

Nationhood in the Carpathian Region
Hungarians and their Neighbours – Sociological Perspectives

Joint Conference
of the
Hungarian Sociological Association
and the
Department of Sociology and Social Work in Hungarian of Babeş-Bolyai University

Book of Abstracts

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INTRODUCTION

The annual conference is held to discuss topics that give us the opportunity to consider what sociology could teach us about being Hungarian, nationhood and minority. The Hungarian nation once developed differently from the wider pattern of European nation building and became a political nation. Later, following a tragic turn of events, it was forced back into a cultural framework. This is the Hungarian paradigm. During the conference we intend to measure the sociological and socio-psychological consequences of this paradigm, leaving the traditional historical agenda of national discourse. Our goal is to provide a forum to discuss sociological research results from different countries from which we hope we will have a clearer picture on the position, the challenges and chances of being Hungarian in 21th century European Society.

Keynote lectures will focus on everyday life and nationhood, sociolinguistics in inter-ethnic space, dual citizenship, identity and ethnocentrism while the goal of the panels will be to have social scientists from the Carpathian Basin reflect on current social problems. The sections will provide opportunities to present the most recent research results.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS, SECTIONS AND PANELS

Keynote Lectures

	Name	Title
1.	Jason Hughes (<i>Professor, head of department, University of Leicester, UK</i>):	The Habits of Good Sociology. Elias and the Transgression of Sociological Etiquette
2.	Tibor Dessewffy (<i>Associate professor and head of department, ELTE, HU</i>):	Big Data-Big Questions? A New Paradigm for Social Sciences?
3.	István Horváth (<i>Professor, BBU, RO</i>):	Sociolinguistic Questions in Inter-ethnic Space
4.	Valér Veres (<i>Director, BBU, RO</i>):	Unity or Regional Identity: Differences of the National Identities of the Minority Hungarian Communities
5.	Attila Papp Z. (<i>Director, IMS CSS HAS, HU</i>):	The Structure of Ethnocentrism in a Minority Context

Panels

	Panel	Chairs
1.	Memory and Traumas	Éva Judit Kovács (<i>CSS HAS, HU</i>)
2.	Applications of Process Sociology in European Societies	Jason Hughes (<i>UL, UK</i>)
3.	Ethnic Relations and Economic Cooperation	Zoltán Szántó (<i>CUB, HU</i>) Zsombor Csata (<i>BBU, RO</i>)
4.	Inter-ethnic Relations and Identity	Valér Veres (<i>BBU, RO</i>)
5.	Emigration – and Return?	Iren Gödri (<i>HDRI, HU</i>) István Horváth (<i>BBU, RO</i>)
6.	Assimilation – Migration?	Pál Péter Tóth (<i>HDRI, HU</i>)

Sections

Section	Chairs
1. Deviancies and Prevention	Judit Bíró (<i>ELTE, HU</i>) Lidia Berszán (<i>BBU, RO</i>)
2. Digital Society	Gergő Prazsák (<i>ELTE, HU</i>)
3. Education	Attila Papp Z. (<i>CSS HAS, HU</i>) Adrian Hatos (<i>UO, RO</i>) László Péter (<i>BBU, RO</i>)
4. Elites and Ethnicities	Péter Tibor Nagy (<i>ELTE, HU</i>)
5. Environment, Consumption and Local Society. Locality and Global Challenges	Andrea Sólyom (<i>S-EMTE, RO</i>) Laura Nistor (<i>S-EMTE, RO</i>)
6. Family, Gender and Social Inequalities in the 21 st Century	Ildikó Husz (<i>CSS HAS, HU</i>)
7. Interdependencies in the History of Sociology	Imre Pászka (<i>USZ, HU</i>) Zoltán Rostás (<i>UB, RO</i>)
8. Political Socialisation on Both Sides of the border	Mihály Csákó (<i>JWTC, HU</i>) Ildikó Szabó (<i>UD, HU</i>)
9. Problems of Urban Life	Gyöngyi Pásztor (<i>BBU, RO</i>)
10. Religion(s) in the Carpathian Basin from the Perspective of Hungarians and their Neighbours	Sorin Gog (<i>BBU, RO</i>) Gabriella Pusztai (<i>UD, HU</i>) Péter Török (<i>SU, HU</i>)
11. Roma in the Carpathian Basin in the Light of Recent Sociological Research	Stefánia Toma (<i>NKI, RO</i>) László Fosztó (<i>NKI, RO</i>)
12. Social Dimensions of Economic Transformation	Zoltán Szántó (<i>CUB, HU</i>) Zsombor Csata (<i>BBU, RO</i>)
13. Spatial Exclusion and Social Inequalities	Enikő Vincze (<i>BBU, RO</i>) Tünde Virág (<i>CERS HAS, HU</i>)
14. The Social Meaning of Children and Childlessness	Cornelia Muresan (<i>BBU, RO</i>) Judit Takács (<i>CSS HAS, HU</i>) Livia Murinkó (<i>HDRI, HU</i>) Ivett Szalma (<i>FORS, CH</i>)
15. Vidéki terek átalakulása (Restructuring of Rural Areas)	Dénes Kiss (<i>BBU, RO</i>) Boldizsár Megyesi (<i>CSS HAS, HU</i>)
16. Youth and Sport	Attila Papp Z. (<i>CSS HAS, HU</i>) Adrian Hatos (<i>UO, RO</i>) László Péter (<i>BBU, RO</i>)

ABSTRACTS

ALBERT, CARMEN, PHD

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Section: Interdependencies in the History of Sociology

Monograph Science in the Banat between the European Project and the Construction of Identity

There are sufficient reasons to believe that there was a monograph phenomenon in the Banat between the 19th and 20th centuries, considering not only the large number of published monographs, but especially those that remained in manuscript in some form or another. The origin of this phenomenon may be placed in the middle of the 19th century in Central Europe, while the Banat, in its historical boundaries with a specific imposed administration structure, became for a spell of time the land of political experiments and manifestation of various ideological currents as well.

Extension of the monograph research and the sociological typical instruments that it claims to descend from, had started early in the beginning of 19th century in northern Italy, the territory ascribed to France. A lot of questionnaires designed by the Celtic Academy were disseminated throughout the Italian territory administrated by France, but they had limited information to offer to those who were interested in knowing the territory and the customs of the new province.

A questionnaire was launched in 1859 in the Banat to get out data from different localities, which had to be a large monograph of the entire region once put together. Distributed in all areas those questionnaires asked for data on history (of the settlement), weather, agricultural activities, but also anthropological information on the inhabitants' spirituality, customs and traditions.

Another European project that also included the Banat was based on the same idea of a general survey. A questionnaire with a guidance to be filled in, regarding the local toponymy was made in 1862 by the Hungarian Academy and was launched in the entire territory. It had also a history part and Frigyes Pesty, the well-known historian, was in charge of that part of the data collection.

The two surveys' answers reveal, in addition to pure information, elements that allow us to outline a discourse on identity, attempting to reconstruct the history of the place, of the province, or to describe customs and traditions. The existence of several ethnic groups in the Banat facilitates the elaboration of the identity discourse not only by descriptive reference to itself but also by reference to the alterity, to the others, namely the Romanians, Germans, and Hungarians sharing the same space. Therefore the answers reveal how each ethnic group tries to fit in politically, to impose its own point of view, to make the national consciousness known in the case of the Romanians.

One of the most important consequences of those two European research studies plus those under the auspices of the Romanian Academy in 1877 and 1884, was a real exercise on any kind of monographs: administrative, institutional, historical, and that fact was more visible after the founding of the Social Institute Banat-Crișana and the adoption of Dimitrie Gusti's research methodology.

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Section: Education

Comparative Study on the Preparedness of Early-Career Caregiver Graduates from Cluj-Napoca and Eger

The research this lecture is based on is one of the stages in our departmental project with the topic of Complex career support for social worker undergraduates. In its current stage, we would like to establish an overview of how graduates from the two specialisations (Cluj-Napoca – social workers, Eger – social pedagogy) regard their suitability, the extent of their satisfaction with the training received, as well as the extent to which they are content with the specialisation chosen; moreover, we would also like to assess the general existential disposition of caregiver professionals starting their careers in 2014. This research has been funded through a scholarship provided by the Balassi Institute.

Methodology

We have interviewed social work graduates from Babeş-Bolyai University's Sociology and Social Work Faculty in Cluj-Napoca and social pedagogy graduates from the Eszterházy Károly College's Teacher Training and Knowledge Technology Faculty in Eger (28 students in Cluj-Napoca, 57 in Eger) in this regard, in the first semester of the school year, so that we could discuss any issues they might have perceived as well as provide support in areas where we perceived any shortcomings in their training.

Our goal was to reinforce the successful start of their careers and their suitability for their work.

The method of assessment used was a questionnaire-based survey and focus group interviews, and we have made use of a content-analysis focus group as well. Intervention was also done in focus groups and during skill development training sessions.

Results: The graduate students – based on the practical experience they have garnered thus far – in both countries refer to overexertion, the low prestige of their profession, an intense workload and tensions present at the workplace. We found out about the difficulties they had been experiencing with regard to working with clients, as well as the skills and areas of knowledge where there are deficiencies in training.

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Section: Environment, Consumption and Local Society. Locality and Global Challenges

Environmental Awareness and ICT Literacy in a Transylvanian School

Given the increasingly mobile, so-called post-desktop media ecology [1] that children and young people inhabit, it is crucial to adjust both information content, educational methodology and environmental awareness campaigns to the forthcoming digital lifestyles [2]. The internet is effortlessly interwoven in daily activities, becoming “invisible and flowing like electricity” (Anderson & Rainee 2014, p. 23). The Net Children Go Mobile Project has shown that usage, skills and participation – key elements of online media literacy – show significant differences among countries like Denmark, Italy, Romania and the United Kingdom. While usage shows similar patterns in the countries participating in the study, skills and participation show a fractured digital landscape. A survey conducted among 12 to 19 year-olds in a Transylvanian school [3] has shown that children and teenagers have a fair access to information and communication technologies (ICTs), and a decent level of environmental awareness, but when it comes to deeper understanding of the impact of ICT use, such as e-waste, cyber-security, and digital literacy, there is a long way to go [4]. We propose a case study on the ICT literacy level in a Transylvanian school based on the above mentioned studies, with a focus on environmental sustainability.

Keywords: digital literacy, environmental sustainability, Transylvanian school

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Section: Youth and Sport

Football has Successfully Achieved, for Decades Now, the Status of Global Phenomenon, Far Outreaching the Reverberations of the Competition on the Field

Football has successfully achieved, for decades now, the status of global phenomenon, far outreaching the reverberations of the competition on the field. Representatives of the extremely rich literature written regarding the sport all agree on the success of football teams being influenced in equal proportion by the manoeuvres and strategies employed on the market, as well as by the faculties and talent shown on the pitch. Due to the fact that the industry functions as an independent branch of the market, the inherent human capital it incorporates possesses an estimable market value. A large number of experts and analysts concern themselves with the appraisal of the aforementioned value; furthermore specified organisations have been established, and are ubiquitously known to facilitate such an endeavour. Consequently, in the case of professional football leagues – most specifically European – thousands of football players have an esteemed market value, which provides for an excellent basis for the construction of databases, as well as for an analysis such as ours.

In our study we analysed teams from eight European football leagues, inquiring into the reasons, outside of the performance-bound indicators; that have had a significant effect on the market value composition and evolution of the players. The representative value of our statistical data is given by the inclusion of football squads from Western European top football championships, as well as four Eastern-European ones, with the addition of the Hungarian and the Romanian first divisions.

The more than one hundred independent variables have been analysed regressively in relation to the dependent variable, which was, as has been stated before, the market value. The analysis has resulted in the clear conclusion that in European football the variation of the market value is influenced and subject to a number of factors, besides the performance indicators. Furthermore, it becomes evident that when considering several points of view marked differences can be observed between the culture and football per se exhibited in Eastern and Western Europe.

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Section: Vidéki terek átalakulása (Restructuring of Rural Areas)

'Borders connecting rural spaces?' – An empirical analysis of the EU rural development cooperation with a focus on the Carpathian Basin

In our presentation we wish to introduce some results concerning the possible outcomes of the transition of rural spaces in the European Union.

In the EU, and especially in the newly joined member states of Central and Eastern Europe the patterns and changes of the rural development policy can be regarded as great challenges and remarkable possibilities at the same time. The increasingly important role of networks, partnership and ability of cooperation, the projectification of the development funds allocation and the emergence of intermediate actors, furthermore the notable appreciation of the local resources enhanced the interest of both scientific scholars and policy researchers.

In our study we interpret these transformations as primary factors of the rearrangement of the competition in the field of rural development: on the basis of new economic sociology we argue that rural spaces and primarily settlements find themselves in a two-sided situation where they need to be able to build, maintain and broaden partner contacts, i.e. to cooperate with each other and at the same time it is also necessary to compete for the scarce financial and other (e.g. network) resources.

After outlining the theoretical frame applied to ground and embed our empirical research, we demonstrate the results from our empirical analysis of the EU rural development projects in the presentation. In order to investigate the patterns of the cooperation of rural spaces we built a complex database from several data sources that is suitable to explore the main characteristics of fund allocation and participatory capacity of both countries and subnational actors. In the course of data analysis we employ on the one hand regression models to estimate the potential net effects as we focus our attention on the Hungarian-related issue: do the historical factors influence the possibilities and capacity to create and ensure advantageous position in the development network? On the other hand we apply basic social network analysis methods. In this context we expect the border of Hungary not to separate but rather to connect the different rural spaces as a form of additional social.

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Section: The Social Meaning of Children and Childlessness

Childlessness and Children in the Eyes of Hungarian Infertility Patients

The number of couples facing involuntarily childlessness is likely to continue to increase in the future, due to the shift to later in life childbearing and a growing number of health related problems of both sexes (Anderson 2005) among other things. As having children is considered an inherent and accepted stage in family development the inability to have children can be considered as a crisis at both a family and at an individual level. Childbearing has been considered the normal course of social development and an important step in maturation (Reed 2012) thus involuntary childlessness has been known to have significant and irreversible social and psychological consequences (Golombok 1992; Greil et al. 2010). Infertility and involuntary childlessness is globally perceived as a unique form of tragedy and loss. The exploratory qualitative research serving the empirical background for this proposed paper (funded by OTKA-K108981) aims to look at how women dealing with infertility and its treatment see their own childlessness and what emotions and hardships they come to face. In the present paper I also investigate how their longing for conception and having a child influences their use of medically assisted reproductive technologies and other types of alternative treatment that have the potential to help them, but may carry financial, physical, psychological and other costs. These questions are explored through the analysis of expectations and frustrations expressed in detail in online discussion groups using thematic qualitative data analysis. This unique research design permitted studying the discourse of the participants in a natural, non-controlled environment, where the presence of the researcher had no influence on the results, bypassing problems reported by earlier research regarding bias occurring with individual or couple interviews. Results show that having children becomes the most important goal for these childless women, who transform and organise their entire lives to achieve this aim. Stigmatisation from society is balanced out by the strong support they receive from their partners and family.

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Section: Education

Motivation for Entering Higher Education in the Hungary-Romania Cross-Border Area

In the frame of this paper we aim to examine the characteristics of the higher education institutions and the motivations behind the intentions and motivations of learning exploring quantitative and qualitative data collected in the frame of the “Higher Education for Social Cohesion – Cooperative Research and Development in Cross-Border Area” project, funded by the Hungary-Romania Cross-border Cooperation Programme (HERD – HURO/0901/253/2.2.2). The individual’s position in the social structure is strongly tinged with housing-related micro-social effects, such as the development level and quality of the home area, accessibility of the education institution and the socio-economic environment, which are factors that strongly influence a region’s society’s fate, and decisively determine the individual schooling conditions. The review of the literature enlightens upon the problem raised here, in its various aspects, in different countries. There is considerable evidence (both international and national) that social reproduction within the family acts upon the educational/career choices of university students. Educational theory and research from countries other than Romania remains focused on social class disparities, incorporating factors from the human capital investment framework, while Romanian research on the theme is also interested in more psycho-sociological approaches of the motivations for entering higher education.

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Section: Deviancies and Prevention

Deviation Prevention Programmes in Schools from Cluj-Napoca (Kolozsvár)

The presentation shows the concepts of deviation prevention of the Hungarian high schools in Cluj-Napoca, and the types of programmes being applied and allowed in the schools.

Within this, the presentation focuses especially upon two topics:

1. What kind of “ethnicity-based” programmes which encourage and teach the students to be tolerant, compliant, accepting and to discover and appreciate each other’s differences and the diversity offered by this do they have?
2. What kind of set of rules and practices do the schools have for discussing and treating behaviours showing deviant tendencies?

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Section: Deviancies and Prevention

The Role of Interpersonal Relationships in the Prison Experience and their Role in Reintegration. Results of a Two-Wave Qualitative Survey

The presentation would briefly introduce the study (financed by OTKA-K101325): 80 young men who served their prison sentence of up to three years as first-time offenders were interviewed some months before leaving prison and then again after spending some months out of prison (we could reach slightly more than one third of our original sample). The major goal of the project was to study subjective expectations and experiences regarding re-integration after a prison sentence. In the proposed presentation we would only focus on one segment, interpersonal relationships: what role they played when inside the prison and also afterwards. The prison experience seems to play a very significant role in the (re)evaluation of one's interpersonal context. While in most cases relationships with parents become stronger, in many cases domestic and romantic partnerships are at risk. Friendships are also put to a test. Friends, acquaintances and family members play a crucial role in the reintegration after the release from prison, especially in housing and employment issues, and emotional support. We investigate the perceived role of these relationships in the success or failure of reintegration.

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Section: Elites and Ethnicities

Career Opportunities with both non-Magyar and Magyar ethnic Background in the Secondary School Teacher Profession in Hungary Between 1890 and 1945

Research on the teacher profession has been scarce in Hungarian sociological research of the elite so far. However since the 19th century the secondary school has been the most widespread place for the socialisation of the elite, and secondary school teachers have counted as the professional educators of the intellectuals. The presentation focuses on this special elite group and highlights the most important tendencies in their social background as well as their career strategies from 1890 to 1945.

In terms of the topic of the section, we focus on the “ethnic background” of the teachers. Ethnic background is a very problematic category from a socio-historical perspective. We cannot use any specific variable to research it, because the educational administration had not registered data on ethnicity. Although in school registers we can find data referring to the “mother language”, this category is not reliable as an ethnic marker, especially not in the case of the educational elite. The coincidence of two or more factors can only indicate the degree of probability of belonging to some particular ethnic group. In our case, the following factors have prime importance: the ethnic profile of the place of birth, the ethnic marker of the family name and the testimony of the teacher. In the light of these data we can create two main categories: one for teachers with a “Magyar” and one for those with a “non-Magyar” ethnic background.

The ethnic-national duality is understandable if we know the historical circumstances. The different non-Magyar groups which could achieve a higher position in Hungarian society before 1945 were so small that we could not describe any of them as some outstanding social group. We had to accept the thesis that the institutions designed for the self-reproduction of the elite in pre-world-war and inter-war Hungary offered many more opportunities for “Magyars” than for “non-Magyars”. But the method of collective biographical analysis cannot supply evidence for or against this thesis, it is only appropriate for describing the characteristic behaviour of the different social groups in the teaching profession.

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Section: Political Socialisation on Both Sides of the border

A survey of Values Related to Political Issues Inside and beyond the Borders of Hungary

The surveys of the past few years have pointed out that in the case of the youth a scepticism over democracy can be experienced (Laki and Szabó 2014), and it is also closely connected to the youth's low level of activity in public life (Szabó and Bauer 2008). The relation to political issues can also be approached by means of value tests: in this case we can determine the sociocultural indicators that make the higher acceptance of certain items probable, and we are also able to map what other items the values related to political issues move together with.

The aim of our analysis is to examine the socio-demographic embeddedness, the relation to other items and the position of values most connected to political issues by means of a 2012 cross-border database (N=2482), which can be divided into Hungarian, Romanian and trans-border Hungarian sub-samples of university students. The techniques used were examining average and dispersion, variance analysis, and correlation analysis. We presumed that ethnic and country borders would modify the position of the values and we also reckoned with the fact that minority existence would increase the importance of the items examined.

Based on the results obtained we can state that in the student value structure the items of politics and power are at the very end of the list, macro-community values (e.g. homeland, national defence) are in the middle of the list, while pacifist self-realising items are ranked much higher by the students. The differences between the three sub-samples can be grasped by the fact that Romanian students' relation to power and politics seems to be much more favourable. Socio-demographic embeddedness shaping the acceptance of the values refers to the different mechanisms of the explaining variables in connection with economic capital, sex or the type of religiosity. Correlation analyses demonstrate universal relationships (e.g. the contrast between power and micro-community relations), at the same time unique characteristics can also be revealed (strong entanglement of power and macro-community values in the trans-border Hungarian sub-sample).

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Section: Religion(s) in the Carpathian Basin from the Perspective of Hungarians and their Neighbours

Can Churchly Religiosity be Post-Material? A Study of the Different Types of Religiosity in Hungarian, Romanian and Trans-Border Hungarian Student Samples

Earlier analyses have pointed out that there are differences between the denominations in the judgement of the values' importance (Kamarás 2012), while the patterns suggest that the categories of the types of religiosity have an even stronger explaining force (Bocsi and Tornyi 202). The thinking structures and value characteristics of a group religious in its own way and a churchly religious one can also be separated. However, it is questionable whether similar patterns can be experienced crossing the borders, as minority position overestimates elements related to communal identity (in this particular case religiosity), while the population of Romania is characterised by a lot less secularised (2009), but more individualist world concept (Hofstede 2005) according to international research.

By means of a 2012 sample of more than 2000 students we would like to find out how the categories used in our analysis can be characterised in the Hungarian, Romanian and trans-border Hungarian sub-samples in relation to sex, settlement type, economic capital and parents' qualifications. The pattern of the values was analysed by means of post-material relation-oriented, traditional and material factors.

