the cross-border region of the Körös River

The research investigated the major processes detrimental to the nature and the environment and the attitude of the affected population in the cross-border area of the Fehér, Fekete and Kettős Körös Rivers. The bulk of anthropological activities detrimental to the environment consisted of measurable and analysable environmental interventions related to agriculture, the extractive industry (mineral deposit sites), wastewater and waste management. A joint action plan directed at sustainable environmental management in the border area was prepared on the basis of this information. The significance of the small-scale cross-border co-operations, linkages is enhanced by the on-going paradigm change of spatial policy in Hungary's background regions. The most important statement of the research is that besides or in the framework of large-scale cross-border organisational systems (Euroregions), there is an increase in the role of small-scale cross-border cooperation forms; city/city, micro-region/micro-region, micro-region/city, associations of towns and settlements, gateway transit functions of large and mid-sized towns, as well as other inter-settlement relations such as EGTCs.

Regional universities as the creators of a transnational knowledge region

The overall objective of the Hungary–Croatia cross-border IPA project was the development of a common knowledge base and network extending to the scientific institutions of the area and the regional economy in the domains of environmental protection, rural development,

strategic planning and knowledge transfer. The results cannot be grasped primarily in new scientific discoveries, but in the launch and professional preparation of the cooperation between the stakeholders involved.

Hungarian-Croatian Regional Tourist Product Plan

In the framework of the cooperation, after a significant empirical survey a geographical information system was prepared (GIS) containing social, economic and environmental factors related to tourism. A GIS-based landscape evaluation and analysis was performed on the basis of thematic maps which demonstrated the tourist potential and infrastructure of each region and identified those areas in the given region where further tourist developments are needed. Four product plans were elaborated in the framework of the programme: ecotourism, leisure tourism, aqua-tourism and equestrian tourism product plans. The success of this endeavour is demonstrated by the fact that the plan has become the basis of regional tourism development oriented projects.

Cooperation in the evaluation of EU cohesion policy

National reports prepared under the leadership of the European Policies Research Centre for the responsible committees of the European Commission and the European Parliament are among the most significant commissions given by the EU, since, on one hand, they were used in the evaluation of the Hungarian situation in the comparative analysis of the cohesion policy in Europe, and on the other hand, the Institute's results may provide assistance in the domestic learning and adaptive processes as well. For the participating community of researchers, it provided an excellent opportunity to gain an insight into the functioning of the network which is considered as the brain trust of cohesion policy: e.g. the ex-post evaluation of the absorption of the Cohesion Fund (2000–2006) from the aspect of management and implementation. As a member of the EoRPA Consortium which evaluates the regional and competitive policies of European member states on a regular basis, our researchers prepared a country study about the domestic model of cohesion policy of the recent years. The primary focus of the project titled "A Comparative study on the visions and options for cohesion policy after 2013" was on reviewing the relevant domestic professional literature which enabled us to detect domestic ideas and efforts related to the cohesion policy of the coming programming period.

The impact of relationship networks on innovation

In the framework of the project NETINNOV an unprecedented questionnaire-based, representative nationwide survey was conducted among domestic small and medium-sized enterprises which serves as a basis for presenting the characteristics of the innovative activities of firms, the social network parameters of economic and innovative partnerships, the patterns of sectoral and regional differences and the interaction between the two main fields of research (models, group of firms). We have concluded that less than one third of the enterprises are engaged in any kind of R&D activities. There is an extremely strong interrelatedness between the existence of research and development activity within the firm and the spatial orientation of sales and acquisition contacts. The innovative activity of firms depends on company size and varies from sector to sector: the highest levels are detected among firms operating in professional, scientific and engineering activities, industrial and infocommunication sectors, fi-