The data obtained suggest that the proportion of the categories in the Romanian and trans-border Hungarian sub-samples can be characterised by similar percentages, whereas there is a more secularised distribution among Hungarian students. The sociocultural indicators of the certain groups are also different: while the higher status generally describes uncertain and non-religious students in the Romanian and trans-border Hungarian sub-samples, among the Hungarian students a churchly religious group with a background of professional parents can be traced. The survey of the certain types by sub-samples suggests that the mentality of the categories can be characterised by peculiar traits. For instance, the presence of post-material values is stronger in the thinking structure of the clerical Romanian sub-sample, but there are also differences between the value structures of Hungarian and trans-border Hungarian non-religious students.

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Section: Religion(s) in the Carpathian Basin from the Perspective of Hungarians and their Neighbours

Measuring Religiosity with Elastic Survey Method

This paper revives a methodological dispute laid aside in the forties, taking the standard character of surveys into consideration. The paper stresses that the standard requirement (meaning that questions must be asked verbatim every time), needs to be reconsidered due to three aspects: it produces invalid results, it is unimplementable and unethical. We present an alternative method called ‘elastic survey’, and the results of measuring religiosity with this method.

The results are based on the first results of the Budapest Elastic Survey Omnibus Pilot (BESPO) project implemented by the TÁRKI Social Research Institute and the Corvinus University of Budapest. The joint methodological pilot aims to analyse the applicability of the elastic survey during the omnibus surveys. According to the research design, TÁRKI omnibus survey data have been collected on a large national sample (N=1012) as usual, and the same questions were asked with the elastic survey method on small sub-samples (N=55 or 114) in multiple waves. The pilot comprises of six waves; the present case study is built on the results of the first two waves.

In conclusion, Elastic Survey functioned during the pilot on two sides: on the one hand, the methodology was able to get the standard results, but on the other hand, it helped to identify new, valid categories, as additional information. These categories were added by the respondents in the field, not by researchers in a “laboratory”. In both waves, the majority of the respondents added some additional information, a comment when they have chosen a standard category. Information which would have been lost if we had not asked the interviewers to note them.

With this method, it was also possible to identify misunderstandings of the standard categories by respondents. This method also raised the validity of our measurement instrument, while its reliability was not changed. Elastic survey might be a more economical and effective way to get valid and reliable data than combining qualitative and quantitative methods e.g. a survey with interviews, focus groups etc.

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Section: Political Socialisation on Both Sides of the border

The Impact of Certain Family Socialisation Factors on Exclusionary Views and Political activity

A variety of empirical surveys, respectively, show that the vast majority of today's youth want to stay away from the world of politics in Hungary as well. In my presentation I examine the extent to which family socialisation factors can explain the political activity and how each family's socialisation factors influence the social and political activity of young people. In order to answer this last research question five dimensions of analysis were distinguished (i.e.: the "familial publicity", "reflective", "value", "cognition/knowledge" and "activity" dimension), and in this analysis I examine the effects and relations of these dimensions and associated variables on each other.

Several studies highlighted the fact that some of the young people are prejudiced against different groups of people (the database used in my analysis shows that Hungarian secondary school students are supremely intolerant of the Roma minority, Romanians and Jews). In this presentation I am searching for answers to which family socialisation factors may be associated with the formation of exclusionary views, how family communication influences prejudiced thinking and what kind of relationship can be discovered between prejudice and given types of political activity. In my analysis I use the results of the 2011 Family Political Socialization Research (OTKA K78579).

The lead researcher of this survey was Dr. Mihály Csákó. The study researchers and regional leaders were: Ildikó Szabó, Katalin Bohn, Mihály Csákó, Tamás Domokos, Béla Marián, István Murányi, Márta Nárai, Attila Papp Z., Domonkos Sik and Adrienn Bognár. The survey was conducted between November 2010 and February 2011, with a self-administered questionnaire method. A single-stage clustered stratified sampling was performed. The research target group consisted of 12th grade secondary school students; weighted (by school type and by region) and a sample size of 4191 people.

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Section: Deviancies and Prevention

A Dynamic Team's Ten Years on the Field Report on the Decade-Long Activity of the *Independence Zone*

In Romania, the abuse and consumption of drugs has increased significantly as a social illness, a problem which is fought with a lacklustre arsenal. The policy of the country is mainly occupied with custodial punishment; entailing a lack of medical treatment available for prisoners. Currently, the Romanian preventive policy has three main objectives: spreading information about drugs, enlarging the preventative network and developing the participating organisations, respectively setting the standards of preventive work. The lack of services available in drug rehabilitation and psychological detoxification is making most of the users turn away from distrusted sources. Furthermore, the efforts aimed at the containment of the peril are under attack. The situation of efforts directed towards drug prevention is in the same conjecture. The preventive work mostly takes place in schools where – in 2010 – more than 700 preventive activities occurred, 562,500 people were addressed. Consequently, the preventive programmes still focus on spreading information about drugs, despite the opinion of many professionals who claim that other methods could be significantly more effective.

The Independence Zone, an initiative based in Cluj-Napoca, has performed its activities in that area for ten years. Focusing on the most endangered group, the work of IZ since 2004 has taken place during the main festival that youths attend in Transylvania, leading to its sharing of a multitude of prevention efforts as well as the results of field work in order to provide useful guidance and advice for pedagogues and its main audience. The activity provided by IZ has an elevated importance in an environment, such as Romania, which is subject to the growing trend of drug consumption present in the Balkans. In this article we present the main achievements of the IZ since its ten year inception, the prolific professional achievements, as well as highlighting a few of the insightful data from the research provided by the fieldwork performed at several festivals.

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Section: Religion(s) in the Carpathian Basin from the Perspective of Hungarians and their Neighbours

Individual Religiosity, Secularisation and Seekers – the Case of Young People in Hungary

In this study I have drawn up the data of Hungarian religious self-classification and categories. I have specifically observed the changes of meaning in the categories “religious in their own way” and “non-believer” in detail. The changes in these two categories suggest that the other self-classification categories could have gone through a similar change of meaning throughout the last 30 years. The clarification of this requires further investigation.

“religious in their own way” is the largest category in Hungary, which suggests a religious individualism. A new phenomena however, is that among young people the “non-believer” category is the largest, taking over the “religious in their own way” group. Moreover I have found that we cannot be certain in the interpretation of what we mean by “non-believer”. I strongly suspect that the reason for the increase in this group is the stronger seeker sensation of life in recent years, especially among young people. Based on the description of the seeker attitude we can state that young people continuously adjust their relation to the world, looking for an authentic framework for interpretation. This means in relation to religious self-categorisation that this attitude is typical, in other words it is present in each category. This in turn means that the lines are getting blurred between the categories used in the self-classifications of sociology of religion. The topic of another study could be to ascertain the difference between social attitudes of young people in the group “religious in their own way” and “non-believers”.

The conclusions of the study confirm that young people are searching for themselves, want to react to change, while they want to remain in harmony with themselves. For that reason they are looking for authentic frameworks for interpretation. and what they find depends on what they deem authentic among the solutions offered.

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Section: Problems of Urban Life

Street Musicians in Budapest: the Underground View

Street music is an important part of Budapest cityscapes, in certain way integrated into settings element through which hundreds of people pass by every day. The main aim of the paper is to outline the street musicians relationships and coexistence within environment, interconnections between personal musical texts and social contexts in which they are reproduced.

The data was obtained by immediate observation of the sites (Deak Ferenc tér, Blaha Lujza tér, Astoria, Corvin Negyed körút.) people and street performances, as well as by informal short interviews with musicians, police officers and shop keepers. The paper contains a description of the site's atmosphere and social situation as existent in relation to the musical performance. Of further interest are the socio-demographic and personal characteristics of the musicians (meaningful and sufficient data has been obtained for nine ensembles), relations among them and an in-depth inquiry into the life story of one violinist. Based on their music and way of relating to society and viewing life, motivation of playing four types of street music – 'La passion', folk, the road and the globe were differentiated.

The analysis of the patterns of musicians' inter-relationships and the schemes of negotiations they got involved in is given. Street musicians in Budapest form networks of informal relationships; knowing each other and making music outside of the observable "subway scene". The relationships with audience and donors, police officers, shop keepers and social services are outlined. The paper describes factors influencing people's reactions to street performances, such as the type of music and the quality of the performance, the appearance of the musicians, as well as donating styles. Within the social context of the metro station, street music can be modelled as a game of hiding and revealing, masking and opening, withdrawing and sharing. Embarrassment marks the boundary which realises music's intimacy in a setting of public anonymous reality.

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Section: Environment, Consumption and Local Society. Locality and Global Challenges

Viscri. Sustainability and Authenticity

Many Transylvanian villages are characterised by depopulation and ageing of the population. Following the emigration of the Saxons these villages are losing their characteristics, their traditionalism and authenticity. However some of the villages succeed in saving all the values that have totally disappeared from other places. Viscri in Brasov county is one of these villages, because the developing tourism industry in this area has helped people to keep and develop their values and traditions.

Sustainable tourism in Viscri also contributes to the economic, social and cultural development of the community. The tourism phenomenon may have both negative and positive consequences. In many host communities the negative consequences of tourism are dominating, but in the case of other communities many positive consequences can be identified.

There are many differences between Viscri and other Transylvanian Saxon villages. Firstly, in the local community this industry is a source of economic growth for both the direct and indirect actors of tourism. On the other hand, tourism helps to improve and maintain relations between the members of the local community.

A very important characteristic of Viscri is that one of the Saxon houses is owned by Prince Charles of Wales. In Transylvania this is the first house bought by the Prince. The presence of the Prince – the main attraction for tourists – plays a very important role in Viscri's sustainable tourism.

At the same time Viscri is different from the other villages not only because of the tourism phenomenon and the presence of Prince Charles but due to ethnic variety. When Saxons left after the fall of Communism the presence of other ethnicities resulted in the disappearance of many of the Saxon aspects. In the case of Viscri tourism has helped the integration of minorities and most importantly the development of inter-ethnic relationships. In Viscri among the actors of tourism there are also Saxons, Romanians, Germans and Gypsies.

Viscri may be the example that in the case of some communities the positive consequences may dominate and help the economic and social development of the local community and the authenticity and traditionalism of the cultural aspects.

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Section: Political Socialisation on Both Sides of the border

Hungarian Adolescents' Attitude to the Youth of Neighbouring Countries

Youth's attitude to the youth of neighbouring countries may be seen as a most interesting research subject, particularly in Central-Europe. Political, economic and cultural dominance and subordination have left their mark on it historically and different kinds and forms of nationalism are transmitted from generation to generation, underpinning Ferdinand Braudel's theory of *longue durée* effects. The Hungarian nation has been unable to find a common denominator of national identification since the Enlightenment. Divided internally it continues to fight against real or imaginary foreign oppressors or threats.

In a long series of surveys* a team of the Centre for Educational and Youth Studies (OITK) of ELTE collected data on Hungarian adolescents' attitudes to other nations and ethnic groups. The theoretical framework of their approach is wider than Hungarian nationalism. The national problem is treated as a special form of relationship to others and otherness, together with racism and xenophobia. It is true that no fine measures are used but a rather simple part of a Bogardus scale asking "Would you be troubled by a desk mate belonging to [nationality/ethnic group]? Yes / No" The listing of the other groups permits testing hypotheses on frequency of racist attitude, Hungarian nationalistic attitude, xenophobic attitude. Thirteen national/ethnic groups are listed. In this analysis we identify Hungarian nationalistic attitude by feeling troubled by desk mates belonging to at least two of the following nations: Romanian, Serb, Slovak.

Analysis shows that (1) the frequency of negative attitudes tends to diminish slightly during the first decade of the century; (2) Hungarian nationalistic attitude cannot be identified in young adolescents (13 year old); (3) negative attitudes are aimed at special groups like Roma, Jews and Romanian or covering every group; (4) the impact of big politics can be detected on adolescents' attitudes.

* Since 1990 seventh graders have been surveyed in Budapest every fourth year. In 2002, new representative sampling methods were introduced to make results comparable in a time series. This paper is based on data of the 2002, 2006 and 2010 samples.

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Panel: Ethnic Relations and Economic Cooperation

Economic Aspects of Ethnic Diversity in Transylvania

The appearance of new transnational regulations in the last decade has set the ground for new institutional conditions, “opportunity structures” for ethnic Hungarians in Romania, not only in political, but in economic terms as well. This context apparently offers more room for the articulation of ethno-specific needs, including the economic ones. As a result, new scenes of ethnic cooperation seem to be developing in the economy (e.g. products and services specially positioned for Hungarian customers, multilingual signs and communication, etc.). From the perspective of the society as a whole, this increases the presence of ethno-linguistic diversity in everyday economic life. The presentation will invoke theories coming from the field of new institutionalism and new economic sociology and will provide some empirical findings for the challenge to optimise the trade-off between the economic costs and benefits of diversity.

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Panel: Memory and Traumas

Mind and Fashion

Not only the body, but the mind also has clothes. In both cases fashion dictates the manner of change and renewal, which raises and represses trends, but of course only temporarily, because sooner or later every pattern makes a comeback. Today's fashionable item of the mind is "trauma", which was introduced into sociological scientific discourse by Jeffrey Alexander as far as I know. By contrast to the body's fashion items, the fashion items of the mind do not become current accidentally. It probably affected the fast career of trauma in the social sciences, that social sciences have become empty to the people, having run out of valid messages to speak to people. The topic of collective trauma has a commanding force: it warns us to account for our lives and face our past, which will not disappear. "Trauma" seems to be displacing the previously fashionable "identity", and although the two are inseparable, identity allows for a more thorough approach.

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Section: Problems of Urban Life

Conflicts Connected to Changes in the Typical Use of the Traditional Inner City Areas

Changes in the typical use of the traditional inner city areas can lead to conflicts, like the emergence of tourism. The night time economy, and the negative externalities of the process of transformation, first of all the constant noise of these venues, and the changing character of these areas are against the interests (and values) of certain inhabitant groups. This kind of commercial gentrification raises the question “who belongs to the city at night”. At the same time the growing number of students and student-tourists with their peculiar lifestyle can be one of the main reasons for these changes. Their housing demand for rented dwellings can force out former residents and change the whole character of an area. In some western examples “revitalisation” of dilapidated and abandoned inner city neighbourhoods meant that they became high volume night-time entertainment areas that caused serious conflicts (especially with the residents living nearby).

In the paper we briefly outline the Budapest situation and show the development path of our research area in Budapest. We examine two questions: conflict connected to the ruin bars and the circumstances of forced removal of the original inhabitants. Our empirical evidence is based on surveys and interviews made in the last six years monitoring the change of the situation.

We stress that the temporary use of the 19th century housing stock and the high diversity of the different venues made the neighbourhood very popular among local consumers and backpacker tourists as well. Therefore we examine the conflicts of inhabitants and ruin bars owners and the users of these facilities. It is common knowledge nowadays that night time noise, and the concentration of ruin bars, and their opening hours upsets many residents. Similar problems occurred in many British cities though the planning and local authorities encouraged inner city investment, while the Budapest situation was shaped partly by the lack of control of the local authority, by individual entrepreneurs and also by the economic crisis. Still, the British examples show a lot of similar problems and raise applicable questions for the Hungarian situation.

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Section: Problems of Urban Life

‘Flight from the Beehive’ – Rural Representation and Everyday Life of Urban Newcomers in Villages Surrounding Budapest

The continuous expansion of most urban centres in Europe results in a population change in the surrounding rural areas, which in turn entails significant socio-cultural and economic restructuring. An important challenge currently facing rural areas is the urban demand to provide facilities related to rural landscape and culture. The process of migration to rural areas in Hungary has been the strongest in the Western Budapest Agglomeration in the last decades. This leafy, “green” area has been frequented by the upper classes.

The study is based on empirical fieldwork doing in-depth interviews with different actors of rural communities from five settlements in the Western neighbouring area of Budapest. The study involved interviews with migrant families to understand why they moved and what their demands and perceptions of their new residential place were, and with local society representatives to ascertain what, if any, changes were being attributed to families migrating to the area.

The study suits the post-structuralist approach of rural sociology. This theoretical framework involves social constructions of rurality and draws on more post-modern and post-structural ways of thinking. Regarding rurality as ‘socially constructed’ suggests that the importance of the rural lies in the fascinating world of social, cultural and moral values which have become associated with rurality, rural spaces and rural life. As a starting point there has been significant interest on the interconnection between a socio-cultural construct of rurality and the actual lived experiences and practices of lives in rural spaces.

The main purpose of this paper is to explain how newcomers and their different lifestyles influenced by various perceptions of rurality are effecting rural change, and how locals are responding to that change. A key finding of the research is that the perception of place determines the immigrants’ lifestyles and their relationship with the local community and it has resulted in contested rural life-worlds in a rural-urban fringe.

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Section: Education

The Importance of Romanian Language Competences in the Career Success of Hungarian Social Work Graduates

The problem of mother tongue based education is a permanent topic on the agenda of the Hungarian minority policy of our region. Its importance is given by the fact, that it is considered by its supporters a premise of preserving the national identity and competitiveness of the Hungarian minority of Romania. In turn, minority educational institutions are the means of a symbolic and practical struggle against assimilation (Papp 2014). At the same time, the critics of a full-vertical mother tongue based educational system put forward as contra-arguments the deficient Romanian terminological knowledge of the graduates of Hungarian language based higher education and their (real or imagined) communication difficulties with Romanian clients.

In our presentation we try to find out the importance of Romanian language competences in the labour market success of Hungarian social work graduates of Cluj-Napoca, to determine to what extent they feel the lack of it, and if the development of Romanian language competences is an expectation towards the university, as a higher educational institution.

The presentation is empirically based on a PhD research project, which aimed to analyse the career paths of Hungarian social work graduates of the Babeş-Bolyai University. Within the framework of the research we investigated questions related to the family status, educational career, career habitus, labour market status and professional career paths of the graduates, on a representative sample, furthermore we analysed the evolution of Hungarian social work education in Cluj-Napoca, as well as the employers' expectations in the Hungarian non-profit social care field in Romania.

Our results show that the Romanian language competences have an important role in the career success of the Hungarian social work graduates (in their professional work as well as an important criterion during employment), a significant proportion of those graduates who live in Romania think that they have deficiencies in these competences, and at the same time it seems that they did not expect the development of Romanian language competences primarily from the university, as a higher educational institution.

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Section: Education

Free Time Use of High School Students and its Relation with School Results

The objective of this study is to analyse the type of activities undertaken in one day by the senior high school students and the time spent daily with different type of activities. The study will follow the relationship of these activities with the school performance and school related behaviour of the students. Combinations of leisure activities which are characteristic for students with different results and behaviour at school will be identified.

The sample analysed is nationally representative and is composed of 3509 high school students in their final school year (12th grade), who were surveyed in 2012, in the first wave of the research “Outcomes of Adolescence. A longitudinal perspective on the effect of social context on successful life transitions”.

The results show that excepting the Internet use which had no significant effect on the school results, all leisure activities undertaken by students from the sample had significant negative effect. Having a hobby had a significant positive effect on the school performance. Students with best school results study more than three hours a day, read more than two hours, do not watch television and spend less than one and half hours with friends. Students who work more than two hours for money, watch more than one hour television and spend more than two hours with friends have the worst school results.

The results show that in Romania, there is no time for daily recreational activities for those students who wish to have good school results.

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Section: Deviancies and Prevention

Prevention Attempts, Ideas for Mothers and Children from Disadvantaged Backgrounds Against Protecting Themselves from Deviant Behaviours

The Daycare centre in Barot offers after-school childcare and surveillance during the day, as well as resting, daily meals, social assistance, education, social activities, free time pursuits and psychological counselling for children and their parents. This centre offers measures to prevent abandonment and institutionalisation. The beneficiaries are children from disadvantaged backgrounds aged between seven and fifteen years old.

In the first part of my presentation I would like to introduce a parent help service geared towards mothers from disadvantaged backgrounds whose children attend the Daycare Centre to help them with parenting issues. We know that programmes like “School for Parents” provide an opportunity for parents and our institution to improve our relationship since our common goal is to see the children develop and thrive both physically and emotionally. One of the most important goals of this programme was to prevent physical abuse of children which is more prevalent within disadvantaged families. Furthermore we wanted to improve the social and interpersonal skills of mothers of various backgrounds to be able to present them with various parenting techniques and strengthen their parenting competencies.

The second part of the presentation is called “Let’s Explore Children’s Rights” and “Where to Ask for Help when You are Hurt” and it presents abuse prevention activities. It focuses on informing children of their rights and on letting them know of different forms of abuse. Our goal was to make sure children of disadvantaged backgrounds who attend our childcare facility are able to use practical techniques to defend themselves against the abuser. We hope that these activities will expand their social skills and strengthen their self-trust and their independence while also developing coping mechanisms.

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Section: Digital Society

Being Social Online – The Role of Attitudes¹

The emergence of new online platforms such as social media has led to a significant change in the way people connect, engage, and maintain social connections. Over the last decade, it has become increasingly difficult for Internet users, and youth in particular, to avoid adding an online dimension to their connections, both in terms of maintaining previously offline relationships through the Internet and forming new connections online. As argued by Hartmut Rosa (2013), social acceleration and the perception thereof are usually followed by a discourse of acceleration and deceleration, in which deceleration tends to outweigh excitement about existing possibilities. Individual strategies of “deceleration,” driven by nostalgia for the “slow world,” can be seen in discourse about online activities as well. One of the most significant efforts to capture the tendencies of present-day decelerations can be found in Zeynep Tufekci’s concept of cybersociality (2010), understood as an individual’s incapability or unwillingness to engage in online social interactions. My presentation aims to outline the basic sociological discourse on these trends and to link them to qualitative and quantitative research. Our qualitative research includes an interview with a “hypersocial” Internet user (active and optimistic towards online socialising) and with a “cybersocial” individual to understand the personal reasons motivating each behavioural type. In addition, I have included a focus group interview of cybersocial people to sketch the everyday discourse of social acceleration. In the quantitative data I analyse, I evaluate the applicability of Tufekci’s cybersociality scale using a convenience sample of 466 people. The results support the hypothesis that generation-based concepts of Internet usage oversimplify the reality of Internet socialisation and fail to capture the inequalities in skills and attitudes within youth cohorts. I offer suggestions for how these findings should be applied to future sociological research on Internet use.

¹ This presentation is based on research conducted together with teaching assistant Réka Szarka-Bögös

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Keynote lecture

Big Data-Big Questions? A New Paradigm for Social Sciences?

The recent digital data explosion presents huge challenges for social sciences. Big Data not only changing reality with remarkable effectiveness, but also provides new tools for its understanding. Big Data based approaches have obvious advantages and carry some very real risks when compared with survey methodology. I argue however, that Big Data can provide considerable benefits for sociological understanding. The enormous, complex and messy collections of data open new vistas for sociologists enabling them not just to describe and interpret social reality but also to predict processes from voting patterns to runs on banks and outbreaks of inter-ethnic conflicts. The new ways of producing and harnessing information fundamentally transform our understanding of social reality. It is argued that due to this transformation sociologists' cognitive models and paradigms need to change.

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Section: Elites and Ethnicities

Double Discursive Competence in Târgu-Mures. Post-Conflict Practices of Blurring and Erecting Ethnic Boundaries

In March 1990, the city of Târgu-Mures was the scene of the fiercest inter-ethnic clash between Romanians and Hungarians in the history of post-communist Romania. In contrast to Cluj-Napoca, where the Romanisation process had already been a *fait accompli* in the late 70s, Târgu-Mures was the last city in Transylvania where Hungarians still outnumbered Romanians. According to the 1992 census, 52 percent of the inhabitants of Târgu-Mures were Magyars and 47 percent Romanians. Because of this, the town of Târgu-Mures was deemed as “the last bastion of Hungariandom” in Transylvania by the predominant ethnic group. Although ethnic proportions were reversed, according to the 2002 census, Târgu-Mures continues to witness an apparent ethnic unrest – due to the city’s location in the western parts of the Hungarian-dominated Szekler region – and claims for radical institutional segregation, such as separate medical facilities. Our research has revolved around the concept of double discourse competence coined by Gerd Baumann, according to whom people forced to live in multicultural milieus know when to reify some layers of their identities and when to question their reifications. We have been interested in finding out how developed this type of multicultural practice is in Târgu-Mures and consequently we have strived to capture symbols, rituals, everyday interactions, discourses, formal and informal practices that thicken or, on the contrary, blur the ethnic boundaries between Romanians and Hungarians. We have paid special attention to practices used in public administration in order to understand if and how Romanians and Hungarians ethnicise a bureaucratic milieu which is usually found wanting when it comes to delivering effective public services. Instead of widening, we have tried to deepen our research. Our conclusion is that due to some particular circumstances – fresh memories of the 1990 ethnic conflict, a kin state, namely Hungary, which constantly claims cultural and political rights for the Hungarians, hot nationalist Hungarian discourses regarding the autonomy of the Szekler county, a low capacity Romanian state which grapples rather poorly with the question of democratic rights, and high levels of cultural distrust – the double discursive competence is rather underdeveloped in Târgu-Mures, where practices of erecting ethnic boundaries still outnumber practices of blurring ethnic boundaries.

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Section: Problems of Urban Life

Urban-Rural Differences in Neighbourhood Satisfaction, Trust, Happiness and Subjective Well-Being: Results of a Survey in Hungary

This study examines the association between urban/rural residence and environmental satisfaction, happiness and subjective well-being in Hungary, including control variables such as age, gender, income, marriage, qualification into the analysis. Respondents (n=2031) rated their overall feelings about happiness (on a 10-point Likert scale) and feelings for various life domains and environmental issues. Happiness scores were highest in larger towns, moderate in Budapest and smaller towns, and lowest in villages. These variations partly related to the geography of control variables. However, younger adults are happier in villages, the biggest difference between happiness scores according to the settlement size are in older adults, where villages have much lower values. Men are happier than women in smaller towns, women are happier than men in Budapest. Trust in non-personal or abstract institutions (such as law, science, market, banks) is highest in Budapest and lowest in villages and the reverse is true for personal connections (friends, family, employees, colleges, local governments, civil societies, neighbours). In general, women have higher trust than men, apart from the market. The differences are much higher according to the age: elders have much more trust in non-personal or abstract institutions, especially in villages. As regards the personal contacts, the picture is not so obvious. Personal conflicts are highest from every point of view (family, friends, work, neighbours) in Budapest and lowest in villages. The local problems of a neighbourhood (such as crimes, drug, prostitution) are also highest in Budapest, apart from poverty and illegal waste dumping. Overall neighbourhood satisfaction is highest in small towns, then in villages, and Budapest is last from this point of view. The results will be compared with those of previous similar studies addressed to the issue of urban-rural differences in happiness, neighbourhood satisfaction, trust and subjective well-being.

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Section: Youth and Sport

The Hungarian Youth in Romania: A Synthesizing Overview of Youth Research in Transylvania

Since the system change in 1989, youngsters in Romania, similarly to the whole society, have been affected by structural changes (political, economic and social), facing simultaneously new possibilities and new challenges.

Although the institutionalisation process of youth research in Romania has varied in the last two decades, youth research became a free-standing research area: from the beginning of the 90s several important research projects on youth (either at a local or regional level, using quantitative and/or qualitative methods and techniques) have been carried out by different teams and institutions.

Based on findings from these research projects our presentation aims to reconstruct the main tendencies and trends that have characterised Hungarian youngsters in Romania in the past two decades regarding: social status, consumption and lifestyle, identity and value system, social attitudes and future plans in a wider (regional, national and international) context.

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Section: Spatial Exclusion and Social Inequalities

Health's Price. The Perception by Policy-Makers of Social and Spatial Inequalities in Gratitude Payment

Who pays whom, where, and how much? And how do we know? The phenomenon of gratitude/informal payment [hálapénz] has been present in the Hungarian healthcare system for at least 60 years. Our papers' question is the following: what is the distribution of gratitude payments between various social groups and between various parts of Hungary, and how do policy makers try to cope with this. In other terms: we analyse those inequalities and differences through the lens of decision-makers.

Our research invokes the public action approach (Commaille 2004), that emerged from the French sociological literature. Thus, consideration is given to the whole process of policy formulation. Accordingly, we use on the one hand qualitative methods: observations, in-depth interviews with actors from all levels (from ministers, to lobbyists to doctors), and document analysis (including political programmes, laws, work-in-progress documents, etc.). On the other hand, we analyse those quantitative data (statistics, surveys and research papers based on these data) that informed the policy makers about informal payments and their inequalities.

Decision-makers were confronted with data underlining a double inequality. First, gratitude payments contribute to unequal access to health care: those who are able to pay gain better and faster access and therefore better health care; also there are huge differences in the spatial distribution: between regions, as well as between types of locality. On the other hand, as reports have shown, the inequalities are extreme between various subgroups of health professionals. The persistence of informal payment is fundamentally related to the perception and understanding of it by the policy makers – their knowledge of the phenomenon. However decision-makers, didn't base their decisions on the above mentioned data. Instead of knowledge-as-evidence we find non-knowledge (Beck 1996, Weingart 2003, Wehling 2006) and specified ignorance (Merton 1987). This leads us to political agnatology (Eröss 2009), ignorance-based policy (Eröss 2009b) and the rise of "authentic" personal knowledge of the decision makers. Personal knowledge replaces sociological knowledge.

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Section: The Social Meaning of Children and Childlessness

The Stories of Remaining Childless among Romanian Women: a Swinging between Choices and Constraints

Childlessness is a fully uncovered topic in the Romanian scientific literature related to reproduction. If, during the socialist regime, Romania had a total fertility rate above the replacement level, after the fall of communism fertility rates dropped sharply to very low levels. Due to this development, Romanian researchers focused on women with children, trying to explain the factors leading to the decrease of births among women. Consequently, no scientific interest was shown in the topic of childlessness before 1989, because the medical and political systems were interested only in increasing the number of births, neglecting infertile women, and after 1990, because of the universal model of the Romanian family, which included having at least one child.

However, recently census data have shown that the weight of childlessness rose in Romania from 6.3 for the women born between 1950-1954 to 9.2 for the female cohorts 1961-1966. This trend, similar to other former socialist European countries, is expected to increase significantly in the near future, as on the one hand, women invest more in their educational and employment careers, and on the other hand, partnership histories will be exposed to deeper fragility and instability.

In our study, we applied a pilot study on ten childless Romanian women living in Cluj-Napoca, getting qualitative data about the concept of family, history of workplaces, partnership history and features, and perceptions about living as a childless person. Their age-span was from 47 to 72, and they recorded different educational levels, partnership status, job dynamics, and intimate life experiences. Our preliminary results highlight the fact that childlessness in Romania is mostly due to involuntary antecedents, like infertility or postponement. Infertility, mainly caused by pregnancy complications or miscarriages, is widely spread among older women, while postponement for different reasons is reported mainly by younger women. However, also a mixture of factors shaped the sinuous road to childlessness.

We intend to extend our research to 30 more childless women in order to further identify the typical pathways to childlessness in Romania.

The research leading to these results has received funding from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) under grant agreement no. 320116 for the research project FamiliesAndSocieties.

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Section: Spatial Exclusion and Social Inequalities

Inclusionary and Exclusionary Practices in Local Development Programmes

Settlements are applying for a limited number of nationally announced EU funding opportunities for the development of poor and segregated neighbourhoods and the integration of their populations. Programmes mostly apply for settlement type community work projects that develop the local services and keep the disadvantaged population in their places of residence. Each programme has a wide range of obligations within a uniform framework. However, local governments can interpret the principles and conditions of the programmes variously as part of their social policy. Local perception of disadvantaged population and political aspirations can position the developmental process differently. The segments to be developed and the groups reached in the programmes vary greatly and the community activities are understood in the local context. Relations between the local social and civic sectors, Roma representatives and the leadership of the town are rooted in the historical background of former integrational tendencies and they are fundamentally determining the outcome of these projects. Based on the qualitative research on three different Hungarian middle sized towns with relatively identical access to developmental funds, our presentation analyses various strategies of settlements which are shaping developmental programs as part of their general inclusionary and exclusionary practices as well as looking at how and why the same project constructions have different outcomes in different local contexts.

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Section: Religion(s) in the Carpathian Basin from the Perspective of Hungarians and their Neighbours

Correlations of Spatial and National Identity to Religiosity in a Compact Roman-Catholic Enclave of an Ethnic Szekler Region

My study focuses on the correlations between spatial and national identity and religiosity of the inhabitants in the ethnically, religiously, ethnographically specific Csík micro-region within the Szekler Region in Romania.

My claims are based on the results of a sociology of religion investigation built upon a complex survey on 613 individuals performed in 2010.

The role of religion in the formation of national identity is a historical evidence. In my study I will investigate if there are any correlations between the patriotic sentiments linked to Szeklerland, national pride, the strength of Szekler ethnic identity and certain aspects of religiosity.

In the relationship between national identity and religiosity in Szeklerland, and within it in the Csík region – it is an essential factor that the most important institutions of the ethnic Hungarians left in a minority have been the churches, a situation only aggravated by the anti-religious and anti-Hungarian policies of the Communist dictatorial regime. Later, beginning from the years around 2000, a very decisive, strong and multilevelled construction of Szekler identity has been forming in Szeklerland, a process which continues to intensify and consolidate even today. In my concept the religious, Roman-Catholic identity is an integral element of the Szekler identity in the Csík region.

My hypothesis is that in Csík the events of the past decade have had a strong impact on the relationship between the local, (Szekler?) ethnic identity and religiousness. I suppose that the major revival of religion, the highlighting of the importance of religion by public actors all constitute part of the process where Csík's population is striving hard to construct a strong local identity. Because of the will to detach from the Romanians, but also because of the hurting injuries cut by the Hungarians of Hungary, this process might have a defensive character, with occasional ethnocentric manifestations.

In the following I will verify this hypothesis and I will analyse the issue based on the empirical results of my investigation.

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Section: Family, Gender and Social Inequalities in the 21st Century

Living in poverty – The formation of children poverty in Hungary’s underdeveloped areas

In 2007 the parliament submitted the resolution about the national strategy 2007–2032, “Let it be better for the children”. The aim of this resolution is to reduce the number of the children who live in poverty.

The presentation uses the most up to date data to show the deprivation of the families with children and their social exclusion.

The HAS CSS Give Kids a Chance Research Group conducted a survey in 2013 and 2014 about the situation of families with children who live in the 23 most disadvantaged subregions of Hungary. The survey is representative within the subregions in the aspects of family size, settlement size and the ratio of the Gypsy population. The database contains more than 5,000 families’ and 10,000 children’s data. (The permanent database is under construction.)

The presentation shows the situation of the Gypsy and non Gypsy families and based on the OECD equivalence income statistics the situation of the poor and not poor families. The presentation also compares the development of rural and urban families. We measured the deprivation of the families in question with objective and also with subjective indicators. The database of the TARKI Monitor and the KSH EU-SILC demonstrates the temporal changes of the indicators. This also shows the comparison of the indicators with the national data.

Our preliminary data show that in the underdeveloped areas of Hungary the extent of child poverty has been increasing and it is higher than the national average. The income poverty has a greater effect on Gypsy children, eight out of ten Gypsy children live in poverty.

In many cases of the indicators we can see that there is a large discrepancy in the opportunities of the children who live below or above the poverty line. In the subregion the situation is worse than in the whole country. Children who live in underdeveloped subregion, but are from wealthy families, have better opportunities. Their indicators are near the national average while the children from poor families have fewer opportunities.

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Section: Religion(s) in the Carpathian Basin from the Perspective of Hungarians and their Neighbours

Are Religious Students Volunteering More than the Others in the Partium Region?

In our presentation we examine the effect of religiosity on volunteering. To examine volunteering of students is important because volunteering is a type of civic activity, and we suppose – based on the literature (Voicu and Voicu 2003, Bartal 2010) – that religiosity inspires this type of activity. We used the database of the HERD research (2012, N=2728) and Campus-let project (2010, N=2384). In the first the data collection took place in higher education institutions of the Partium region (a cross-border region of Hungary, Romania and Ukraine), in the second only at the University of Debrecen. We used crosstabs and logistic regression models. Our 2010 results show that at the University of Debrecen religiosity increased volunteering, 28.4% of students who were religious in their own way did voluntary work and the regular churchgoers volunteered at an even higher rate (45%). We also demonstrate that religiosity enlarges voluntary activity of students after controlling for the social background and value preference variables. In the 2012 database at first we examined only the Hungarian and Ukrainian part of the Partium region (N=1471). The chance of volunteering of the students who are religious in their own way is 1.5 times more than that of the others and that of churchly religious students 3.36 times more than that of the others after controlling for the social background. We examined gender differences in volunteering as well. When religiosity is included in the model, women are not any more active in volunteering than men, because women are more religious. Comparing the countries in the total HERD database we found that in the Romanian and Ukrainian part of the Partium region students volunteer more frequently than in Hungary, which can be due to the fact that regular churchgoing is more popular among them. (This result drew our attention to the effect of religiosity on volunteering.) Based on the literature (Perpék 2012, Hodgkinson 2003) we also supposed that personal religious practice is less important concerning volunteering than churchgoing and this was reinforced by our data as well.

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Section: Education

Unseen in International Assessments – School Performance of Sub-Carpathian Hungarian Pupils

The paper aims to map out motivations of minority Hungarian parents for choosing majority language schools for their children. The recent tendency of non-native school choice often goes together with the surmise that a more successful life path can be ensured for children in that way. The study tests the surmise by comparing the differences in children's school performance if they study in their native language or in the majority language.

In the neighbouring countries of Hungary datasets of international assessments (e.g. PISA, TIMSS) ensures a good basis to answer the research question, however in the case of sub-Carpathian (Ukrainian) Hungarians the ratio of the community is so small (0.3%) at the country level, that it is impossible to split the sample according to our target. In order to visualise the school performance of the unseen Hungarian pupils, we carried out a case study in an ethnically mixed town, Beregszász/Berehovo. The research question seems to get absolute relevance in the chosen setting, because the ratio of those pupils who attend Ukrainian medium classes, but speak Hungarian at home expands from 16 to 41% in certain schools of the town.

During the fieldwork altogether 244 fourteen year old respondents filled in the test and the enclosed questionnaire, which were elaborated on the basis of test items used in TIMSS (basically testing two major competences: Reading and Mathematics). Results showed that ethnically based background factors have less effect on the performance, while other ethnically neutral factors (gender, age, parents' qualification and occupation, learning environment at home) explain the differences in pupils' performances significantly. The language of the school has a significant effect on competences only in Mathematics. However shifting the language of instruction between school levels (e.g. choosing a Ukrainian school after Hungarian kindergarten or vice versa) has a significant negative effect on performance. Further on there are huge differences between schools in the same town: schools enrolling Hungarian speaking Roma pupils with a peripheral location are falling far behind Ukrainian and Hungarian elite schools.

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Section: Environment, Consumption and Local Society. Locality and Global Challenges

Socio-Technical Challenges and Public Participation in Radioactive Waste Management: Lessons of the INSOTEC FP7 Project

In the controversial area of radioactive waste management (RWM) most industrialised countries have moved away from top-down, technically oriented approaches towards ones for which both technical content and quality of policy-making processes are of comparable importance. Several elements of the latter approach have also been adopted in Hungary since the political transition of 1990. Negotiated agreements with the host communities of RWM facilities, public information and the provision of financial benefits have been at the heart of the Hungarian model. However, a number of important policy elements (e.g. transparency of national RWM strategy, public involvement, expert–stakeholder deliberations) have been adopted only half-heartedly, which has made the model highly vulnerable.

As the economic recession has hit the country hard, RWM policy has started to change again. The government responded to the economic crisis with a number of centralisation measures and with weakening the status of environmental protection. Due to the elimination of most checks and balances and the weakening of civil society, policy makers may return to traditional practices. The history of radioactive waste management (RWM) reflects an increasing demand from affected communities to be involved in RWM facility siting decisions in order to gain knowledge, control, and compensation.

The Paks Nuclear Power Plant is the only one in Hungary serving energy production and not research or educational purposes. However, efforts to solve the management of radioactive waste have caused a number of conflicts over the last decades.

This presentation summarises the history of RWM in Hungary, with special attention to changing decision making approaches, social conflicts, and socio-technical challenges. First the institutional background of RWM is outlined. Next, efforts to build facilities for the management of low- and intermediate-level waste (L/ILRW) and high-level waste (HLW) are summarised. This is followed by the short description of remaining socio-technical challenges. Finally, changes in decision-making approaches and tools are analysed. The study has been financed by the InSOTEC EU FP7 project

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Section: Elites and Ethnicities

Ethnic Representations in Daily Newspapers from Kolozsvár

In public opinion the actual situation of the Hungarian press in Romania is always an issue and generates many opinion changes, mostly in intellectual circles. These discussions can be grouped into two major themes. On the one hand, there is a discussion about the political affiliations of the press and the changes in its ownership, so due to these significant factors press objectivity can be questioned. On the other hand, the Romanian press is frequently accused by Hungarian intellectual circles that their articles regarding the Hungarian minorities have a nationalist tone. From these discussions emerged the curiosity to analyse and describe these aspects of the press.

Kolozsvár is a multicultural city, both ethnic groups are present in the life of society and in the press, therefore it is an appropriate research ground to reveal the press attitudes towards their own ethnic group and towards the other. The research aims to examine perception, representation of ethnic groups in Romanian and Hungarian media from Kolozsvár.

It is important that we highlight the elitist point of view of the Hungarian media from Romania. The Transylvanian Hungarian minority is economically and culturally stratified, but this is not recognised by the Hungarian press, their palette lacks entertainment content, instead there are many content items for and about the intellectual stratum.

The content-analysis method used in this research was helpful in examining articles written in 2012 in daily newspapers. The year 2012 was chosen with regard to the fact that this was the year when the public could witness important events, which, according to presumption, affect the relationships between ethnic groups and their appearance in public opinion.

The main results can be summarised in this way: in the case of the Hungarian newspapers we can find a minority specific point of view, an elitist approach, the minority political discourse is present in the daily newspapers. The Romanian press deals to a lesser extent with minority issues, the elitist approach is not as typical in their case and the vast majority of their content is filled with political topics.

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Section: Digital Society

The Evolution and Prevalence of Internet-Addiction. Summary of National and International Research Results

The time being spent with gazing at the screens of PCs at the internet is increasing because of the social and economic changes of the past decades, the spread of the hegemony of consumption, the atomising following the process of individualisation, the enhancement of virtual communities, and the development of techniques. Hungarian youth similarly to the those of most developed countries live their everyday lives in a “digital ecosystem” because of the process of networking, that is, the major part of cultural stimuli are the same all over the world.

Internet-addiction has appeared as a new form of deviance since social changes and strains have been increasing and informatics has appeared and has been gaining ground. The dangers of addiction concern the youth the most; this group spends much more time using the internet because of its age-characteristics such as peer-socialisation, forming identity, rather than the elder age group.

The first research projects on the presence of internet-addiction started in 1996 (Young 1996). Comparison of the data is considerably difficult, because the research studies are based on different addiction definitions, data were collected with the help of different means, and the data did not concern the same populations in the different studies. Still there is a lot of information available from the most important international and Hungarian studies, so the prevalence of the phenomenon can be estimated quite well.

I am going to present in short who can be considered as internet-addicted based on the different approaches and definitions. Then I am going to give a summary about the results of the most important international and Hungarian studies. My aim is also to present the results of my own research: I have collected data on a sample in Debrecen, Hungary representative regarding gender, consisting of 204 persons. This is a preliminary work for establishing a subsequent data collection on a sample with more elements, and I plan to explore the socio-demographic variables that may give an explanation of internet-addiction.

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Section: Family, Gender and Social Inequalities in the 21st Century

“Partly working” The Role of Part-Time Work in the Career and Family Discourses of Hungarian and Romanian Women

The lack or low incidence of part-time work in Central and Eastern Europe has been regarded both by expert economists and policy makers as a sign of the rigidity of the labour market. They urge the state to encourage the spread of atypical work for several reasons. On the one hand flexible forms of labour are regarded as a key means to improve employment rates. On the other hand they are regarded as indispensable for facilitating access to the labour market for women with young children, affecting thus eventually their willingness to have more children.

Sociological and feminist literature, however, does not view part-time work with such enthusiasm, neither as a means for raising female employment, nor as a family policy tool for improving fertility rates. They also argue that the effect female part-time work has upon the division of household labour is problematic as well.