nancing, insurance and real estate affairs. The participation of actors involved in knowledge production and transfer and innovation supporting institutions is the rarest in domestic small and medium-sized firms' cooperation contacts or networks. Formal cooperation contacts can be detected in the case of the majority of firms. Network cooperations are scarcely used as a means of cooperation by the majority of enterprises, only 14% of firms are engaged in a more serious form of network cooperation. The geographical location of partnership relations established with economic and non-economic organisations also shows significant disparities. Firms were most likely to establish a partnership in situ. In almost all partnership orientations, the involvement of local partners is the highest, and the probability of occurrence tends to diminish with increasing spatial distance. Our results highlight the role of spatial proximity and personal contacts in the establishment of linkages. The majority of economic actors in terms of collaborative contacts are isolated in the international context, and even those having such partners do not base their embeddedness on a complex system of relations. There is an evident correlation between innovative activity, social embeddedness and the willingness to cooperate. Those firms which are interested in research, development and the permanent production of new products and services or processes are more likely to collaborate with other firms, their system of relations is wider and more complex, they are more likely to form networks and are more strongly embedded in their organisational milieu through these ties, and vice versa. At the same time, the number and composition of cooperation channels oriented towards non-market actors is extremely low. 70% of innovative firms do not have any connections with higher education institutions, 90% do not collaborate with research units, 50% are not linked to any economic development or professional organisation at all. The most thought-provoking result is that 82% did not cooperate with any innovation supporting organisation during the past three years. In order to enhance practical utilisation, the development potential intrinsic to basic research and the national knowledge reserve, a possible recipe for corporate success and competitiveness was prepared as an outcome of our project.

Smart cities

Smart or viable cities are settlements which utilise the existing technological opportunities, primarily information and communication technologies in an innovative way in order to promote the creation of a better, more diversified and sustainable urban environment. A city is smart if its investments in human capital and traditional (transportation) and modern information and communication infrastructure promote and stimulate sustainable economic development and enhance the quality of life with the wise management of natural resources. Smart cities use infocommunication technologies in a way that permits the better coherence between the infrastructural systems and services of the city, thus achieving higher efficiency and more intelligent functioning. The essence of the research commission received from IBM Hungary was to adapt the methodology of Smarter City Assessment to the domestic environment in order to gain a reliable, exact picture of what assets, opportunities and results our cities are able to use in evaluating the directions of smart-developments most suited to their needs. The objective of the analyses was to present the viability of seven selected cities (most of them with county status) i.e. their achievements in the domain of people (health, education, public security), business life, city services, communication, transport, water management and energy. The research shed light on those areas and sub-sectors where cities achieve outstanding performance due to their assets or former developments and reveals those where significant gaps are observed. The main objective was not to establish a ranking of the cities but to investigate through the application of smart city analyses methodology and international bench-

marks which directions each city has to pursue in order to achieve a more viable urban milieu. The application of smart systems can result in a more efficient, thus cheaper functioning of local public services and public utilities system. The availability of more efficient and cheaper public services and public utilities system contributes to raising the competitiveness of a city and the quality of life of its inhabitants (people and firms).

Budapest from the aspect of investors

On the basis of end-user preference evaluation, it can be declared that the capacity of Hungary and Budapest to attract investors has been re-evaluated during the past twenty years. The former benefits guaranteeing good positions can be detected only in the eastern and southern countries of Europe, and investors' attention is directed at these areas. The current general economic recession has become a powerful factor to calculate with, thus further weakening Hungary's competitiveness – in a more powerful way perhaps than in the rest of the countries of the area. This implies that Hungary and Budapest can only rely on the assertion of traditional investor benefits instead of focusing on higher added value and special advantages which have appreciated in the meantime. Opportunities stemming from positional advantages were not converted into achieving higher level positions – therefore, Budapest could not become the financial centre of East Central Europe and fell behind in competitiveness compared with other East Central European capital cities. Concerning the national context, besides the numerous positive features, investors' criteria of preferences where Hungary's performance is visibly insufficient were also listed. These are: lack of competitiveness, narrow market, the decline of reliability and predictability – changing regulation and tax policy – wages overburdened by social contributions, corruption, the excess of bureaucracy and its lack of transparency. At the same time, Budapest is still an outstandingly popular place on the basis of its urban environment and the criteria of preferences linked to sustainable quality of life. End-users generally experience a lack of consistency in urban development: even though the economy's functioning is separated from the public sector, the city should dispose of a transparent strategy related to economic development, which should be taken into account in case of developments of other nature as well. The proposals made as an outcome of the research concern areas where the city can take concrete steps to promote competitiveness in order to make Budapest attractive for (new) investors once more.

The transformation of the brownfield areas of Budapest

The research reviewed the processes characterising the past decade, more specifically the era following the financial-economic crisis, in the framework of which the main tendencies, internal and external factors and territorial specifics were evaluated. Brownfield revitalisation in Budapest resulted only in a change of functions, without enabling the emergence of higher value added industrial sectors in the given activities. The brownfield zones experiencing a dynamic transformation were already concentrated in specific areas in the 1990s which were highly valuable in terms of the real estate market and disposed of favourable development potential, and this tendency has just become stronger in the decade post-2002. These areas involve the main transportation axes, hubs and the bank of the Danube. The process of privatisation and its impact on property relations strongly determined the revitalisation opportunities of brownfield zones in the 1990s. Thus, real estate developers avoided the fragmented, overly privatised areas whose chances of traditional regeneration are deteriorating despite their potential favourable assets. The role of district municipalities and the capital city in in-

fluencing brownfield revitalisation is strongly limited, and apart from changing the zoning classification, they do not dispose of any tools to influence the process. The financial and economic crisis as the dominant factor of the second half of the past ten years has profoundly influenced the process and future chances of transformation. At the same time it can be declared that the problematics of brownfields belongs to the sphere of real estate management, other sectors have a much less powerful impact on its evolution.

The examination of the extension of the Paks Nuclear Power Plant

The objective of expert studies prepared for the power plant was the analysis of the development policy, institutional and social context related to the extension of the reactor. On the basis of the effects of the economic boom effects generated by the investment, our findings justified that they had a decisive impact on the region's economy in its phases of conjuncture and deconjuncture as well. Multiplier effects are felt in conjuncture, and besides the direct effects of the investment, indirect, inter-sectoral and induced effects can also be discerned; besides the favourable consequences, supplanting, re-spending, substitution effects may also arise which reduce the value of the multiplier and may have a detrimental impact on certain factors of the regional economy. These favourable processes are partially or entirely reversed in deconjuncture; the growing cyclicality of the economy may seriously threaten the equilibrium. Large-scale investments producing a boom effect justify the following theoretical reasoning, according to which the influence of these mega-events and their related multiplier-effects on the local economy and society is largely dependent on the specific sectors, the development level of the local economy and the type of investment undertaken. In most cases we can observe that local society does not only anticipate the positive impacts of the developments but often regards the actions which induce significant changes in the region's life with suspicion. The studies reflected on the development needs of infrastructure elements and the questions related to the cyclic overload which they experienced. Besides the problems related to the increasing overload of the existing infrastructure, the development needs of various infrastructure elements, the adjustment of local and intercity transportation development to the "boom" were also discussed.

Micro-regional associations in public education

The research conducted in ten micro-regions discusses the experiences of the organisation of public education in rural areas with different assets, settlement and social structures. The case studies, the documents describing the organisation of public education via fiscal instruments for schools and nurseries inform us about the dilemmas faced due to the accelerating selection caused by the declining number of children and/or ghettoisation, and reflects on the type of institutional integrations which were called to life or enforced by the legal conditions of accessing normative surplus or development resources covering the costs of functioning. The young age of mega-integrations points towards two facts: namely that the "umbrellas" created without structural reforms directed at the basis of the institutional structure of public education do not provide permanent protection from the closure of schools and nurseries induced by the low number of children. Another important fact to consider is that if mutual interests cannot be guaranteed in the mid-term, mega-structures will not be sustainable, particularly if individual tracks – e.g. transfer to church control enables them to draw in more external financial resources. At the same time it was mega-integrations which strived to ameliorate the

quality of education through the rationalisation of human resources, thus they successfully met the requirements of stimulation policy. The general improvement of access to professional pedagogical services can be considered a success story, which is an outstanding result especially in the case of schools affected by ghettoisation. The attachment of settlement leaders to village schools is self-evident and can be explained by the fact that they perform complex tasks, keep or attract intellectuals whilst strengthening local identity, attachment to the local culture, language and place. However, this requires special, problem-oriented, spatially sensitive, professional decisions which take into consideration the specifics of the settlement structure both at the government level and lower levels as well.