Our paper aims at providing empirical data regarding the status of part-time labour in Central and Eastern European societies. In opposition to previous and rare macro-social analyses our individual level approach is meant to reveal and understand female part-time employment embedded in individual and family level strategies. For this we have conducted 45 semi-structured interviews in Romania and Hungary in 2012 and 2013 with women with part-time work experience. The main target of our study was to identify the most widespread types of part-time workers, stressing the way this form of employment is being interpreted by the women themselves. We focus on the motivation behind choosing to work for shorter hours, as well as on the social meanings attached to part-time work. Not lastly, we address the impact of part-time work on the division of household labour by gender.

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Section: Education

The Attitude of Teachers towards the Hungarian Language and Literature Curriculum in Transylvania

In the matter of curricula the Romanian educational system went through a fairly democratic process in the last 24 years. This does not mean, however, that there was a genuine public debate regarding school curricula and the opinion and that the experience of teachers really mattered when curricula were redesigned and developed. Therefore the research survey targeting teachers of Hungarian language and literature, launched in 2012 by the Directorate of Minority Education of the Romanian Ministry of Education was considered a novelty. The Ministry was planning to add one more year to the structure of standard grades (thus the previous structure of 4 +4 +4 years would have changed into one of 4 +5 +3 years) and school curricula should have been adapted to these changes. The initiative was not put into practice, but the survey revealed the opinion of practising teachers regarding the curriculum and the assessment of what teachers consider the most problematic aspects of it, the necessary changes and their proposals for the development of a new one. The research focused mainly on the curriculum of the ninth grade but it revealed general problems and allowed remarks and suggestions concerning the curriculum of other grades. We examined whether teachers, due to the changes in the curriculum, needed any guidelines concerning the new one and we have been interested to find out whether there is a link between considering a curriculum problematic and the type of the settlement, the experience in teaching, the educational status, the type of school and the educational qualifications obtained. We also examined the attitude of teachers in this new situation, taking into consideration that this is their first chance to influence the content of the school curriculum. Some groups have already been formed, having different opinions concerning what and how that should be taught in schools, but these referred mostly to the student's books.

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Section: Digital Society

New Media, New Idols?

Who could be a role model for teenagers? Whose attitude, outer and inner values appear to teenagers as an example to be followed? Do the media and media usage have an impact on this? How can this be identified? We wanted to find out whether the pupils from our region have idols, and if so, who their icons and role models are, who are the ones that display exemplary behaviour in their eyes, to whom they would like to compare themselves when they grow up. Have the age, the gender, and residence of the pupils any influence on the choice of role model? Do parents' educational levels have an impact on this?

The paper aims to present answers to role model questions among teenagers. The analysis is based on two important surveys conducted among Hungarian teenagers from Szeklerland, Romania (Covasna, Harghita and Mures counties). The surveys took place in 2012 and 2014. More than two thousand pupils in the seventh and eleventh grades were asked each time regarding the media usage, knowledge about the media, user skills and so on. The questionnaire included four questions about models and model-following among others. The students were asked four open questions related to the role media-issue: (1.) Name one person, who you would like to look like in your adulthood. (2.) Who is this person? What is he/she doing? (3.) What are his/her qualities, for which you have chosen him/her? (4.) If you do not have such a person, why not? The results of the content analysis of the answers will be presented.

Can we conclude, that with the new media, new idols have arrived? The media definitely have a strong impact on young people's and children's lives and on their world-perception: can this be identified even here, regarding the role models? And: on what do these results shed light? What kinds of new possibilities, new chances or new challenges do parents, pedagogues, teachers and local communities have, if they know these role model particulars about their teenagers? All these issues will be discussed along with the data presentation.

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Section: Environment, Consumption and Local Society. Locality and Global Challenges

Changes of cultural consumption in the Győr industrial region

The cultural industry and the whole cultural economy are becoming more and more significant in post-industrial societies (Zukin, 1998; Thorsby, 2001; Currid, 2007), thus the products (and services) of cultural industries can contain elements which are typical for certain settlements and regions, which is why (re)production of these can be more difficult (Deinema, 2008). Culture can be an answer to problems to which the traditional methods did not have a solution (Goldbard, 2006), perhaps they may solve them by attracting the creative class (Florida, 2002). And now culture is less a marginal sector from where resources are withdrawn in a time of recession. Thus it is a proven fact that the strengthening of the cultural economy can have more positive benefits.

We have to take the other functions of Győr into consideration, because as an economically developing – first of all industrial – city, it operates as a regional centre. The next pillar of development can be the cultural value, which is needed to attract and retain the necessary human capital in order to be able to develop. The main goal of this study is to draw the cultural map of the Győr industrial region from the demand side, examining the cultural consumption of the inhabitants of this region. The technological, economic and political changes of the last centuries transformed these habits and a cultural gap opened, which resulted in a shift towards low/modern mass culture.

During the research we surveyed the inhabitants in the Győr industrial region. To define the territory we used a method called “Local Labour System”, which was developed by Czech researchers and we used the commuting data of the National Statistical Office as a basis. We surveyed the inhabitants of 94 settlements and the sample was representative for gender, age and city district. The size of the sample was 3032. We can distinguish six different clusters from the perspective of leisure activities; actives, in-actives, joy-seekers, sporty joy-seekers, sporty culture-fans, joy- and culture-fans. The basis of the classification was age, qualification and the leisure activities. From the results it can be seen that the services of low/modern culture are more popular among younger people, while high/traditional culture is more attractive among the members of the elder generation.

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Section: Environment, Consumption and Local Society. Locality and Global Challenges

The Urban Playground Movement and the Recreation of Public Space – Exploring Motivations for Participation

Re-invention and re-use of the public space has manifested itself in many ways since the early 2000s, and one of these efforts is represented by the Urban Playground Movement. The originally North-American phenomenon spread quickly internationally, and local groups have been organising large-scale, free urban games in public spaces for around a decade. The organisers' manifestos and sociological accounts (e.g. Molnár) tend to use ideologically charged frames when discussing the meaning of these phenomena, which allows for a deeper understanding than simply categorising these activities as instances of *l'art pour l'art fun*.

The research's central hypotheses for key motivations for participation in these kinds of events were based on the very few existing academic sources. These were complemented through the first, qualitative stage of the research with two paired-interviews with the main organisers of the most active Hungarian Urban Playground group (Budapest UP!). The two motivational directions we sought to explore were (1.) Urban Playground participation as an act linked to alternative conceptions of the urban public space and (2.) Urban Playground participation as the practice of a new kind of sociability (Molnár referring to Simmel). The first account concentrates on the perceived loss of public spaces linked to the privatisation of the city, the weakening of the interaction-facilitative function of urban domains. The second interpretation is about the 're-invention' of urban sociability, the ethos of free, spontaneous and playful interaction between residents of the city. In the second step quantitative surveying took place at the biggest annual Urban Playground event, the International Pillow Fight Day (organised locally by Budapest UP!). The usage of a simple randomisation process employed in protest surveys was the basis for selecting the respondents. Our aim was to assess whether the two types of interpretations of the Urban Playground Movement presented above capture participants' motivations. We present the first results of this study.

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Section: E-Poster

Roma Youth and Migration Plans: Relationship with Political Attitudes and National Identity

After the media were alerted to the migration waves of groups of Hungarian Roma people (of a debated number, yet undoubtedly of a deprived status), public interest from 2010 onward has more and more turned to the migration and foreign employment intentions of higher educated upper-middle class young people. While the number of Hungarians living and working abroad are known only indirectly from labour statistics, some public opinion surveys reveal the characteristics of migration plans of present-day Hungarians, too.

Previous research on the migration plans of the Hungarian population have focused on the adult age groups and usually calculated raw and cleaned migration potential based on short-term and long-term foreign employment intentions. These studies have already pointed at the significance of migration shell and personal network as well as their relationship with ethnic belonging.

In this paper, we intend to reveal the migration plans and migration potential of Hungarian Roma Youth aged 15-29 as contrasted with their political attitudes and national identity, comparing Roma with non-Roma respondents, based on the secondary analysis of the database of the Hungarian Youth survey wave of 2012. Focusing on the youth age group, the Hungarian Youth Survey takes into account the migration related to study-abroad plans, enabling the measurement of its effect on migration potential. Besides analysing plans, motivations and target countries of migration, we try to scrutinise push-factors and pull-factors, socio-economical background, subjective well-being and life-satisfaction in shaping raw migration potential. Furthermore, we intend to study the effect of political activism, participation and values as well as local, national and ethnic identity on migration plans. Several indicators on political values, attitudes and participation activism like, voting behaviour, voicing, being interested in, or affiliation with party voting groups or political value identification allows us to draw political profiles in an inter-ethnic comparison. To understand the relationship and strength of diverse traits and factors, we try to apply multivariate statistical methods.

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Section: Family, Gender and Social Inequalities in the 21st Century

Flows of Support in Intergenerational co-Residence: Who Helps Whom?

Many studies focus on living arrangements of the elderly and approach co-residence with their adult children from their perspective, guided by the assumption that co-residence is a form of support for the elderly. Other studies show that co-residence is triggered mainly by adult children's needs and beyond the fact that co-residence with parents is a form of functional support for the adult children (a place where to live), the flow of support inside co-residential living arrangements is downwards, from parents to children. Our approach of intergenerational co-residence starts from the assumption that adult children are the beneficiaries of this living arrangement. We study the flows of support between adult children and their parents in situations of co-residence, from the adult children's perspective. We expect the downwards support, from parents to children, to be offered more often than the upwards support, from children to parents, for all types of intergenerational support (personal care, emotional and help with household tasks).

We use wave 1 of the Generations and Gender Survey data for Romania and Bulgaria for our investigation. We study the flows of support in intergenerational co-resident households, from adult children's perspectives, so we selected only persons who live in the same household with at least one parent from the original sample. The working samples consist of 1,616 co-residents with parents in Romania and 3,287 in Bulgaria. We distinguish between several types of intergenerational support (personal care, help with household tasks, help with childcare and emotional support) and we look at their upward (from adult children to parents) or downward direction (from parents to adult children), to see which one is prevalent. We do this distinguishing also among different types of co-residence (children have always lived in their parents' home, children left their parents' home and returned later in life, or children took their elderly parents in to live with them). We also investigate how different characteristics of adult children or of parents predict different types of support. We do this by means of binary logistic regression models.

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Section: Family, Gender and Social Inequalities in the 21st Century

The Division of Childcare in European Families: Concurrent Theories Tested

Our intention is to determine which of the most used theoretical constructs (gender ideology, relative resources, and time availability approach) will better foresee the division of childcare inside the family.

Relative resources theory proposes that the individual with higher resources is buying out his or her participation; time availability assumed that the time for childcare is determined by the time spent in paid work, the latter being a result of a negotiation between husband and wife or the result of a comparative labour market advantage; gender ideology perspective assumes that individuals behave according to their value orientation.

We will use the Generations and Gender Project GGP databases and replicate analysis on the available western European countries (Aut, Bel, Fr, Ger, Nor) and eastern European (Bg, Geo, Hun, Ro, Lit, Rus).

We will analyse what factors can better predict the score of intra-family childcare allocation, for men and women, using regression analysis (OLS). The strategy of the analysis chosen is to construct different explanatory models for every theoretical perspective.

Because the respondents were not asked about the number of hours spent on specific tasks, we used other measures available in the questionnaire: we created a score of relative involvement in the childcare. This construct will capture the gender equity in the distribution, creating an inequality index.

Specific to our analysis is the testing of different models on two distinct populations, at each step: men and women from the sample. The reasons are clear: the analysed variables have a totally different distribution for the two populations and the control variables have, sometimes, inverse effects. Constructing different models for each gender we will see that, usually, the effects of the same determinant are different on women than on men.

Analysis done for Romania shows that gender ideology receives only a small support (and only for men); relative resources theory is a better predictor for men while the time availability approach offers a better explanation in the case of women. This analysis will be replicated for the rest of the countries.

Acknowledgment: The work leading to these results was supported by a grant of the Romanian National Authority for Scientific Research, CNCS – UEFISCDI, project number PN-II-ID-PCE-3-0145.

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Section: Spatial Exclusion and Social Inequalities

Family as a Means of Survival. Formation and Internal Processes of a Roma Ghetto in Şumuleu Ciuc

The present article was written in the framework of a larger study on different forms of residential segregation. It is based on ethnographic fieldwork and interviews carried out in Şumuleu Ciuc/Csíksomlyó, a village in central Transylvania connected with the city of Miercurea Ciuc/Csíkszereda and having a Hungarian majority. Using this case-study, the presentation shows how spatial segregation and isolation are produced, and also the role segregation plays in shaping formal and informal everyday strategies in a context where Roma, a minority group, lives at the periphery of the Hungarian majority in this part of Transylvania.

This paper describes the historically formed connections between a Roma family and their residential space in Miercurea Ciuc, whom I met and interviewed repeatedly during the fieldwork done in the framework of the broader SPAREX project (“Spatialization and racialization of social exclusion. The social and cultural formation of ‘Gypsy ghettos’ in Romania in a European context”, www.sparex-ro.eu, supported by a grant of the Romanian National Authority for Scientific Research, CNCS – UEFISCDI, project number PN-II-ID-PCE-2011-3-0354).

The original couple moved to Şumuleu-Ciuc in search for work at the end of the 1950s. In 2012, the extended Roma family lived in the settlement in 34 households together with their 14 children (now adults) born there and the families of their descendants. The starting point of the family history is represented by the moment in which parents moved to Şumuleu Ciuc in the second half of the 1950s. Through their and their children’s stories one may trace at a micro level those factors and processes that produce a residential space and the way in which people’s lives are shaped by such an environment.

My analysis demonstrated that due to spatial segregation, the only solid basis of the large family’s everyday living was the aid received from the relatives, as authorities did not support them in solving their social problems (unemployment, dropping out from basic supplies etc.).

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Section: Vidéki terek átalakulása (Restructuring of Rural Areas)

Trends in the Development of Settlements, 1990-2011

The study shows the trends in the development of settlements between 1990-2011. Our investigation is based on the approach that the development can be explained in different ways depending on our research aim and our selection of dimensions that are used in the research. The traditional approaches of development focus on the economic aspects, but there are many other factors that characterise a given settlement, the living conditions and the well-being of a population.

We suggest that the investigation of the development should be a multilevel approach. And, on the one hand we should accept that the settlements are located at different positions on different dimensions of development. On the other hand the traditional approach of level of the development does not properly show the well-being of a population from many aspects.

In our study we created indicators for the measuring of 'basic' development, and used seven indicators aggregating for four dimensions: demographic, economic, employment and human resources components. We investigated the position of each settlement according these components and the consistence and inconsistency of positions. We also studied the development of the settlements from a longitudinal perspective, linking the data at a micro level from different survey years.

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Section: Education

Religiosity and Career Options in the Hungarian-Romanian Cross-Border Region

This paper is an inquiry into how religious affiliation and religiosity can influence the economic behaviour of higher education students, with a focus on their career options. In developing our inquiry we rely on some of the theories concerning the relationship between religiosity and economic decision and subsequently career choice and we deliver as a starter a theoretical model of choice of field of study employed as indicator of career choice to which we add indicators of religiosity and of religious affiliation.

In the beginning of the empirical component we have attempted to describe the degree of religiosity of the students and to investigate the relationship it has with the field of study using bivariate statistics. For this purpose we rely on the data of a survey conducted in 2012 on a sample of 1452 higher education students from the Romania-Hungary cross-border region in two large public universities (the University of Oradea and the University of Debrecen). Multivariate logistic regressions of fields of study indicate significant influence of religiosity on students' choices net of other predictors like previous academic achievements, socio-economic background, gender or type of settlements as well as significant differences concerning the multivariate models obtained on the two sides of the border.

First, it seems that religiosity is significantly and negatively associated with enrolment in fields like economics, business administration, architecture and construction in both countries. Compared with the consistent effect across countries of religiosity, other significant predictors – parents' affluence and pre-tertiary educational achievements measured through prizes – have less straightforward impacts on the dependent variable. A theory driven discussion of the results ends the presentation, discussing the potential impact of the policy and economic and context in the two countries as well as the consequences of the different religious landscapes on the two sides of the border.

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Section: Youth and Sport

Impacts of the Hungarian Birthright Journey on the Identification and Engagement of Young Hungarian-Americans

The Hungarian-American diaspora is a topic that has enjoyed little academic interest so far, however, with recent migration tendencies the issue of emigrant Hungarian communities in the Western hemisphere are getting more relevant for the homeland, and this growing interest is manifested in enhanced diaspora engagement policies. The paper investigates the impacts of one of the projects that aim to engage the Hungarian-American diaspora, ReConnect Hungary, the Hungarian Birthright Journey by conducting semi-structured interviews with its young (age 18–26) participants who spent two weeks in Hungary in order to “rediscover their Hungarian selves”. The analysis points out two different attitude patterns of the respondents. Those who are not so remote from their Hungarian heritage (usually first and second generation Hungarian Americans, having living family members who emigrated from Hungary) were less conscious about the programmes of the trip, had less factual knowledge about the country, remembered names and places to a lesser extent, emphasised the “fun side” and community events of the programmes, and tended to be very enthusiastic about Hungary. On the other hand, those who are further away from their Hungarian ancestors (usually third and fourth generations Hungarian Americans) were more conscious about the programme, prepared individually for the journey (e.g. learning about Hungarian history or current affairs), had a clear view on the aim and structure of the schedule, remembered names and places significantly better, and appreciated the “fun side” and the “learning side” of the programme equally. The outcome of the programme was also partly affected by the “generational difference”: members of the first and second generation are more likely to develop (or reinforce) traces of symbolic ethnicity after the journey, but evoked interest in Hungary’s actual affairs does not occur in their case. Conversely, third and fourth generation participants tend to be even more genuinely interested in Hungary’s affairs after the trip, and they are more likely to develop effective engagement towards the country rather than (or besides) pursuing signs of symbolic ethnicity.

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Section: Education

Education as Generational and Cultural Memory

There are three major factors affecting education in a given network of society: cultural orientation, the moral self and contingency. The combined effects of these factors on education are imprinted on its various crystallisations, memories and expressions. As these factors change, significant changes have been taken place and will take place in the educational arena in the past and over the next few decades. This presentation explores these tendencies in the framework of some key political-anthropological concepts and sociological themes, reflecting on the meaning of education in the memory of European culture.

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Keynote lecture

Lieux de la Presence. Strategies of Indexing the Space in Transylvania

The research of linguistic landscapes proved to be not just an inventive analytical tool of sociolinguistic analysis but also methodology but also proved to offer original perspectives in analysing the social production of space and spatial articulation of various social relations. This presentation is making an inventory of various aspects of spatialisation of the often competitive Transylvanian inter-ethnic relations. Further on a variety of strategies to index the space will be presented.

One of the major argument I want to hold up, is that the ultimate and most sensitive realm for conflicts between languages is not the context of cultural reproduction (language of education), is not the context of administrative communication, but is the sphere of public signs. The various linguistic practices of place naming and marking (and here beside the classic road and street signs many other texts and marks might be included) are seldom purely functional, merely they are signifying gestures of recognition or exclusion, of dominance or relative symmetry.

Based on several cases of negotiation of linguistic landscapes, and a rich empirical material of a variety of linguistic landscapes, the paper will make a contribution to a micro level understanding of the relation between space, identity and language.

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Section: Political Socialisation on Both Sides of the border

Validity supervision of a political survey with the elastic survey technique

Political topics are in the focus of surveys in every democratic country, also in Hungary and Romania. In the focus of our methodological research are not the political issues themselves, but the validity problems of these politically-oriented surveys. Are the questions understandable? Are the topics of the surveys relevant to the respondents? Is the interviewer effect measurable?

BESPO (Budapest Elastic Survey Pilot Omnibus) project implemented by TÁRKI and Corvinus University of Budapest supervises the validity of the monthly regular omnibus survey of TÁRKI. Using the elastic survey technique, we allowed the interviewers to explain the question if it was needed or necessary. On the other hand it was compulsory for them to note every comment regarding the survey questions, even those that were made by the interviewers themselves.

In the present lecture, we discuss the results of three survey questions on the Afghanistan war, satisfaction with democracy and respondents pride of being Hungarian respectively.

The results show, that the question of the Afghanistan war provokes many (61%) respondents to make spontaneous comments, instead of simply answering yes or no. In the case of opposing opinions, comments were clear. Supporters either stated the war as a great career opportunity for young Hungarian soldiers (individualistic perspective) or treated the participation as a negative but obligatory component of our allied status in NATO.

Regarding the question of satisfaction with democracy, misinterpretations could be seen: thanks to the comments, we could recognise that respondents tend to value the economical performance of the country, the government and their personal career perspectives instead of the democratic institutions.

The question “How proud are you of being Hungarian” raises serious validity questions. Regardless of being very proud or not proud, a latent component could be found: some take nationality as pre-given fate of the individual.

Summarising, elastic survey results might be relevant for decision makers as our findings could rephrase the common interpretation of these variables without reliability loss. It is notable, that the information in focus is always there in the survey situation.

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Keynote lecture

‘The Habits of Good Sociology’:

Elias and the Transgression of Sociological Etiquette

This paper has three inter-related aims: 1) to introduce some aspects of Norbert Elias’s sociological practice – his vision of a conjoined theoretical–empirical enterprise – that has, arguably, broad-reaching implications for the discipline. 2) To consider the somewhat mixed reception of Elias’s work, and to explain it as related to Elias’s transgression of an emergent code of ‘sociological etiquette’, which I have here called the ‘habits of good sociology’. 3) To explore at a very broad-brush level some dominant extra-scientific sociological standards which have, I will argue, a profound bearing on the character of the discipline at the present. I have called these: *empirical legitimacy*, *political alignment*, and *relativistic egalitarianism*, I will consider each in turn.

My central argument is that if we are to account for why it is that Elias’s work is not more widely known, a key set of factors that should be considered are how his work was, and in important respects still is, at odds with many of the implicit standards of ‘good sociology’ which have in the past been dominant, and to a degree still prevail to this day. Elias’s core ambition to develop a central theory for the social sciences violated a (still) prevailing sociological sensibility – that no single account or model of the social world should be ‘privileged’ over and above any other. Perhaps even more significantly, Elias explored topics – table manners, changing attitudes towards spitting, sport and leisure, etc. – which at the time of his writing were widely considered to be sociologically insignificant and rather effete. Finally, he did not understand his work as intending to serve any particular political power; his work does not seem to lend itself to an activist or ‘public’ sociology. I conclude the paper by considering whether the habits of ‘good’ sociology are indeed ‘good for’ sociology, and reflect upon the implications of Elias’s work for how we think about the enterprise of sociology itself.