Selective migration and unbalanced gender rates in rural areas

The objective of the SEMIGRA research in the ESPON programme is to provide an insight into the reasons and impacts of the one-sided outmigration of women in rural areas of Europe; to survey the expectations and demands of young women living in rural areas. The statistical analysis demonstrated the negative balance of migration and the decline of the population exceeding the national average in the North Great Plain. In the group of settlements with less than 5000 inhabitants there is a logarithmic relation between the population number and the number of outmigrations; in the meantime the rate of permanently unemployed people receiving social assistance follows an exponential trend in outmigration. Gender differences can be clearly distinguished in the employment data in particular. The survey by questionnaire clearly refutes the claim that in the case of commuting young people or those living in dormitories the new relationships formed at the school's village can replace or substitute the role of those established with their place of residence. According to the results of in-depth interviews, those involved did not yet face the problem of unbalanced gender proportions, while the forced outmigration of young people affected them much more severely. Studying in a city secondary school did not serve as a driving force behind moving away, which is instead provoked by the spatial inequalities of the labour market. There is such an enormous pressure to enter the primary labour market that several people give it higher priority than marriage and child rearing.

b) Dialogue between science and society

The basic principle of the Institute is that regional and settlement development based on solid scientific foundations is the guarantee to European competitiveness and economic growth.

The researchers of CRS participated with their presentations at the County Mayors' forums organised by the National Association of Local Governments. The majority of researchers actively participate in the work of spatial development and civil organisations. An important element of the dialogue between science and society is that all of our researchers holding a scientific degree teach at universities and colleges which contributes to the dissemination of the results of regional science.

Two specific dissemination projects were concluded in the year 2011. The explicit objective of the TÁMOP project titled "The social dissemination of regional science" was to acquaint the region's professional public opinion and university students with current trends of regional science and policy. In its framework, an international conference, a regional science profes-

sional college and a nine-part series of lectures were organised for the students of the Pécs University of Sciences and the webpage of CRS was renewed. The Knowledge Expo Express was also funded from the Social Renewal Operational Programme –the project titled “strengthening the formal and informal educational role of the network of libraries to promote life-long learning”, which provided an opportunity for the Institute to organise a series of lectures popularising geography and regional science in collaboration with the Hungarian Geographical Society. During the one-and-a-half-year span of the project, 15 lectures were held whose audience, apart from members of the Society, was composed of outsiders, mainly local secondary school students.

The dissemination of results is an increasingly important requirement in the case of research projects of our Institute supported from EU funding. Apart from the dissemination of professional results in research forums, we were able to reach more distant target groups in case of issues relevant to the given settlement, area or social group. Several closing conferences of research programmes and press conferences were organised. The success is mainly due to the fact that we have achieved highly relevant and accessible results in both themes (summarising study and monograph available online), the news values of the research programmes were further raised by expert politicians of the given field who contributed to the wide dissemination of the results with their presence and presentations at the closing events.

III. Domestic and international co-operation in 2011

Domestic co-operation

The unfavourable changes occurring in the 15-year long fruitful and mutually advantageous cooperative linkages with decision centres of spatial policy continued in 2011 as well. The governmental institutional structure of spatial development was not yet established in 2011; interest towards the scientific foundations of spatial policy decisions was lacking. The internationally recognised results of Hungarian regional science and the innovative chain of research – development – competitive spatial policy implementation disintegrated.