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Section: Family, Gender and Social Inequalities in the 21st Century

Without Dreams? Poor Parents' Expectations for their Children's Educational Attainment

Several studies have demonstrated the profound influence of family background on children's educational attainment and consequently their future prospects. In addition to financial and human resources, parents' time investment as well as their educational ambitions, aspirations and expectations play important roles in supporting the education of their offspring. These factors impact children's educational expectations and increase their motivations to learn, especially when the parents' ambitions are associated with cognitively stimulating and emotionally supportive parental practices and home environments.

Comparative studies on school inequalities have found that the effects of family background on children's educational attainment are particularly large in Hungary. Children of lower educated, poor parents are less likely to study in programmes leading to secondary school-leaving certificates and to get access to higher education. This is particularly true for Roma pupils, whose participation in post-elementary education is even lower than that of their peers living in poor, non-Roma families. Most of the discussion about the Roma's low academic attainment deals with the role of institutional factors, such as the segregation of Roma pupils within the education system. Studies examining the impacts of home environment and parents' educational expectations are relatively few and focus mostly on school-age children.

The aim of the presentation is to highlight some ethnic- and gender-specific features of parents' expectations for their children's educational attainment. The analysis is based on a questionnaire survey carried out in 2013, which collected data about objective and subjective well-being of families with children living in multiply-deprived small regions of Hungary. In order to minimise the effect of school performance to educational expectations, a sub-sample of pre-school children (0 to 5 years) was selected (N=2070). Statistical methods (bivariate analysis and logistic regression) were used to explore the social and cultural background of expectations.

The results show that parents' educational aspirations for girls are somewhat higher than that for boys even in these early years. Beyond social status and educational attainment, the impact of ethnicity on expectations is also revealed. When all other variables are controlled, Roma parents have less ambitious dreams than their non-Roma counterparts. Not only the goals, but the means are somewhat different: parental practices advantageous for later school success (e.g. fairy tale-telling, having children's books) are less widespread among the Roma than the non-Roma.

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Section: Social Dimensions of Economic Transformation

Self-esteem and Social Esteem: On the Relations of Recognition in Hungarian Society

Social class is usually defined in economic terms and class conflict is often conceived as pure conflict of interests between groupings that occupy different positions in the occupational system or on the labour market. According to this view, class politics is all about the realisation of self-interests and the most important question is how one class manage to realise them and how others fails to do so. This paper understands social class more broadly. The theoretical framework applied here relies on a normative-functionalist conception of social class that goes back to the tradition of the functionalist stratification theory and that is informed by the social theory of Axel Honneth.

The paper is based on the Hungarian component of the 2013 EU-SILC that contained a thematic module on well-being. The Hungarian questionnaire of the survey had a special block on the different aspects of social recognition. Inter alia respondents were asked to evaluate to what extent they think they are important members of society. They were also asked to estimate the importance of different social groups, such as managers, professionals, entrepreneurs, skilled and unskilled workers, the unemployed or pensioners. The large sample size of the survey and the rich questionnaire makes it possible to carry out detailed analysis on relations of recognition in Hungarian society.

In my paper I concentrate first of all on the relationship of recognition and social class and I raise the following questions: To what extent is social recognition shaped by social class? How do members of different classes feel they are recognised by others and how are different social classes recognised? Are there classes that are highly inconsistent regarding their social recognition? What coalitions of social classes can be identified in terms of social recognition? Are there classes that mutually upgrade or downgrade each others? Is there a class struggle for recognition in Hungary?

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Section: Religion(s) in the Carpathian Basin from the Perspective of Hungarians and their Neighbours

Greek Catholic Schools in the Most Disadvantageous micro-Regions of Hungary

In the 20th century the Second Vatican Council brought the most vigorous approach forming in the educational view of the Roman Catholic Church. According to the moral of the documents of the synod, the Roman Catholic Church should rather turn towards the external world, too. This encouragement and fact contributed to the fact that the mission of Roman Catholic schools also changed a lot. The aim was not only to educate the Catholic young, but also a much wider target group, and primarily not apologetics; the aim became to help the poor and marginalised groups. Catechism turned into a moral and faith laying instruction with a big emphasis on evangelisation, community, education with a holistic view, and on prayer. The schools continually pledged themselves into the direction of social justice and service.

Because of the complex contact system of the Roman Catholic school system, its function and mode of action, the comparison of the educational and upbringing institutions is not easy.

According to the data of the population census of 2011, the Greek Catholic Church has 179,176 believers who live mainly in the northern and eastern parts of the country, (Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén county and Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg county), in the most disadvantaged micro-regions, therefore in the mission formulated by the heads of the Greek Catholic Church the underprivileged children's convergence is the most preferable area for the maintainer from the beginning and also continuously.

The aim of my lecture is to examine the background of the next four focus points in the care of underprivileged children:

- social expectations – the contact of religion and education
- the mission of Greek Catholic schools in the forming of their students' social receptive attitudes
- the identity of Greek Catholic schools
- the added value of the collaborative activities of Greek Catholic schools and parishes.

My analysis is performed in the light of the most important Second Vatican Council documents

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Section: Social Dimensions of Economic Transformation

Social Embeddedness of the Economic Networks

According to the results of my territorial capital research studies, Hungarian regional economic growth and development depend on relational capital which is created among small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs). In other words, the economic networks are a driving force in the development of local society. The globalisation has already changed the patterns of behaviours, communications, interactions and aspirations of SMEs. It means they have to collaborate with each other (global-local paradox), they should prefer cooperation-based development to competitive advantages based growth.

In this conference, basically, my aim is to present how the regional entrepreneurial networks determine the social welfare, happiness, structure and relationships.

I would like to talk about three topics. First, drawing on the results of international research studies I present the theoretical features of economic networks in the aspect of the sociology of economics; I appraise the role of networks in regional economic growth. Second, I show the best international examples of economic networks (the best performing networks in Italy and Sweden). Finally, I deal with how Hungarian entrepreneurs could adopt these international best practices for the sake of socio-economic development.

With my research it could happen that we could accomplish (1) the moderation of local inequality in Hungary, (2) the strengthening of regional cohesion, (3) the acceleration of the development of some regions with the conditions of sustainability. In addition, with my results it is going to be answered (4) how the different aims of the approach connecting to the regional cohesion (the underdeveloped regions have to be supported) and the regional growth (rather the developed regions have to be supported and these help the underdeveloped ones to close up) can be carried out at the same time; how these approaches seeming to be opposites can be harmonised.

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Section: Family and Gender in the 21st Century

Gender Constructions in Mate Search Ads in Hungarian On- and Offline Press and in Transylvanian Online Ads

My research focuses on the comparison between Hungarian and Transylvanian mate search advertisements. The actually preferred gender constructions of a society can be well captured in marriage advertisements. These personal advertisements can be thought of as a mini genre. Its frame is very tight in content and in the number of words as well. In a few words you have to characterise, introduce yourself as an ideal woman or man partner for someone whom you have never met. In a small number of words you have to refer to the characteristics of the wanted partner.

Earlier these advertisements appeared in the printed press, but nowadays a lot of people advertise online. In my research I make a comparison between the advertisements in Hungary and in Transylvania. My research database comes from four kinds of Hungarian press products and from www.erdelyinfo.ro. From the online advertisements I excluded the advertisements with photos, because I examined only the verbal introductions, the texts.

The focus of my research is to show which are the main differences between the gender construction elements in the advertisements of Hungarian people in Hungary and in Transylvania. What are the usual details which can be thought of as compulsory elements of these kinds of an advertisements: inner and outer characteristics, material circumstances, education, and availability? How do the advertisers make use of the multiple information channels of an online advertisement (personal home-pages, Facebook profiles, photos and any other forms of communication possibilities).

A mate search advertisement is supposed to be a market where the advertiser's described characteristics profile is the offer (an item) and the searched partner's characteristics profile is the 'product in demand'. These are the bases of the 'business', which means the realisation of the wanted partnership from both sides.

The results of my research will not only show a reflection of the different circumstances and societies of the two countries, but the expected and most important factors of the basis of living together in the 21st century.

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Section: Elites and Ethnicities

Ethnicity, Elite Recruitment and Elite Stratification in Dualist Hungary

The paper proposes an overview of a number of empirical surveys and prosopographical studies of educated elite clusters before 1919 related – among other things – to their ethnic – denominational composition. In pre-modern and modern historic Hungary ethnicity was to some extent covered by religious identity – especially for Jews, some other minorities (like Romanians or Serbians) or Magyars (Calvinists, Unitarians)–, while it completed and qualified ethnic identity for others (in the cases of Roman Catholics or Lutherans – who could be Magyars, Germans or Slovaks, for their majority). The surveys and studies referred to concern on the one hand student populations of both universities and vocational higher education, on the other hand those of graduating classes of secondary schools, together with various professional groups (physicians, lawyers, engineers) and otherwise defined clusters of the intellectual middle class (like Freemasons, reserve officers of the army, members of the [Galileo] Galilei Circle, activists of the 1919 ‘academic battalions’, etc.). The close scrutiny of their ethnic-denominational recruitment reveals a profound division in Hungarian elite populations emerging during the process of post-feudal modernisations and the building of the nation state. Western type modernisers included Jews, different German and Magyar clusters as well as assimilated Slavic ones (mostly Slovaks), opposed to all the others. While the former were marked by their educational investments and success, professional mobility and Westward intellectual and ideological orientation, the latter displayed rather remarkably opposite features and dispositions. Another line of division between ethnic clusters can be detected between those ready to support Western type democratisation and the development of the nation state under the aegis of universalistic social Utopias and all others, inclined mostly to adopt regressive social projects under the aegis of exclusivist nationalism and ‘*Blut und Boden*’ type definitions of membership in the national community. The paper will not enter into ideological analyses, but will only focus on the institutionally diversified recruitment of elite clusters active on the social scene of the late Dualist period.

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Section: Education

Do Feedbacks Matter? The Impact of School Grades on Subsequent Academic Achievement

Previous studies (Betts and Grogger 2003; Betts 1997) have found that schools' grading standards have a small but statistically significant positive effect on subsequent academic achievement. These analyses, however, regarded grading standards as school level characteristics. In this analysis I argue that there is also an unobserved sorting mechanism which selects pupils within the same school in different school classes. Classrooms are considered to be different in terms of peer-effect and teacher quality (Rivkin, Hanushek, and Kain 2005). Overcoming this shortcoming the definition of school grades in the analysis is relative to class average, hence all inter-class differences are captured. Being able to eliminate individual level heterogeneity which is considered to be stable over time like parental influence, ability or motivation, first-difference and fixed effect estimators are employed. Using various types of Hungarian educational panel datasets the impact of school grade is estimated on the change in standardised test scores measuring cognitive abilities. School grades were measured prior to academic test scores, the outcome variable in the analysis. Controlling for individual and school-class-level unobserved heterogeneity, the estimated impact of school grades is positive and statistically significant. To explain the underlying mechanisms the growth in self-confidence is offered.

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Section: Vidéki terek átalakulása (Restructuring of Rural Areas)

The Impact of the LEADER Programme on the Transformation of Romanian Rural Spaces

The implementation of the LEADER programme (the fourth pillar of the European Rural Development Programme in the period 2007-2013) was effectively launched in Romania in 2011, after some previous preparatory activities. The general objective of the LEADER programme is to launch and implement local development initiatives. Three measures were chosen to reach this objective: 1. Participation of the members of rural communities in the local development process and encouragement of innovative actions; 2. Encourage local actors to work together with representatives of other communities; 3. Stimulate the formation of partnerships, preparation and implementation of local development strategies. Several conditions were imposed for all those willing to access LEADER funds, including the development of new institutions (called Local Action Groups – LAG), which try out new ways of cooperation between different local actors (public authorities, companies, churches, non-governmental organisations, private persons) located in the rural area.

The aim of this paper is to analyse how the LEADER programme, through its freshly created institutional structures and the projects funded, has changed Romanian rural areas in the period 2011-2014 and what are the future perspectives.

In the two rounds from 2011 and 2012 the development strategies of 163 Local Action Groups were selected. The territories covered by the LAGs show a great diversity as regards geographic location, number of inhabitants, area, shape, process of establishment, etc. but their strategies and the level of available funding are rather similar (based on the National Rural Development Plan).

The main problems of the LEADER programme implementation in Romania are the following: large areas remained uncovered, low absorption rate of the available funds, management problems within the LAGs, competition grew between villages instead of cooperation, the period for evaluation and contracting of the selected projects is very long.

These problems should be addressed within the upcoming (2014-2020) programming period to ensure the effectiveness of the LEADER initiative.

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Section: Vidéki terék átalakulása (Restructuring of Rural Areas)

The Slow Development of a Wine Region in Hungary

Wine regions have followed different development paths in the last two decades in Hungary. A few of them have successfully reconstructed their production, marketing schemes and image and are considered as the mainstream and flagship wine regions with superb quality by now. While other regions are still struggling with reforming their wine and vine culture in order to leave behind their socialist heritage.

The presentation will demonstrate the Mátra wine region as an illustrative example of a slow and sluggish development from the path-dependent past to the prosperous future. Results were obtained as part of a joint research project carrying out by the Centre of Economic and Regional Studies and the Centre for Social Sciences under the leadership of Dr Katalin Kovács, Ph.D. and Dr. Imre Kovách, Ph.D. In terms of methodology, the research employs tools of qualitative sociology and relies on data gained from about twenty 20 semi-structured interviews.

The aim of the presentation will be to demonstrate certain circumstances and factors as major causes of the disadvantageous position of the Mátra wine region comparing it with to mainstream wine regions. The research has revealed both external and internal elements that explain these differences: detrimental effects of the recent wine reform in the EU, the negative public perception of wine products from this region and the limited economic and human capacity for business development in the late '90s. Similarly to other Hungarian wine regions, a new generation of winemakers has already appeared in this region too; however, their contribution to the development of the local viti- and viticulture has been rather controversial than successful.

The key impact of this research is to present the importance of some unfavourable circumstances that significantly affect the possibilities of a wine region to catch up with the mainstream regions.

Acknowledgement: The study was carried out within the framework of a project entitled "Living from their land: agricultural actors, rural development trajectories and rural policies in Hungary", and was supported by the Hungarian Scientific Research Fund.

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Section: Vidéki terek átalakulása (Restructuring of Rural Areas)

Types of Farming in Harghita County after the EU Accession of Romania

In our paper we analyse the different types of farming and the impact of agricultural subsidies on them after the EU accession of Romania. As is well known, in Romania there is a huge number of farmers, most of them being subsistence farmers. Research conducted in the 90's established that the peasant way of farming is deeply embedded in rural living and the local social structure, therefore its alteration proved to be difficult. In this paper, based on a survey of the agricultural population of Harghita county, Romania, we argue that the new system of agricultural subsidies, as well as some other factors, results in the appearance of a small sector of entrepreneurial type of farmers. These entrepreneurial farms rely heavily on the new agricultural politics, the most important income of them being these subsidies. While they keep some features of the peasant way of farming, most of them are also pluriactive family farms. Beside these growing entrepreneurial farms, the agricultural landscape is dominated by subsistence and semi-subsistence farms. An interesting question arises related to the semi-subsistence middle-sized farms, which are the most numerous, with many peasant-like features.

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Section: Environment, Consumption and Local Society. Locality and Global Challenges

Creating the Landscape – 'Governing the Commons'

Thus far in my research I have explored areas with adverse economic and social conditions but none-the-less rich in natural and cultural values, where tourism was effectively the only way out of desolation, where innovative potential lay in creating local traditions and products and making them known. However, the image of an area saleable on the tourism market is unique; it is a product that can only be created collectively: i.e. it presupposes the agreement of participants, their alignment to one another, and the acceptance of mutual norms. Therefore one of the most important elements of successful creation of a landscape is cooperation among participants. Yet many problems and obstacles arise in relation to the formation and functioning of collective action. Elinor Ostrom (1990) sees the solution to these issues in the formation of CPR (Common Pool Resources) systems, namely the institutions created, regulated and supervised by communities themselves.

In my presentation I intend to examine two kinds of cooperation with complex activities integrating larger communities. 1.) The “local market” is a self-organising initiative which intends to optimise individual and communal interests: it helps actors enter the market who would not be able to initiate and operate an enterprise autonomously for lack of sufficient financial and human capital, but who have the ability to participate in local production under controlled conditions, thus improving their own and their community’s circumstances. In addition, they aspire to produce local products that may become markers or brands of the area, hence increasing awareness and attendance. 2.) Social cooperatives aim to re-integrate disadvantaged target groups into the work force. Among these are some that strive to produce, raise the awareness of, as well as sell local products and common brands, which are directed at the utilisation of the resources and the local knowledge of the area.

During my presentation, it will be my aim to examine the operation and role of CPR systems in Hungary, which coordinate participants working together in the field of production of landscape (the creation of image, traditions, and products).

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Section: Education

School Success Profile among the Children of Romanian Immigrants Living in Italy

In this paper I analyse the impact of certain social and environmental factors pertaining to the school success profile of children living in Italy, who immigrated there with their parents. My questions are focused on the factors that make these children endangered and vulnerable, and the factors that have a positive effect on them. I assume that these children are disadvantaged, which makes them vulnerable to early school abandonment. I think that one of the most important reasons for this phenomenon is that they have to adapt to a completely new environment, while there are language barriers for them, and the adaptation to a new living environment is also creating difficulties for them. According to the social problems (Romanian Directive) risks are threatening them from several areas: migration, social isolation, discrimination, the risk of separation from parents, inadequate housing, and living in overcrowded housing. I make my analysis on the data from School Success Profile research. This is a standardised instrument created at the School of Social Work at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill by Gary Bowen and Jack Richman in 1993. The research operates the following indicators: demographic indicators, school performance indicators, contextual risk indicators, social capital, internal assets, health indicators, integration, and social support. In Romania the survey was carried out in 2010 on a national scale, and the questionnaire was adapted to local specificities. The same survey was carried out in Italy's four regions (Abruzzi: 18.5%, Marche: 34.7%, Piemonte: 23.5%, Puglia: 23%) among the children of Romanian immigrants. In my analysis I describe these immigrant children's school success profiles compared with those of Romanian children.

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Section: Digital Society

How do Hungarians of Argentina see the Hungarian Minorities of the Carpathian Basin? Reflections of the Buenos Aires Hungarian-Spanish Bilingual Digital Community Media on the Issue of Hungarian Minority Communities (1990-2013)

The Trianon Treaty and the subsequent formation of Hungarian minority populations in neighbouring countries as well as the international historical migration flows launched by it have been central concerns of the Hungarian immigrant community of Buenos Aires for more than six decades. Literature tackling the history and the identity patterns of the Hungarian diaspora in Argentina emphasise the importance of descent from these territories, a marked solidarity with minority Hungarians all over the world, an imperative of “staying Hungarian where one lives”, and notions of responsibility and care towards Hungarian migrants coming from minority situations. The democratic transformation in Hungary, the heavy Argentinian economic crisis reaching its peak in 2002, the integration of Hungary, Slovakia and Romania into the European Union and the introduction of the Register of Certificates of Hungarian Nationality (*magyarigazolvány*) were events that induced changes in diaspora community strategies and modified reference points of identification. The proposed paper is supported by previous anthropological research on second and third generation ethnic identity among the Hungarian immigrant community in Buenos Aires and based on the discourse analysis of Hungarian and Spanish language articles related to Hungarians in minority situations and to Hungary’s attitude towards them as seen through the lenses of the Hungarian-Argentinian partly paper-based, partly electronic bilingual community media. It discusses how articles in the monthly *Dél-Amerikai Magyar Hírlap* (1990-2004), the monthly community newsletter *HungArgenNews* (2000–2004), and the likewise monthly *Argentínai Magyar Hírlap* (2005-2013) reflect changes in the international social and political environment and in the Argentinian diaspora community’s vision of Hungarian minorities.

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Section: Elites and Ethnicities

The Role of the Local Elite in Fostering the “Learning Community”

The aim of the present research was to discover and describe the local elite and its actual role in a Hungarian small town. Two alternatives of learning communities emerge from the relevant literature (Florida 1995, Morgan 1996, etc.). Alternative A stresses the importance of the high density of inhabitants in a city with intensive communications among them, that initiate creativity and raise the level of development. They were called learning cities as centres of special learning regions (Glaeser 1999, Florida 2012). Alternative B points out the social and political forces, that enable the community to solve their own problems. In this view the learning community is a social-territorial unit (a community or habitat) which faces a challenge (Guggenheim 2003). While solving its own problems, the members of the community have to learn new knowledge and new competences. If they succeed, the new knowledge and competences turn out to become a common tradition that strengthens the community. When studying our case we concentrated on the role of the local elite. Former studies in Hungary (e.g. Forray, Kozma 2011) did not show, however, the ways and means by which those elites support or even initiate local changes. Our present study was a field research project with field studies, documented data gathering, on-site visits and semi-structured interviews. The results were as follow: a) local elites changed a lot, and a new composition of the elite formed compared with our former studies (including the church as a major factor); b) the local elite has the key role in realising the challenge and leading a discourse of it, though it does not have decision making competencies; c) the major role of the local elite (part of it) is discovering the necessary knowledge and competences for problem solving and to disseminate them; d) an additional role of the local elite is to develop a narrative about community problem solving and to integrate this narrative to the tradition of the community. Though having no decision making power, the local elite creates the necessary background for community problem solving which makes the socio-territorial unit a “learning community”.

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Section: Family, Gender and Social Inequalities in the 21st Century

Combining Leading and Supporting Roles – Family and Career Strategies among Elite Couples

In our study we explore what are the most important resources and types of capital related to marital relationship and family that help a spouse to enter the contemporary elite of Hungary. We identify typical successful routes and strategies followed by elite members and their spouses. We also seek to understand the influence of elite position on the relationship between the spouses. We identify supporting and leading roles in the sphere of career and family as an analytical tool in our qualitative research.

We start from the assumption that marital relationships play an important role in reaching, maintaining and transmitting elite positions. The spouse may serve as an additional resource for an elite member, whether they pursue a traditional two-person career or act as a modern ‘power couple’.

Our results prove that among elite couples, supporting and leading roles are identified differently in family life and in professional life. In family life, roles are defined by parenthood and implemented under strong social norms in which maternity plays a central role, whether the mother was a power woman before childbearing or not.

By contrast, the leading and supporting roles of spouses in career life are defined by their actual work position and dependent on traditional gender roles. In the case of power couples the roles of wife and husband are based on a more or less equal partnership where the spouses support each other mutually. In the case of mixed career couples the relationship is more unequal: one spouse (usually the wife) has only a supporting career role. This defines a double leading role for women with children in power couples: usually they act as ‘leading women’ both in family and career life. Less commonly, they adopt a three-phase model to reconcile family and professional development phases.

Our research proves that the ideology of familialism is deeply internalised by elite couples and determines parenthood-based family roles regardless of the type of career forms. At the same time, the relationship between wives and husbands concerning their career is more a matter of individual choice.

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Section: Political Socialisation on Both Sides of the border

Different Perspectives. Why do we See Each Other (dis)Similarly: the Power of Everyday Social Connections versus National Identity

Our presentation focuses on three ethnic groups – Hungarians living in Hungary, ethnic Hungarians in Serbia, and Serbians living in Serbia –, their interpretations and perceptions of the border itself, and their relationships and attitudes towards each other.

We concentrate on the following questions: (1) In which ways does the border separate and/or link these different ethnic groups? (2) What are the main determining factors of feeling similar or dissimilar?

We conducted our investigations among the regular audiences of two independent, experimental theatrical institutions in Szeged and Subotica, cities near the Serbian-Hungarian border in Hungary and Serbia.

These institutions and the members of their audiences have close connections across the border, many of them speak the language of the other nation. They are open towards the other two groups and their opinions are mainly based on real personal experience. Therefore, our sample (N=346) can be regarded as an expert sample representing the opinions of these intellectuals, a part of the cultural elites of these three sub-populations.

We investigated the stereotypes held about each other, which are apparently influenced by political socialisation, especially in these countries. We also focused on the experience of personal connections with people from the “other” groups, the social distances and the role of the border in several dimensions. One decade earlier György Csepeli and his colleagues dealt with similar questions of inter-ethnic relations in Slovakia and Romania, but not in Serbia.

Using quantitative and qualitative methods, the analysis revealed some characteristic differences in mutual perception, most strikingly between ethnic Hungarians living in Serbia and Hungarians living in Hungary. While Hungarians in Hungary feel similarity on the basis of belonging to the same nation, it seems that in the case of Hungarians in Serbia the border rather separates the two Hungarian groups, and the impact of social connections with local Serbs and everyday life seems to be much stronger than historical and ideological factors.

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Section: Education

Disadvantaged Hungarian Children in the Romanian Educational System – A Study of General Integration of Children’s Home Boarders

In my presentation my aim is to present a special Hungarian community in Romania. For eight months I had the opportunity to be a participant observer in a children’s home in Transylvania. The common language of these children is Hungarian as they all attend Hungarian classes in public schools – even though their vernacular is not Hungarian.

This could provide an opportunity for them to integrate into their mates with family backgrounds and could also help them to overcome their disadvantageous status. In the focus of my research was the role of integration through education in a Romanian settlement where 91% of the inhabitants are Hungarian. The emphasis was on the question whether integration through education can be understood as an integration into society or rather makes the children part of the Hungarian minority.

Furthermore I wanted to know if these disadvantaged children can cope with the difficulties of the education system. Integration through participation in public education is uneasy for the most due to the incomplete process of primary socialisation, language problems, pre-school traumas, and overworked institution staff. Despite these hardships every year there are those who graduate propitiously, and gain admission to college. In my presentation I review the factors that contribute to educational integration.

The common language of the institution is Hungarian regardless of nationality and ethnicity, therefore the success of education greatly depends on the children’s language, and whether they had to face a language change when entering the children’s home.

At the beginning of my presentation, I introduce the Romanian education system, most specifically its Hungarian language education, thereby creating a framework analysis of my research. Afterwards I go on with my research experience at the children’s home presenting the boarders’ circumstances, in particular the use of language and school performance. The main issue of my research is how children of Hungarian origin can find their place in public education, especially in the case when they lack certain essential capitals needed for educational success.

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Section: Roma in the Carpathian Basin in the Light of Recent Sociological Research

The Roma Community in Szeklerland, in Double Minority and Conflicting Situations, as Reflected in the Mass Media

Based on a sociological field research, my task in this presentation is twofold: first I would like to present a short version of Roma-Hungarian (Szeklers) conflicts from Harghita county (in July, 2009), and a short analysis of the background structural and psycho-cultural dimensions of those dramatic acts. In this part I would like to stress eight specific dimensions of the ethnicised conflicts from the (1) role of local elites in shaping the inter-ethnic relationships; to the (2) improper spontaneous practices in conflicts management; to the vulnerabilities (3) of each ethnic community; conflicting relation (4) generated by the stress of changes in the local economy, property relations, etc.; the (5) incapability of strictly justice-based recommendations in managing the conflicts; (6) adoption of extraordinary rigid positions on the part of local ethnic Szekler communities, and on the part of Roma NGOs; (7) the acute housing problems of the Roma/Gipsy communities in extreme poverty; and (8) the sociological fact, that the complex problems of the marginalised Roma communities, overwhelm the social and economic possibilities of the local society.

My second aim is to give a proper interpretation of the conflicts in the light of the local and central Hungarian and Romanian language mass media discourses. For this purpose I use the multi-sited research method, following the conflict events in the media discourses, starting from the micro level, moving to the macro one. The special media reflections upon the events were determined by the intersection of two local and two national level media spaces. However I could observe the characteristic parallelism and only partly overlaps between the Hungarian and Romanian mass media spaces. The media discourses implicating two national level minorities, and the majority – the Szeklers on one side, and Hungarian speaking Roma/Gypsy communities on the other side, assist by the mostly Romanian ethnic state-authorities, and Bucharest-based NGO representatives, etc. – in a region, otherwise, dominated by the local Hungarian minority, gave an exceptional flavour to the discourses.

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Section: Problems of Urban Life

Informal Lending Networks in Transylvania

The presentation is based on a part of an individual research project run between 2010-2013 on lifestyle issues in Transylvania, Romania. The main topics of the research (and of an in-print book as a result of the research) were the following: cash loan network connections, saving up for a pension and other situations: the perspective of awareness; Development and long-term housing finance tools: innovation, innovative types; purchasing patterns; Income replenishment methods; occupation, work, in particular: the demand side; time management, lifestyle patterns propagation networks; the purchase: acquisition networks, exchange networks, job change etc. Methods used: focus group, interviews in eight counties in Transylvania, Romania.

This presentation in the Joint Conference of the HSA and the University Babeş-Bolyai , Department of Hungarian Sociology and Social Work will pick the lending habits, its informal networks, mutual processes of cash loans mostly in urban areas. The presentation will focus on the following questions:

Who to turn to to ask for a loan? Who to ask for a loan for what? (For outstanding costs, but generally consumer goods or special occasions of life events... Primarily for non-living (everyday) costs...). Who to ask for a loan and over how much time? Which are the typical rituals of the following processes?

- Deadline postponement.
- A partial repayment, or offering a new deal, so that the debtor must assume more burdens; or: re-negotiation of terms (fit to raise the debtor).
- Rental of generosity: do not ask for concessions or accept partial obligations (strong arguments in the case of refusal).

This form of the informal economy (cash circulation) is situated between family or the wider social networks relations, and, also is situated between official banking and the user's world. These lending relations imply specific rituals, specific norms that prescribe the mutual commitments of the parts, the rituals of negotiating and an ongoing renegotiating.

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Section: Elites and Ethnicities

Managing the Change: the Introduction of Preparatory Classes in the Romanian Education System. Minority Case Study

My study focuses on the preparatory classes reform in Romania. The reform was introduced in the Autumn of 2012 in the Romanian compulsory education system. One of the main goals was to catch up with other EU member states that are offering compulsory education beginning at the age of six. The research is based on a case study developed in 2014 in a minority context in a small city in Seklerland, where Hungarians are living in a majority. I am analysing the different stakeholders' (inspectors, education institution heads, teachers and parents) expectations, their experiences of the implementation of the change and the immediate responses and short term results of the reform. My hypothesis is that the reform was not accurately prepared professionally and debated socially thus the implementation succeeded in a chaotic way with high resistance from the stakeholders as a result and not reaching all of its main purposes. By analysing the available data, the stakeholder' forums and interviews of both the education providers and their clients my intention is to reveal available resources for communities in the amelioration of the educational change management. I will address how local elites were able to further cooperate in order to minimise the negative effects of similar social experiments.

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Panel: Ethnic Relations and Economic Cooperation

Transnationalising Ethno-linguistic Hungarian Minorities in the Carpathian Region: Going Beyond Brubaker et al. (2006)

With the rise of globalisation and Europeanisation Hungarian ethno-linguistic minorities in the Carpathian Region have become “mobile” in the broadest sense of the concept. This has allowed them to develop an independent position in all sorts of transnational networks. In Mará cz (2013), one of these transnational networks has been characterised as a “quadratic nexus” with at least four different actors, one of them being the ethno-linguistic minority involved. In this paper, I will argue that an analysis of ethnic relations in terms of local dynamics, like the one of Brubaker et al. (2006) for the Romanian-Hungarian relations in the multi-ethnic, multilingual region of Romania’s Transylvania is no longer adequate against the backdrop of globalisation and Europeanisation. Instead in a framework of globalisation and Europeanisation ethno-linguistic minorities can interact with political, cultural, communicative and socio-economic global networks that affect the local relations, i.e. both everyday ethnicity and the power relations.

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Section: Education

The Effect of Minority and Majority National Identity on Students' Academic Achievement

In recent years, several works of analysis have been conducted about the learning environment and academic success of minorities. In our presentation, we raise the question whether it is more effective in terms of their achievement and social mobility if minority students pursue their studies in their own native language or in the official or majority language. The relationship between the language of teaching and the native language/mother tongue in a higher education context has never been studied before. In this presentation, we compare the higher education academic achievement of Romanian ethnic minority and majority students and Hungarian ethnic majority students. In the analysis, social status indicators were involved. The analysis was performed on the national database of the Higher Education for Social Cohesion research project. Data was collected with a questionnaire responded to by 2619 subjects in 2012. In our analysis, both single and multivariate analysis were used. The factors determining students' achievement were brought to light by controlling the explanatory variables with each other. Based on our analysis, it can be concluded that the academic achievement of the two ethnic groups are strongly influenced by religion and denomination, thus through this, involving the social background variables in the analysis resulted in a successful comparison.

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Section: Roma in the Carpathian Basin in the Light of Recent Sociological Research

Generational Change of the Roma Graduates, the Impact of Social Resilience

The proportion of graduated Roma people in Hungary has increased in the 2000s. Due to the development of the education system in Hungary, Roma children were able to participate and get different qualifications in larger numbers. However, the Hungarian education system still remains discriminative and segregative. Because of these characteristics children enrolled in the education system have to face different barriers, and what is more, they do not get important competencies which are needed for the development of someone's identity. This disadvantage forced them to fulfil the requirements determined by the school system. Through this fulfilment they achieved higher scores, which helped them to get into higher social classes as well. These resilient Roma people created a new identity which differentiates itself from the identity of majority and minority social classes. This paper focuses on this new identity which I call "meta identity". In my research I examine how the handicaps due to the competency-deficient education system influence this new "meta identity" of young graduate Roma people in Hungary and try to explore the main characteristics of these resilient people. Through this examination I also try to conceptualise their integration process into society.

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Section: Religion(s) in the Carpathian Basin from the Perspective of Hungarians and their Neighbours

A Second Wave of Transition in Religion and Politics in Central and Eastern Europe

The paper is based on a theoretical approach based on the works of several other Central and Eastern European scholars such as Pollack, Müller, Voicu and Karpov. The Central and Eastern European states have experienced a first wave of transition between 1989 and 1991. Although there are important differences between the societies of the region, we can elaborate some common characteristics regarding the political changes and also regarding institutional formations of religions. According to the works of José Casanova we should distinguish between secularisation as a theory, secularism as an ideology and the secular as a societal space without religion. Casanova observes religious transformations in the institutional dimensions of religion in three social realms: state and church relations, parties and churches relations and relations between civil society and faith based civic networks.

In my paper I try to present an international trend analysis on every mentioned social realm. Most of the countries of the region became democracies, with democratically elected governments and a high enough level of political freedom. This first wave had suggested that the extinction of religion and religiosity was a possibility, as the Communist Era was very restrictive with the churches and devout people in Central Eastern Europe. The secularisation process taking place in Western-Europe suggested the same possibility, but the coming years have proved this suggestion partly true and partly false because of the growing level of religiosity and religion related activities in Central and Eastern European states. The growing civil society, in strong partnership with churches, but separated from direct political activities gained influence in all states of the region. Civil society became a strong repository of the second wave transition values. New forms of perceptions of religion and religiosity have been introduced. In the paper, I try to introduce the possibility of a theory of a second wave of transition in Central and Eastern Europe.

The theory helps to analyse historical and recent national and international relations, national and nationalistic interests and the role of religion and churches.

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Section: Vidéki terék átalakulása (Restructuring of Rural Areas)

The Role of Agricultural Policies in Rural Restructuring

Three different kinds of farming can be distinguished in the micro-region: major agricultural corporations, medium-sized farms, and self-sufficient farming smallholdings centred on a household.

In my lecture I will present the food producing networks, and the interdependencies between the socio-economic position of farms and smallholdings and their methods of production. I analyse the internal and external factors of the husbandry, which helps interpret the possible impact of agricultural and rural political decisions on farming.

The theoretical background is given by studies dealing with the phenomenon of alternative food chains (Renting et al. 2012, Lamine 2005, Fonte 2010) and publications analysing the transformation of East-Central European agriculture (Jehlicka-Smith 2011, Swain 2013, Kovách 2013).

Rural political and agricultural decisions affect major corporations most directly, since they benefit from a multitude of subsidies and financial allowances. Their decisions are based on the economics of the market. In my presentation I support the notion that their decisions and the consequences of rural political decisions can be better understood with the help of systematic use of analysis.

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Section: Vidéki terek átalakulása (Restructuring of Rural Areas)

The State of “Bokortanya” Situated in the Neighbourhood of Nyíregyháza from the Change of the Communist Regime until Today

The farms can be categorised according to different criteria: such as ownership, their types of production or capacity of living. The basic criterion is their spatial position. The following types of farms can be distinguished: 1. scattered farms, 2. farms situated in groups, 3. farms in row, 4. manor farms and 5. the so-called “bokortanya” ~ literally shrub or brush wood farms. With the exception of the Eastern borders, the outskirts were transformed according to a triple division system into: 1. An inner, contiguous zone. 2. A transitional one in the middle, which is contiguous from Butykatelep to Sóstóhegy. 3. And finally, an outer zone, from Lászlótanya to Belsőbokor. In 1990, the total population of the bokortanyas was 8421, in 2000 it was 8032, in 2003 it was 9012, and in 2013 the number was 8773. As for the number in the 0-14 year age group, it has not even reached half of the national average, while those in the age group over 60 well surpass the national average in their numbers. The village destruction of the earlier regime has already finished. The bokortanyas around Nyíregyháza have been revitalised; the number of residential places in the outskirts can be estimated to be higher than it was assumed in the former development plans.

According to Section 60 of the Act 3 of 1993 on Social Administration and Social Services, home care is supplied by the farm-carers (“tanyagondnok”). The farm-carer service operating in the bokortanyas is providing hot meals to the elderly residents, as well as facilitating access to any of the public services.

The individual characteristics of the bokors, their places in the hierarchy of the farms determine their existence. The individual or family farming in today’s economic conditions are the modern forms of farmhouse production and the traditional double accommodation-based farming. The goal is for the bokortanyas to preserve the diversity resulting from their particular traditions, various potentials and unique characteristics.

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Section: Roma in the Carpathian Basin in the Light of Recent Sociological Research

Notions and Factors of Success in Settlement Rehabilitation Programmes

Residential segregation and its consequences are a widely discussed issue in the literature. Based on research performed in 2010 approximately 3% of the population of Hungary lives in segregated environments. Based on qualitative case studies on settlement rehabilitation programmes in Roma settlements, this paper seeks to contribute to this discussion by exploring how different complex welfare projects coordinated by a charitable organisation (in this case, the Hungarian Maltese Charity Service) can affect social processes within a segregated Roma community and how the cooperation with minority elites (e.g. Roma minority self-government members) and other representatives of the community or other factors (e.g. the composition of the community, geographical location, size of the settlement, etc.) can influence the success of these projects.

Studies show that local officials and elites can be the sources of valuable information concerning the local communities targeted by social welfare programmes, and drawing on their expertise and information can contribute to the success of these projects. Beside this, especially in the first years of the programme, attracting people with informal influence may strengthen the legitimacy of the programme and encourage the cooperation of the local population. However, underlying conflicts may hinder these efforts, moreover new conflicts may arise as a consequence of the programme.

Based on expert interviews conducted with coordinators of the chosen HMCS projects and the members of the local Roma minority self-government, school teachers, residents of the settlements and others, as well as qualitative content analysis of other documents (e.g. books, newspaper articles and blog entries) concerning these projects this paper aims at the better understanding of the different concepts and notions of success and failure in settlement rehabilitation and the factors that contribute to these with special emphasis on the effects of the cooperation with, and participation of, the members of the local (Roma) community.

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Section: Religion(s) in the Carpathian Basin from the Perspective of Hungarians and their Neighbours

Efficiency Concept of Religious Schools

Several studies (Ercsei-Nikitscher 2013; Fényes 2009; Halász-Faragó 2010) deal with the question of secondary school achievement. In Hungary, the indicators measuring national secondary school achievement are publicly available. However, the concept of achievement taking shape based on these indicators do not overlap entirely with the concept of achievement interpreted by church institutions. Among others, Neuwirth (2005) and Pusztai (2004, 2005, 2011) deal especially with the achievement of denominational schools. The 2007 study on teachers shows that according to the teachers of denominational schools, expanding knowledge and enriching the soul are equally significant aims; what is more, they consider content supporting social integration, and values facilitating cooperation between people particularly important (Pusztai 2011). Instead of asking teachers and headmasters about their perception of achievement, in the current research, we decided to reveal the maintainers' perspective. We were curious about the perceptions of the maintainers of different denominations. In the Spring and Summer of 2014, we carried out interviews with the representatives of Apostolic Exarchate of Miskolc, Transbiscan Reformed Church District, Hungarian Province of the Piarist Order, Greek Catholic Diocese of Hajdúdorog, Cistibiscan Reformed Church District and the Archbishopric of Eger.

In the case of all the maintainers, we found one interpretation, which goes beyond the perception of professional achievement, but some discrepancies can also be observed. While the Reformed maintainers emphasised the education of Christian students with a comprehensive world view, the Greek Catholics saw the key to success in compensating disadvantages. In Roman Catholic diocesan schools and schools of religious orders, the importance of the admission to higher education was ranked higher when compared with the rankings of both Reformed and Greek Catholic maintainers.

Keywords: religious schools, efficiency, values

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Section: Elites and Ethnicities

Teachers of the Hungarian Elite in Slovakia

Teachers are the main part of the Hungarian intellectual elite in Slovakia. This is proved by a database of the “*Who is who?*” encyclopaedias. The goal of our research was to investigate the efficiency of Slovakian/Hungarian teacher training in Slovakia. The research reveals the course of life as a teacher or if practising other professions between the elite careers of the teacher trainees. The research is based on the methodology of prosopography. Using this methodology the author was able to complete a collective bibliographical research on the period before the disintegration of Czechoslovakia (1993) based on the encyclopaedia “*Ki kicsoda Kassától Prágáig?*”;. The encyclopaedia contains the bibliographical data of 1200 member of the elite: occupation, place of birth, date of birth, their parents’ name and parents’ profession, name and occupation of husband/wife, place of secondary school, date of finishing education, place of higher education, speciality, partner speciality, workplace, number, name and occupation of children, other occupations completed at other workplaces, decorations, name of awards, year of adjudication of decorations or awards, title of creations and published works created by those elite members.

The method allows mapping common characteristics of elite members in teacher training and describes the groups’ social background. The author investigates the group of teacher trainees not working not as teachers separately. The occupation of the elite members’ parents, which is included almost completely in the Hungarian encyclopaedia from Slovakia may give us precious information on family background. The occupation of parents is the only represented data which provides information on family background. Based on the parents’ occupation further variables can be generated depending on sphere (public sphere, private sphere, independent), sector (agriculture, education, public service, healthcare, finance etc.) and position (owner, inferior, worker). Based on occupation we can draw conclusions on the parents’ qualification, which compared with the qualifications of the elite members allows the analysis of the intergenerational mobility phenomenon.

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Section: Political Socialisation on Both Sides of the border

National identity and the democracy interpretation among Hungarian, Slovak and Croatian young people

In the presentation we are referring to the analysis of a survey study completed in 2012 that is part of an international project (<http://www.fp7-myplace.eu/>). The central research question of the Myplace project is: ‘How is young people’s social participation shaped by the shadows (past, present and future) of totalitarianism and populism in Europe?’

During the survey research, the same questionnaire was used at the locations (28 locations in 14 countries). Each country identified two locations which could be contrasted in terms of economic and social factors. The first location would be economically vibrant and the second would be in economic decline or going through a significant re-structuring. The selection of each location within a country aims to maximise the contrast in terms of the conditions within which young people grow up. The different socio-cultural background determines different group memberships in both cases, so we have the opportunity to investigate the national identity of groups having a different socio-cultural background. (The characteristics of the random sample: young people aged 15 to 26, N=600–600).

The thematic structure of the questionnaire was suitable for the examination of the structure of attitudes organised around the concept of the nation and explore the relationship between national identity and the interpretation of democracy as well as attitudes to minority groups. One of the questions in the questionnaire of the survey research related to the structure of the national identity. Extensive social science literature shows why there is a privileged role for the two ideal types of national identity (cultural nation – state nation) and for the issue of belonging to a national and civic community in Central and Eastern Europe.