The former relations with the other important circle of partners of spatial research, settlement and territorial self-governments have almost entirely disappeared. The activities of regional development councils have been reduced to a minimum level, the circle of tasks of county self-governments is currently being transformed. The indifference of local governments lacking resources seems to be permanent 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 is still being replaced with designing project proposals.

There was no change in the factors influencing higher educational linkages in the reporting year. On one hand, the backwash effects of rural universities can still be felt in the staff of certain departments of the Institute. On the other hand, the positions of the Institute in regional scientific PhD schools have become stronger.

An important player of the continuous cooperation with the economic sector aside from the Paks Nuclear Power Plant was IBM Hungary, which constantly requires analyses for laying the spatial groundwork for its decisions.

International relations

The main international event of the year 2011 was the summarising research on Hungarian regional development and spatial policy under the care of the Geographical Research Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences. In relation to the book presentation, the Embassy of Moscow of the Hungarian Republic organised a conference as the main scientific event of Moscow under the Hungarian EU Presidency about the future of EU Structural Policy. Five Hungarian researchers held presentations at the conference.

The suggested research topics related to the Russian-Hungarian regional development policy cooperation will provide scientific results concerning the evaluation of the Russian regional investment environment, laying the groundwork for the adaptation of EU Cohesion Policy and the elaboration of development programmes of Finno-Ugric territories in Russia.

The international conference titled “Regional transformation in the Western Balkan countries” was the accompanying event of the presentation of the book published with the same title in 2011. Besides regional development professionals of Balkan countries, representatives of the European Commission, the Council of Europe and OECD also held presentations at this conference.

As an outcome of the three IPA (Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance) programmes, promising signs were discerned concerning the further development of linkages with Croatian and Serbian research institutes. In the framework of the cross-border cooperation programme, the elaboration of new projects and the building of new partnership relations began with Serbia, Romania and Ukraine. This project led to increasing partnership opportunities with border universities (Novi Sad, Subotica, Osijek, Oradea, Uzhhorod) not only in research but also in the exchange of educational experiences of Hungarian regional policy and economics.

Research teams of our Institute attended four FP-7 Framework Programmes and seven other international collaborations in 2011; permanent negotiations with consortial partners were conducted for partnership in new international projects. In the framework of our current international projects, the Institute organised 9 seminars, round-tables and working group sessions with over a hundred 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.

IV. Brief summary of national and international research proposals, winning in 2011

Due to the declining share of the basic financing of the Institute, researchers have to invest an increasing amount of time and energy into the elaboration of project proposals. The number of winning proposals in 2011 did not alter from those of previous years; however, the number and proportion of declined proposals showed a significant increase. A part of the proposals – despite the appraisals received – were refused on grounds of inadequate funding, the same reasons explained the postponement of the establishment of several contracts.