The purpose of the statistical analysis was to try to obtain an answer to the basic question: what is the causal relationship between the national identity (cause) and the interpretation of democracy as well as prejudice against minority groups (effects).

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Section: Deviancies and Prevention

Incarcerated Mothers' Inmate Identity

According to the International Centre for Prison Studies (ICPS), female prisoners made up 4.6% of the total prison population (ICPS) in Romania. If we analyse the female prisoners percentage in the prison population in Europe, we can see that Romania is in 31st place with 4.6% on a scale from 1.6% in Montenegro to 16.4% in Andorra (ICPS). Women are a small minority of the prison population, but this minority has special needs and rights.

The prison phenomenon is more than just the prison (construction/institution), it includes the effects of prisons on society and society's interpretation about prisons; the way in which criminals think about prisons as well as their role and effect.

The aim of the study is to present the main characteristics of those incarcerated Romanian women who are mothers. We base our results on eight "Discussion Groups for Imprisoned Mothers" and several other group works, discussions and case studies taking place with incarcerated mothers. These methods allowed a longitudinal insight into inmates' childhood environment, into their adolescence and adulthood, as well as into their everyday life in prison in terms of daily routines and emotional experiences.

Among others, we can conclude that the life histories of these women offenders are characterised by extreme social and economic disadvantage. They were disproportionately poor, undereducated and unskilled, victims of sexual or physical abuse, poverty and substance use.

Their emotional experiences are characterised by frustration, conflict and guilt, which are the result of being both separated from, and unable to care for their children. Added to these, in the long term, there appears the social stigmatisation: the label of a "bad mother", and "self-imposed punishment". The inmate identity appears on this background. For these mothers the answer to the question "Who am I?" is "I am an inmate". Based on these findings, our investigation shows also some possible ways how incarcerated mothers can combat their social discrediting.

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Section: Vidéki terek átalakulása (Restructuring of Rural Areas)

Transformation of Rural Spaces at a Local Level

The author has been exploring the local spaces for more than 30 years the results of which he has published in several essays (S. Szociokalandozások, Savaria University Press, 2006). In the present presentation he is seeking to make a comparison between the socialist local political system with the one after the change of system. The main results of his investigation was to discover a reciprocative allocation system at a local level. It adds to the discovery of Szelényi who first described the distributive system in socialist countries. In this framework, in a local reciprocal system material and symbolic goods were circulating, and managed by local notables. Some of them could emerge at the rank of “notability” who were able to be instrumental in gaining the benevolence of any great personality at a higher political rank ready to offset some financial support to the village. Summing up, the previous (socialist) system can be described as the “democracy without liberty” made up of local notabilities (president of local administration, president of cooperatives, etc.) who decide the fate of the local population in a reciprocity framework under the national redistributive financial allocation. It runs along views denying an autonomous power. Thus, the local notables make themselves and their mediating roles unavoidable. In contrast to this, after the change of system, a new local political regime seemed to emerge as a “risky free democracy” when, instead of former notables, civil society and local economic powers (entrepreneurs) seem to play the decisive role in the local society. Thus, the local political system became fragile for two reasons. First, the position of mayors were both strengthening and weakening. As strong as he may be, the mayor can become weak when an instantaneous majority of the local assembly dissolves itself forcing a new ballot. Second, since civil society largely developed at a local level they can play a decisive factor in local public opinion to-and-fro.

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Section: Elites and Ethnicities

Ethnic Background of Reputational Elites

Several debates and studies show that the ethnic character of names represents a relevant source of ethnic background. These relevant data are significant – not at an individual level, but for groups. The German, Slav, Roman or Magyar character of names and original names of social groups of 20th century Central Europe represents one of the main topics of international elite-research, led by Victor Karady and myself in the last fifteen years. At this conference this paper will show the ethnic background of reputational elites – the persons who have entries in national encyclopaedias and Who is who books in the 20th century.

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Section: Social Meaning of Children and Childlessness

Discrimination Practices and Perceptions in the Hungarian Adoption System

Examining adoption families – i.e. families where adoption occurs as an important factor in family formation – in the context of pluralisation of family forms can highlight the socially constructed nature of family life on the one hand, and challenge the normative concept of the family, on the other. The Child Protection Act in its article regulating child adoption practices gives priority to married couples, which can be interpreted as a means to reconstruct the traditional nuclear family form – however, it does not exclude single women and men either from adoption. Through successful adoption practices the ethnic homogeneity of Hungarian families can be altered, and planned one-parent families as well as families including same-sex couples and a child or children adopted by one of the partners can be constructed.

Our presentation, based on qualitative and quantitative data, focuses on the potential occurrences of discrimination in the adoption process in Hungary. On the one hand we examine the relationship between adoptive parent candidates and representatives of (state and private) adoption agencies, and on the other hand, we focus on how the preferences of adoptive parent candidates relate to the realities represented by children who are available for adoption. On the basis of analysing all the adoption applications submitted within one calendar year (2011) to the Budapest based main state adoption agency (TEGYESZ), it can be seen that there are certain pre-selection mechanisms in place that adversely affect mainly Roma children and those with certain health problems, and might reflect the “traditional” or “special” situation of the adoptive parent candidates.

Discrimination in the Hungarian adoption system is a multidimensional issue: discrimination is done by the law that prioritises certain family forms, while it excludes others; discrimination can be done by the official persons participating in the process deciding on the eligibility of the applicants; it can also be done by the adoptive parent candidates who tend to reject older, not completely healthy and non-white children; and ultimately class-based discrimination can also be observed, when children of the disadvantaged can get into more well-to-do families.

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Section: Environment, Consumption and Local Society. Locality and Global Challenges

Alternative Food Consumption and its Narratives: the Case of Local Food Products in Szeklerland

According to the international literature, today's food consumption can be classified around two major practices and associated narratives: 1) the conventional agrifood narrative which is centred around intensive agricultural production, large food transport miles and retail chains and 2) the alternative agrifood narrative which includes a wide array of products and consumption practices like ethical, organic, local, fair trade, etc. This latter narrative structures the so called 'ethical foodscape', which is associated with ecological integrity and social justice and practically becomes synonymous with the so called 'sustainable agrifood system'. Inside the so called ethical foodscape one can find further narratives, the strongest of which is the so called green or local narrative and the global and fair trade narrative. My presentation is focused on the case of the local food narrative and presents the results of a series of qualitative empirical studies which were realised in the period of 2010–2014 in the Seklerland region of Romania. The context and motivation of the research was given by the launch of several local production initiatives focusing on the preparation and marketing of local food products. The analyses which comprised both individual interviews and focus-group discussions investigated the meanings of local products, the major reasons of buying/refusing to buy such products, the profile of local products, buyers, etc.

The results of the research led to the configuration of several specific consumer groups (typologies) and helped also to configure the major motivations of participation in the buying of local food products. In accordance with previous international and national research findings, consumers' major motivations correspond to the intrinsic value of such products (e.g. taste, freshness, etc.) and besides the narratives of acceptance, consumers develop large narratives of competition of local products which comprise not only the well documented price and availability issues, but refer also to the intrinsic quality of such products like authenticity, organic value, etc. Thus, it seems that consumers rethink the common-sense ethics of the local products in terms of inherently good alternatives of food.

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Section: Problems of Urban Life

Inked. Pride and Social Prejudice

The social perception of the body has always concerned the great figures of the sociological field, as Bourdieu and Foucault, for example, since the body is the best method for the individual to manifest the essence of its personality to society. The body acts as a medium which absorbs different values and norms from the surrounding cultural environment, which are embedded in it, passing through individual interpretation and, in this way, reproducing it. The optimal solution/instrument for completing this 'task' is the physical manifestation, especially represented by the various forms of body modification, considering that it alters the message transfer medium itself. Different forms of body modifications can be traced back to near the origins of humanity, evolving with it and being tied to various cultural rituals or traditions. One of these is the practice of tattooing, viewed as exotic for a while, then as a lower class mark, later as deviance and as subcultural item, but nowadays the tattoo has lost its status and was adopted (in particular) by the middle class, thus becoming a product of mainstream culture.

In this context, my research approached the subject of tattooing in Kolozsvár, Romania, among young people who had had their tattoos after the 2000s, since this topic is hardly discussed at all here, neither in the theoretical field nor in the empirical one. I chose this age group, since it is the largest in this city (and generally in society), so their habits are important in defining the mainstream. Throughout my research, I have found the same similarity between western societies' tattooing habits and those I examined – globalised tattoo practice, as it usually is between the western, capitalist and the still somewhat developing countries.

This paper is based on qualitative research, which provided insights into the tattooed individuals' motivations, as well as into their views, the significance they give it, even if not consciously. In a globalised society, with a high degree of individualisation, tattooing and other forms of differentiation from the others is highly important, because after all, the individual is the base of society.

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Section: Political Socialisation on Both Sides of the border

Political Loyalties and Activities of Transnational Migrants from Romania. Old or new Political Socialisation?

Speaking about Romania, it is known that is a country of great migrant potential, as – according to World Bank sources – the approximate number of the Romanian migrants is about 2.77 million [2010 data]. Therefore, the issue of the Romanian transnational migration is one of the most debated and discussed ones in the national and international media and in politics too. The image of the Romanian diaspora is also highly debated, as we have seen several media-scandals in the recent years. Furthermore, the Romanian diaspora was also “accused” of the re-election of the former President at the last presidential elections in 2009, due to a delay in the counting. Numerous opinions appeared in the media and on news portals about the migrants’ and absentee citizens’ act of voting in their country of origin, often having a tone of accusation, saying that those have decided the political life of the country who do not actually live there. The above mentioned episodes outline a situation in which we can find the representation of such sociological notions and debates, as the exercise of political activity in the transnational life-style, where there is a great chance to be a member of two different democracies, which, in the view of some authors (Faist 2007), is a violation of the basic principles of democracy as having the opportunity to exist if the actual majority choice is not consonant with one’s preference. Issues like: most of the transnational migrants live in countries where they do not have citizenship but claim their citizenship rights in countries where they do not live (Fitzgerald 2000), raise some important questions of political transnationalism, political activity in transnationalised modes of living. In my paper I would like to present the discourses that I have found concerning the above mentioned topics in the media and in wider public opinion, by analysing the articles and forum discussions which have in their focus the question of the political exercise and socially approved political loyalties of diaspora citizens. I would also like to present my preliminary results based on an online survey conducted on the topic, which is part of my doctoral research.

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Section: The Social Meaning of Children and Childlessness

The Timing of PhD Attendance and the First Child in the Field of Engineering

Although the proportion of women slightly increased among PhD recipients during the last decade in Hungary, their proportion is still lower than that of men. Women are still under-represented in top positions in every occupational field in academia. In the case of early academic career marriage and childbirths are mainly responsible for the leak in the ‘pipeline’. On the one hand career often requires lock-step advancement and there is a strong social norm that one has to finish school before parenthood. On the other hand, the ideal timing for a career usually overlaps with the ideal timing for family formation. The academic career advancement model does not fit with women’s “biological clocks”: women’s childbearing, unlike men’, is strongly limited by their biological age. Young research generation have to face a life stage when decisions should be taken on the timing of these events, but making long-term decisions in recent social circumstances is becoming difficult.

Some disciplines require closer lock-step advancement, some offer inflexible employment conditions and individuals have less freedom of choice. Timing the first child and balancing education, work and family life can be more acute in male-dominated education and occupations especially in the field of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

This paper will therefore focus on the education and work-life balance of young female researchers, with special attention to the timing of the first child and PhD attendance in the field of engineering. Based on eleven semi-structured interviews with female PhD students we will show how a) PhD attendance affects women’s first childbirth, b) what facilitating and constraining factors they can identify in relation to balancing these fields, c) what dilemmas they have faced and what strategies they have adopted to balance these fields, d) how a special characteristic of education in engineering chemistry affects their balance.

Acknowledgement: This presentation is based on a research that received funding from the Hungarian Scientific Research Fund (OTKA K104707). The title of the project: Dilemmas and strategies in reconciling family and work.

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Keynote lecture

The Structure of Ethnocentrism in a Minority Context

The presentation will focus on features of ethnocentrism in a national minority context. Based on some previous research the author highlights the complicated interconnectedness of Hungarian minorities living outside Hungary with their kin-state majority, and the local majority. While ethnic boundaries production between Hungarian minority and their local majorities is well-known and understandable on historical and political grounds, the nature of the prejudice-system of Hungarian minority against 'homeland' Hungarians is rarely revealed. Indeed, in everyday situation one could identify signs referring to mental and cultural differences of minority Hungarians relative to their homeland peers. Therefore, stemming from this distinctiveness there is a permanent ethnicisation of Hungarians living in Hungary, that finally implies construction of Hungarians as an 'other' or 'stranger' group whose members surprisingly cannot speak the Hungarian language properly, and also have other special characteristics in moral and competency terms. Moreover, sometimes they look like local majorities' members as they are perceived as 'tourists', 'aliens' etc. This phenomenon is striking because at the same time minority Hungarians consider they are part of a culturally defined Hungarian nation that presupposes besides other symbolic issues a sound knowledge of the Hungarian language. The question here is how can we interpret these inner contradictions? Firstly we can assume that the Hungarian nation as such can be characterised by a special, language-free multiculturalism that enables all kind of people who know the Hungarian language. Secondly, an interpretation could be that these kinds of contradictions represent necessary conditions of a nation-based life because they provide the texture and networks of the Nation. Therefore, a certain minority ethnocentrism is necessary as it straightens the relationships of the cultural units of the Nation. Finally it could be asked whether these intra-national conflicts, the invisible borders will survive present-day political events. At this point it is important to note that the recently institutionalised naturalisation of minority Hungarians living outside Hungary will certainly affect minority identification processes.

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Panel: Memory and Traumas

Variations of the Concept of Trauma

The notion of "trauma" has been radically transformed in Romanian and Hungarian historiography and politics of memory in the last two decades. Research on the Treaty of Trianon and the Second Vienna Award have had the greatest influence on this topic. The collective (ethnic) trauma-constructions have been corrected, changed, reinterpreted or even deconstructed. This paper follows the variations of the concept of trauma in Transylvania. Our questions are: How do the grievance, remedy and concept of processing appear in the new historical research? Which constructions of trauma are disappearing and what new forms of trauma are appearing in Transylvanian collective interpretations? How do the changed ideas of collectivity influence the concepts of trauma? What is the relationship between the contemporary historical research and current politics of memory? We compare the representations of trauma and present the main important and typical Romanian and Hungarian examples of concealment, falsification and processing.

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Section: Problems of Urban Life

Territorial Aspects of Social Inequality in Cluj

This paper focuses on the spatial processes considering social inequality at the level of the town of Cluj in context of the past 20 years after the fall of the Communist regime. The broad literature of the social inequalities in Romania (see Zamfir E., 1995; Zamfir C., 2001; Molnar, 1999, 2009, Péter, 2006, 2007) deals in detail with its qualitative and quantitative aspects, but there are only a few authors analysing the territorial aspects of social disparities (see Stănculescu – Berevoiescu, 2004, Mionel, 2010, Pásztor, 2003, 2004, 2006, 2007). Particularly missing are those analyses focusing mainly on the tendencies of segregation and the approaches on the qualitative perspective of the processes of urban segregation and poverty.

The social context of segregation in the former Socialist countries is specific to the egalitarian policies promoted by the Communist system. These were manifested besides the political and economical decisions also in the distribution system of the residential space. One of the conceivable programmes to obtain their purpose was to modify the structure of the residential funds (Mihăilescu – Nicolau – Greorghiu – Olaru 1994) through the construction of districts of blocks of flats offering a living space for all social categories. The residences were state property, and the right of distribution of jobs fell under the jurisdiction of the central administration. As a consequence a request for a change of jobs and residence was rarely met so residential segregation was much inferior compared with that in Western states. (Ladányi, 1989).

After switching to a market economy the majority of the residential funds were transferred into the property of the residents (becoming private property) and along with this demand and supply, the prices also adjusted to the rules of the market.

The question that is at hand in this case is whether the social and economic changes imply alterations also at the level of urban structure similar to the ones in Western Europe?

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Section: Elites and Ethnicities

Szekler Flag. Regional Identity and Symbolic Struggles in Everyday Life

In my research I have been focusing on the social processes involved around the so-called Szekler Flag. These social processes are strongly connected to the idea of Szekler Land – the cultural distinction and the efforts for territorial autonomy of this region. The flag accepted by a local movement in 2004 became in several years the most powerful symbol of these civic-political efforts, which are challenging the concept of Romanian nation state. During the political-symbolical struggles between local political leaders, Romanian national institutions, and supporter organisations/political actors from Hungary the flag has got a broad spectrum of meanings: it became an ethno-cultural marker and a symbol of the localities, an agency of the resistance against Romanian nationalisation, the local symbol of minority rights demands in a European frame. I am studying the place and the role of this artefact in this context.

My research is based on an anthropological approach, I made interviews with several producers and distributors, who are involved in the circulation of the flag, with users of the flag and activists, I analysed the connected discourses (both online and in the printed press) that related the certain events, and in January, 2014 I started the participant observation at public events and celebrations.

My aim is to present the biography of the Szekler Flag, first of all, the context of its inventing, and the process of “authentification” of the object. In these processes the main focus is on the question: who are the actors and groups that have the legitimacy to create the representation of the community. Secondly I will discuss the object’s position in the circulation within the sphere of goods, and finally I put the accent on the usage in the public sphere: the act of flagging the public and private buildings, statues, and as a tool of events, celebrations, and public demonstrations.

My paper and presentation will discuss the meaning of the object as an artefact and agency in the use of everyday life.

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Section: Education

‘Engaging People and Ideas’: Memories, Meaning Making and the European Educational Research Association

The aim of this paper is to analyse how meanings have been spontaneously formed by individuals within the context of engaging with the European Education Research Association through its meetings, conferences and activities. The paper will in particular document the interpretative and discursive culture of the Association. Within this framework the paper will address two questions: first, to what extent can the European Educational Research Association be considered as an intellectual home or an alternative academic reality for educational researchers and, second, what motivates these researchers to be active within the Association? In order to answer these questions four groups and 26 semi-structured interviews with a specific focus on collective memories were carried out in 2013. Given the objectives of compiling data on interpretative and discursive culture addressees were encouraged to share their experiences of EERA and their understanding of their own involvement.

The data reveal that there is a delicate balance between activity and representation within the Association and that there is a constant reflection on, as well as a desire towards, inclusiveness both in terms of ideas and colleagues. Researchers enter EERA seeking their research identity and slowly realise that the only way to establish their identity is their constant contribution. Relying on theorists of communicative communities, it is possible to discern that a dynamic element – constant participation – gives EERA its integrity and intimacy. In reference to Sirota et al (2002) data provide evidence that there is a constant presence of hybrid spaces, institutional patterns or traditions of work within the association, which is incorporated into the association’s strategies and identities. Drawing on Hannerz’s (1996) findings the paper concludes with pointing out that exchange of information and expertise within trust relations leads to disperse responsibilities and to multilateral, spiral and transnational meaning and knowledge construction.

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Section: Youth and Sport

Social Problems and Conflicts Represented by Public Sport Discourses

Proceeding from the example of Romanian football, my paper argues that public discourses concerning issues of the popular game deliver relevant elements and information about the social environment and larger historical and cultural context in which it operates. Everywhere the popular sport is more than a simple game: it is a social phenomenon (“question”) with important social meaning and relevance. Football in Romania, just as ice hockey in Finland or Canada, has a very important impact on society: cultural forms like masculinities, group and individual identities, inter-ethnic relations even conflicts are shaped by soccer. Being a social institution culturally embedded in society the global game is highly connected with the political, social, economic system nationally and globally too. In the Romanian context the role and place of the Hungarian ethnic minority is largely debated even outside the political arena and – interestingly – connected with the football phenomenon: on the one hand, the historic roots and origins of football, as practice is originated in those early industrialised regions in (West Transylvania and Banat), on the other hand the sport event (and sport-talk) creates a proper scene to express and also to express combat the local identities. Taking this into consideration, we can state that the sport media forums talking about football’s problems practically speak about the entire society and its actual social problems.

My article is based on the Blumerian theory of social problems next to critical theory on media. The central research method is built around the qualitative content analysis, more specifically, the critical discourse analysis completed with the method of discourse network analysis in order to visually represent the typical semantic networks of every social problem represented in the investigated types of discourses. The main research questions are: What kind of social problems are raised and debated in public discourses on Romanian football? How can they be socially typified?

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Section: Vidéki terek átalakulása (Restructuring of Rural Areas)

Economic Strategies in a Transylvanian Village

The article analyses the changes, which occurred in farming in a Transylvanian village. The aim of the analysis is to outline the presently followed economic strategies, with a special regard to the income structure of the households. The first part of the paper focuses on the economic and social frameworks and context of rural farming. It ventures upon presenting the extent to which the most important milestones of the social history of the recent past (land collectivisation, regime change, re-privatisation/de-collectivisation) triggered the changes in local farming, placing greater emphasis on the processes after the system change. The main part of the analysis based on the theoretical concepts of pluriactivity, diversification and food self-provisioning and the conceptualisation of the special literature analyses the economic strategies of a Romanian village, seeking to present a typology based on the nature of economic strategies.

The paper raises the following questions: What cultural refiguration influences the strategies followed by rural households and what changes did the agricultural support system trigger after the EU-accession? What is the importance of the incomes related to agriculture or that of those independent from it in the functioning of the households? How do the economic strategies relying on the combination of the incomes from agricultural activities and non-agricultural ones influence the financial stability of the households and what is their role in the crisis management of economies and in their possibilities to evolve? Do economic activities or economic strategies built on diversification exist which are not agricultural in their nature, but are linked to the rural?

The author argues that the main strategy is pluriactivity, however the limited forms of diversification are also present in the farming patterns of the village, which mark a shift towards a more specialised, profit oriented farming. Near these strategies food self-provisioning is also present, what is more, new ideologies and meanings regarding food – very well known mostly from the western countries' alternative food networks – have appeared.