- The Institute won as a subcontractor in the TÁMOP-project titled “The development of the competitiveness of universities in the South Transdanubian Region”. CRS is responsible for the sub-programme titled “The role of local self-governments in energy efficiency oriented local developments”.
- The objective of the programme *ESPON TANGO* (Territorial Approaches to New Governance) is to contribute to the development of models and instruments of territorial governance, and the transfer of best practices, in harmony with the requirements of the EU2020 Strategy and the demand for governance methods suitable for “place-based” cohesion policies. The role of CRS is to present the East Central European territorial governmental reforms and the management of the Structural Funds and also an analysis of the Pécs European Capital of Culture project from the aspect of multi-level governance and participation.
- The objective of the *ESPON Territorial Scenarios and Visions for Europe 2050* project is to elaborate the scenarios of spatial development for the entire territory of Europe in the time horizon until 2050. The Institute’s task is to develop the sectoral chapters and scenarios concerning the Danube Region (Southeast Europe) from among the transnational macro-regions of Europe.
- Swiss Fund: The creation of a *Federalism and Decentralisation Research Institute in Hungary*. The objective of the cooperation functioning in the framework of a virtual institute as for now is the study of the Swiss practice of development policy and institutional system and the dissemination of experiences to the domestic public opinion in the form of conferences and a handbook.
- The role of CRS in the *FP7 EUBORDERSCAPES* (Bordering, Political Landscapes and Social Arenas: Potentials and Challenges of Evolving Border Concepts in a post-Cold War World) programme will be the evaluation of Eastern European state borders and neighbourhood policies.
- *Interregional Innovation Leaders* (INNOVAL) Austria–Hungary Cross-border Cooperation Programme 2007–2013. “Open Innovation” demands that the firms reflect on how they can incorporate ideas and the active participation of external actors in their own business processes. The objective of the project is to assist this process among Austrian-Hungarian cross-border mechatronic firms and firms using life-support infocommunication technologies.
- *CENTROPE Infrastructure Needs Assessment Tool* (INAT). The spatial cohesion of the region of CENTROPE is strongly determined by the development level of infrastructural networks and their connections. In the framework of the project, a methodology will be elaborated to survey cross-border transportation demands and proposals will be designed concerning the sector for the next programming period.
- The objective of the project titled “*Patterns of spatial and ethnic inequalities in Slovakia, Czech Republic and Hungary*” is to familiarise researchers, sectoral politicians, and practising experts of various countries with each others’ activities, results; to clarify the frameworks of the current thinking about the Roma population; to present the good practices used in the struggle against segregation the possible development opportunities, whilst creating the frameworks for a future research concept suitable for a relevant cross-country comparison.
- The project titled “*Territorial Indicators of Poverty and Social Exclusion in Europe*” explores the indicators of poverty and social segregation in countries covered by ESPON. The role of the research group of the Institute is to detect the special problem areas in new member states and the Balkan countries.

- *Ethnic and social fault lines in local societies* (HSRF). The focus of our investigation are on the systems of categorisation operated by local society, the means in which these may influence the living chances groups which are excluded or are connected only partially, informally to the labour market; their relations with the majority society, the positions they occupy in the community and their chances of accessing various funds.
- *Living from the land: agricultural actors, rural development paths and rural policies in Hungary* (HSRF). The research explores the structural changes which have occurred in land use and land ownership relations since the change of regime; the relationship of various farmers groups to production; their objectives, ambitions, the characteristics and degree of their embeddedness into the local power structure as well as the local impacts of various development policies.

V. List of important publications in 2011

BOOKS

- Beluszky P, Sikos T T (szerk.): *Változó falvaink: Tizenkét falurajz Kercaszomortól Nyírkárszigig*. Budapest: Akadémiai Kiadó, 2011. 360 p. (ISBN 978-963-05-8994-9)
- Csizmadia Z, Grosz A: *Innováció és együttműködés. A kapcsolathálózatok innovációra gyakorolt hatása*. Pécs–Győr: MTA Regionális Kutatások Központja, 2011. 256 p. (ISBN 978-963-9899-38-4)
- Erdősi F: *Afrika közlekedése*. Pécs: Publikon Kiadó, 2011. 763 p. (ISBN 978-615-5001-32-1)
- Hardi T, Nárαι M (szerk.): *Tudás – tér – társadalom. Antológia 25 – Területi kutatások az MTA RKK Nyugat-magyarországi Tudományos Intézetében*. Pécs–Győr: MTA Regionális Kutatások Központja, 2011. 348 p. (ISBN 978-963-9899-47-6)
- Horváth Gy, Artobolevszkij Sz Sz (szerk.): *Regionalnoe razvitie i regionalnaja politika i Centralno-Vosztocnoj Evropi v perehodnij period*. Moszkva: Izdatelstvo MGTU im N. E. Bauman, 2011. 279 p. (ISBN 978-5-7038-3462-6)
- Horváth Gy, Hajdú Z (szerk.): *Regional Transformation Processes in the Western Balkan Countries*. Pécs: Centre for Regional Studies of Hungarian Academy of Sciences, 2011. 638 p. (ISBN 978-963-9899-37-7)
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