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Section: Spatial Exclusion and Social Inequalities

Neoliberal Proletarianisation along the Urban-Rural Divide in Post-socialist Romania

Based on five cities and their hinterlands in Romania (Călăraşi, Cluj-Napoca, Ploiesti, Miercurea Ciuc and Târgu-Mures) I compare actually-existing-socialist and neoliberal capitalist strategies in integrating labour reproduction in the accumulation strategies. The cost and availability of the labour force needed in the circuits of production are strongly dependent on the cost of reproducing labourers. Availability and the costs of the means of subsistence have a major impact on the wage level.

The socialist urbanisation of major costs of reproduction (education, health, housing, public transportation) was also capitalisation on the rural hinterland non-monetised means of subsistence (especially food) through the informal exchanges among extended families or double dwelling in the city and in the village. This strategy produced partially proletarianised populations, sheltered somewhat by the various socialist shortage crises. The actually-existing-socialism urbanised some of the reproduction costs to minimise their wage costs at the local level and used the unpaid reproduction labour of the rural households simultaneously. Actually, the post 70s relocations and outsourcing of the actual existing capitalist investments is exploiting wage differentials as reproduction costs differentials on a global scale.

The combined income strategy as partial proletarianisation (i.e. combining minimum wage with informal resources generated by the household) did not lose its actuality during neoliberal capitalism and is as widely in use as during socialism. Yet the capitalist imperative of accumulation may produce new types of enclosure that run against the benefits of partial proletarianisation. Intensive agriculture with highly mechanised tools and animal husbandry for industrial purposes, while in need of land, makes important parts of the rural labour force redundant. It is a population that has increasingly less access to combined income strategies, both because the land is integrated in global circuits of agricultural exploitation and because of capital's hopping strategies from one place to another to exploit reproduction costs differentials without redistributive constraints.

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Section: Spatial Exclusion and Social Inequalities

Spatial and School Segregation in the case of the Roma Minority

In our paper we address the issue of spatial and school segregation in the case of Roma, drawing on data collected in a mixed methods research, conducted in 25 localities in Romania. The research was coordinated by the Research Centre for Economic and Regional Studies of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and the Center for Policy Research at the Central European University, Budapest, and supported by the United Nations Development Program, Bratislava. The Desiré Foundation acts in this research as the Romanian partner running the investigations in five counties. The localities are situated in Alba, Arad, Călărași, Dolj and Iasi counties and the percentage of self-declared Roma population in these localities ranges from 4.62% in Calafat to 43.32% in Negoi.

The aim of the contextual research was to identify and construct a typology of local conditions and dynamics that produce and reproduce social marginalisation of Roma population in localities. The methodology provides a complex approach, by combining the analysis of local statistics and other data describing the local context, with narratives collected through interviews conducted with both Roma and non-Roma local actors. The interviews in particular offer a rich insight into the processes that have caused the social marginalisation of the Roma, or their social exclusion, with a focus on the local specificities. Our findings illustrate that spatial and school segregation affects a high share of the Roma living in the localities in the Romanian sample. The case studies carried out in localities offer a multiple lens perspective on how segregation becomes linked to ethnicity.

Whether this is viewed by our interviewees as a matter of personal choice that helps the Roma overcome discrimination and adapt in a certain social setting, or as a result of power relations and overall of the inter-ethnic relations, the concept of social inequalities is at the core of our understanding of the causes and outcomes of spatial and school segregation.

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Section: Digital Society

The Usage of Online Databases Concerning Social Crises

A new epoch has begun with the appearance of the internet. The political, economic, and social systems have not only been restructured, but their working methods have also turned into a new direction. The presentation analyses the transformation of the accessibility of knowledge, the new knowledge types (Wiki knowledge), and their usage in anticipation, revelation and prevention of social crises.

Following the Second World War the systematic collection of data related to social crisis has come out of the captivity of historical sciences. Data collection nowadays can be considered not only as a means of the accumulation of knowledge, but also as a means of early warning of social crisis. Data are indispensable for the effective intervention into social crises as well.

The presentation focuses especially on the databases and methods that are most suitable for the revelation and anticipation of-, and intervention into social crises.

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Section: Vidéki terek átalakulása (Restructuring of Rural Areas)

Creating Locality through Rituals

In this lecture I intend to present some findings of my research focusing on contemporary rural festivals. In the course of two extensive anthropological fieldwork projects in the small village of Pusztamérgecs and in the small town of Baja (both in Southern Hungary), comparative field trips in Finland and Scotland, and years' long research on the media representation of local festivals I was able to discover several functions of local festivals, first and foremost their role in settlement development, in spite of the fact that this role is not revealed by the organisers of these festivals. On the contrary, these local events are usually presented by them as some kind of a surviving element of the local culture. In their effort to mask the real motivation behind the organisation of local festivals the organisers use certain techniques in order to market these events, which could be analysed drawing on anthropological theories, among them mythisation and authenticisation. These techniques are able to mask the first and foremost goal of local festivals, i.e. creating a meaningful locality from a peripheral place and with that providing a basis for settlement development efforts. These local efforts masked as heritage preservation are influenced by outer, sometimes global influences, such as the UNESCO movement for the collection and preservation of intangible cultural heritage or the staging of authentic looking tourist attractions by the contemporary tourism industry. Hardly known, died out or invented elements of local culture can be raised and branded by local elites in peripheral areas in order to use them in settlement development. In the course of my research I was also able to record and analyse the media representation of these festivals. Usually centred around a strange, playful or extinct element of culture these media-representations are stressing the exoticism of these festivals helping to achieve the final goal of the organisers, i.e. putting the unknown place on the map. On the basis of my comparative material my intention is to analyse the logic of locality creation.

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Section: Religion(s) in the Carpathian Basin from the Perspective of Hungarians and their Neighbours

Comparison of Career Paths of Young People with Different Types of Religiosity

During the decades of communist rule there was overt repression of religious people and youth cohorts in Hungary were also repressed. The basic indicators of social status became very strongly and negatively interrelated with religiosity. After the political transformation a strong religious resurgence was expected, but we can state that no huge reorganisation of the religious landscape has taken place; more than half of the Hungarian population can be described as religious in their own way, and one sixth as strongly affiliated with churches, and another sixth are atheists. But the social composition of the religious part of society underwent successive transformations, and in large cities young church members come from more educated but also from economically higher-status backgrounds.

It is very interesting to investigate HE students' religiosity. Whether the high status people became more religious or if religiosity can act as an engine of social mobility? Whether the recent turn of church-run schools towards more disadvantaged groups of pupils would be successful? To answer these questions we analysed empirical data collected in 2012 (HunYouth:N=8000, HERD:N=2700). We compared low status students' study pathways with different types of religiosity. As every second young person studies in HE we analysed their achievement in HE, including their study engagement and job attitudes to find out their mobility prospects. It has a significance not only at an individual, but also at a social level as the loss of trust in building a meaningful professional career is the most dangerous impact of the economic crisis. The engagement in study and vocation can be interpreted as a common good.

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Section: Youth and Sport

Does Sexual Education in the Family Predict a Healthier Sexual Début among Romanian Young People?

The purpose of our study is to investigate to what extent the approach within the family of topics related to reproductive health contribute to a healthier behaviour of young people at the moment of sexual initiation. We assumed by sexual education in family whether young people often discussed with parents any or more subjects as menstruation/pollution, how pregnancies occur, prevention of a pregnancy, abortion, and sexually transmitted infections. We also investigated the intensity of sexual education provided by parents. We considered that a young man/woman experienced a healthy sexual initiation if he/she met three conditions simultaneously: having had a later sexual début (18 plus), having had a relationship with the first sexual partner for longer than one year at first sexual intercourse, and having used a method of contraception at first sexual intercourse. Our hypothesis was that young people who benefit from sexual education in their family experience a healthier sexual initiation, and the intensity of sexual education provided by parents is correlated with the number of healthy behaviours at the beginning of sexual life.

We used data from a sample of 1362 young Romanian people, aged 18-38 years, from large cities in Romania, who completed the self-administered Risk Behaviours for Health Questionnaire, between 2012-2013. We used bivariate analysis in order to test our two work hypothesis.

Our main findings revealed that sexual education offered by parents in the context of family was significantly associated with a healthier sexual début, and the results of correlation indicated a positive and significant relationship between the studied variables: the more intense was the sexual education provided by parents, the more healthier was the sexual début young people experienced.

This study stresses the idea that parents should be partners of other professionals (physicians, school counsellors, etc.) in the process of educating the young generation in such matters as healthy sexual initiation and reproductive health during their lifetime.

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Section: Youth and Sport

Future Plans of Adolescents. Preliminary Results from Romania

The results presented are part of a national survey on the topic of adolescents' transition to young adult status and captures the opinion of a number of the 3509 high school students of the final year (class XII and XIII) of 2012 from 33 localities in Romania. We analysed the route students wish to follow, comparing settlement types (urban/rural), parental education and family status (deprivation).

Faculty is a path less chosen by students in rural high schools (74.5% compared with 95.1% of urban high school students) and by those who are materially deprived (89.9% versus 93.8% who are not deprived) and those whose parents have at most secondary education (90.3% versus 98.2% of those whose parents have more than secondary education). And one of the reasons is that rural high school students (53% compared with 43.4% of urban high school students), are materially deprived (49.4% versus 42.8% who are not deprived) and those whose parents have no more than secondary education (65.5% compared with students whose parents have high school education (47%) or those with university education (37%) do not have the resources to pay for education, only 16.3% of rural high school students compared with 31.4% of urban high school students are hoping to receive a state grant. For 91.2% of rural high school students to 75% of urban high school students attending a faculty day is not a viable option given that 59.4% of rural high school students as opposed to 45.2% of urban high school students will start work and 62.7% of high school students compared with 44.3% materially deprived students state this. By profiling teenagers who do not wish to continue their studies we can better design inclusion policies to improve their chances on the labour market.

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Section: Spatial Exclusion and Social Inequalities

Bare Peripheries. State Retrenchment and Population Profiling in Segregated Roma Settlements in Romania

The text aims to explore processes of state retrenchment in contemporary Romania, as endorsed by the historically embedded profiling of the Roma as a “distinct and subversive” population in conjunction with the racialisation of extreme deprivation as a “Gypsy problem”, which ultimately led to the formation of “bare” (Agamben, 1998) peripheries where state policies merely exercise population control and citizenship is disentangled. Taking inspiration from Thorburn’s (2012) distinction between identification, surveillance and population profiling, it examines the adverse inclusion of the Roma in the course of civil identification, in the context of strong and historically enduring profiling of the Roma as a “category of suspicion” (G.T. Marx, 1985) and weak state capacity to exercise surveillance. These processes are depicted with the help of ethnographic fieldwork and interviews with welfare workers, Roma counsellors and mediators in four Romanian cities: Cluj-Napoca, Miercurea Ciuc, Ploiesti and Târgu-Mures.

State retrenchment is not an equivalent of complete state withdrawal: state surveillance remains cast over the margins, yet only selectively and discretionary, and resources are channelled to enable population control, but not the enactment of citizenship. Marginalised and concentrated “Gypsy colonies” in Romania are containers of “bare life”, emptied of political agency, resembling Agamben’s “camps”, where law and fact are indistinguishable and the state of exception becomes the rule. The exclusion-inclusion of these settlements is neither consistent nor stable, but fluctuates following an ambivalent, manifold and non-monolithic state, with barely coordinated and sometimes conflicting apparatuses, challenged by non-state actors. The state that creates the ghetto and, simultaneously, the means to dissolve the ghetto, is essentially incongruous and diffuse: border-reinforcing mechanisms colonise social policies designed for “inclusion”, and informal-networks ameliorate or emancipate bureaucratic exclusionary practices. From its multiple manifestations, I look at state welfare measures, as they reach out to, or leave out the peripheries.

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Section: Religion(s) in the Carpathian Basin from the Perspective of Hungarians and their Neighbours

The happy Duped – Motivations of Religious Vocation

The subject of the study based on psychological theories and research on formal time and on three sociological surveys that were conducted in 1997, 2012 and 2013 among members of religious orders in Hungary. The members of the religious orders are gathered mostly from Hungary, but a quite nice number of the members are from different countries especially in the international religious orders. The main questions were selected for recent study: Is it relevant to think about religious life as an occupation as well, or is it only a vocation, or a calling? What kinds of motivations are behind the religious vocation and are they changed comparing to former time or not? Another question was: to become a religious is it still a channel of upheaval in social structure or not any more?

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Section: Religion(s) in the Carpathian Basin from the Perspective of Hungarians and their Neighbours

A Cohort Analysis of Religious Change in Central and Eastern Europe

Religious change in Western Europe in the second half of the twentieth century is characterised through processes by which religion and especially its institutionalised form experienced a general decline. According to David Voas, these processes at the individual level are basically results of a change in successive birth cohorts, younger cohorts being less and less religiously socialised. In his view, changes in personal religious biographies hardly play a role in this concern

In the former communist countries, however, quite different developments have taken place since 1990. Religious upswings as a result of the restitution of religious freedom after the fall of communism could be witnessed in many cases. One might expect that these developments reflect to a great extent changing personal attitudes towards religiosity. The growing emphasis on religious socialisation, however, might lead to positive impacts of cohort replacement on religiosity, too. At the same time, ongoing secularisation processes were also present in many of these countries.

In my paper I aim to deal with the question, what kind of roles demographic changes of successive birth cohorts on the one hand, and religious changes within birth cohorts resulting from changes of the individual biographies on the other hand play? In my expectation, in countries with a growing level of religiosity in-cohort effects of the historical events have the greatest influence. In contrast, in countries with stable or declining religiosity between-cohort differences might play a crucial role.

In order to check these hypotheses, I have chosen linear decomposition, a method that has already been used several times for the investigation of intra- and inter-cohort effects on religiosity. The cumulative database of the European Values Study (1990-2008) serves as empirical basis for the comparative analysis.

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Section: Interdependencies in the History of Sociology

The Significance of a Congress Delayed because of the Outbreak of World War II

The present paper analyses a little known instance of collaboration between inter-war sociologists, in pursuance of a lively exchange of ideas in the capital of Romania. The 14th International Congress of Sociology, scheduled to take place at the end of August 1939, had managed to obtain the adhesion of three times more sociologists than the previous congresses. The extraordinary line-up can also be explained by the fact that the presidency of the congress was held by professor Dimitrie Gusti, who, due to his well-known organisational skills, guaranteed the proper framework for scientific debate. Beyond the sheer significance of this fact, the contributions of the participants, which were already sent and edited before the beginning of the congress, outline a unique panorama of sociology on the eve of the World War. This snapshot of the year 1939 clearly shows the trends that were violently wrecked by a long-lasting war, but it also illustrates the distorted image of the history of post-bellum sociology.

The large number of East-European sociologists registered for the meetings represent another particularity of this congress. The authors emphasise the importance of the special attention paid by organisers to invite as many colleagues as possible from Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Greece and Turkey, especially because their absence had been noted at previous congresses. The fact that the organisers received many favourable responses for participation, points to the idea that the young Eastern European sociology had been aware of their particular scientific and social mission. The study will present the proposed structure of the congress, which focused both on the urban and rural areas from various sociological and ideological perspectives. It is also important to observe that the experiences gained in organising this, ultimately cancelled event, had been invoked to defend sociology as a discipline both during the War and, especially during the second half of the fifth decade, when, under the strengthening Stalinist ideology, sociology was severely contested.

Keywords: congress, inter-war sociology, East-European sociology, World War II

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Section: Political Socialisation of Both Sides of the border

Emplotting the Nation: The Narrative Construction of the “Romanian Master Story”

The presentation focuses on the political process of Romanian nation building and its corresponding anthropological programme of creating the national self. Starting from the assumption that a human being is a “storytelling animal” nested in a (hi)story-telling community pillared upon “narrative traditions,” this communication explores the stock of stories told through history schoolbooks about the Romanian past as a means of narrative construction of Romanian national identity. The main argument put forward is that Romanian national identity and historical memory were shaped within a storytelling institutional apparatus made up of a network of state sponsored public schools. The Romanian nation’s journey through history has been thus emplotted by way of elaborating a grand historical meta-narrative diffused in the social body especially through public schooling. Consequently, the presentation analyses the nationalising process launched by Romanian state authorities in the wake of the political union of 1859, arguing that the political building of the Romanian nation implied the narrative articulation, followed by the recursive institutional reciting within the public educational system, of a “Romanian master story” as a means of breeding national Romanians out of Orthodox peasants. After detailing the pedagogy of the nation emerged in the second half of the 19th century as establishing the norms of (hi)story-telling the national past, the communication concludes by highlighting the main themes, or “schematic narrative templates,” into which the Romanian master story has been poured out. The Romanian master story was cast in the schematic narrative templates made up of the ideas of pure Latin origins, unbroken historical continuity, organic unity, and permanent struggle for national liberty. Starting with the writings originated in the paradigm set forth by the Transylvanian School and later perfected by the contributions of the following generations of history scholars, the structural framework of the Romanian master story emerged as a meta-narrative construction held together by the internal crossbeams of origins, continuity, unity, and independence.

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Panel: Ethnic Relations and Economic Cooperation

Locality, Ethnicity, and Economy

Locality according to its late modern concept means primarily relations and contexts, created by local subjects and operated with the application of necessary local knowledge. The relations and contexts are constantly reproduced at a practical and discursive level, thus they are created by social actions and by the discourses about the contexts that influence and govern social actions. The essence of ethnicity can be grasped also in relations, and it refers to a relation rather than to a substance. But this relationship always has a power aspect as well: ethnicity becomes important in the contest for resources and in this case acknowledgement can be regarded as an economic resource as well. Drawing on the example of power and ethnic relations and economic transformation of an ethnic German populated village in Hungary, the presentation interprets the creation of ethnicity and locality and the reflexive maintenance of local and ethnic identity, not only as a symbolic but economic resource as well. Moreover, the presentation argues that the cultural dimension of ethnic identity (e.g. language, forms of socialisation, marital patterns, economic attitude and, not least, microeconomic history) must be taken seriously as cultural resources that may influence economic adaptation/integration and can help an ethnic group economically.

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Section: Spatial Exclusion and Social Inequalities

Development, Underdevelopment and Impoverished Roma Communities. A Case Study of high-Level Visions and Agendas of Economic Progress in Urban Romania

This paper takes as a starting point the imaginaries guiding the development of the city and the labour market as they become visible in the discourses of some of the institutions producing policies at the level of municipalities. Relying on the multi-levelled ethnographic empirical material that was gathered within the SPAREX research project, this paper seeks to describe the ways in which the current hegemonic discourses of economic development (centred on attracting foreign investment to cities) and that of the neoliberal subject (the worthy entrepreneurial autonomous and creative individual) dovetail with the existing stereotypes of the ethnically Roma. It is a tentative explanation of the ways in which the particular nodal points of the dominant vision of development further creates the basis for the definition of certain actors and possible alternatives, excluding from the onset entire categories of people when attempting to manage and to better the life of the cities. I attempt to show how none of the activities and ways of making a livelihood, available to the poor living in the segregated communities, are understood as belonging to the latter category. In most of the cases, working for the cleaning companies is conceptualised closer to being welfare beneficiaries than fully-fledged workers. Collecting plastic or scrap metal is thought of as petty illegality at hand rather than hard, precarious and exhausting work. Further, making a living by these means is naturalised as a cultural or ethnic preference of the Roma. The contradictions that arise from the examples of people of Roma ethnicity who earn their living in ways that are closer to the mainstream (formal employment in other areas than city cleaning) are alleviated through the distinction between “the good” and “the bad” Roma. They are further used as arguments to show that it is indeed a matter of personal discipline and will rather than institutionalised racism that traps certain people and communities in situations of deprivation, exclusion and poverty.

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Section: Environment, Consumption and Local Society. Locality and Global Challenges

Tourism Potential in two Micro-Regions of Harghita County

In March 2014 a survey was carried out among adult people from two micro-regions of Harghita county. The key topics of the study were tourism potential and the local particularities of each community. In order to find deeper details about the most attractive elements of local history, culture, gastronomy and nature, in May 2014, focus group interviews with experts were chosen as a complementary method. From Ciceu to Balan 592 local people were interviewed and six focus group sessions were conducted.

The region can be characterised by a relatively low number of foreign visitors, the tourist season is short and is concentrated around a major religious event, but probably there would be other relevant natural and cultural elements for different types of visitors, if these were more efficiently promoted.

The results of the analysis show that one part of local values is considered as common thing, since people are not aware enough of their resources. There are some problems that could act as repulsive factors, for instance the actual situation of waste management. Cooperation among municipalities, NGOs, and cultural groups seems to be essential in order to increase the number of visitors and the number of visitor nights spent in the region. The results also showed that tourism as a sector activity is viewed much more as an additional factor in enhancing the local economy and identity than as a main source of income.

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Panel: Ethnic Relations and Economic Cooperation

From Traditional Reciprocal Work to Cooperative: Local Networks, Ethnic Backgrounds and Global Challenges in Rural Economy

The paper analyses two interrelated phenomena: the kaláka (traditional reciprocal work, called also work party or bee in English) and the idea of cooperatives. While the paper aims at answering general questions related to the willingness of cooperation, its starting points are the traditional reciprocal works in rural circumstances and a newly launched – or re-launched – dairy cooperative in Szeklerland. Summarising the main features of the kaláka and its ethnic canonisation from the early 1900s the paper investigates how not only the different layers of historical and local traditions, new views of rurality and new roles of peasantry, European and national regulations, but ethnic/minority struggles also interacted in its formation and functioning. While the cooperative can be primarily perceived as a local economic institution, its analysis offers the possibility to shed new light on the connections between different levels in agri-businesses and on the different (seemingly) non-economic factors from the background. The cooperative was launched in 2012 in a favourable framework of other local (ethnic) initiatives, but it is seen as the successor of a successful cooperative that was nationalised in 1947. Two strong historical experiences shaped its launching: the successes of the cooperatives before WWII and the failures and negative impacts of cooperatives during socialism. Those who accepted and worked for it refer to the inter-war period telling glorious stories about the flourishing agriculture – those who rejected it, however, refer to socialism and speak about the failures of community and mistrust. Thus, the investigation can unfold the ways these discursive strategies, the emergence of new rural elite, the restructuring of agriculture, the idea of autonomy and a sort of ethnic economy gave impetus or impeded the life of the cooperative and the shift from self-sufficiency to market.

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Section: Spatial Exclusion and Social Inequalities

Segregation as a Multi-faced Process of Roma Marginalisation

This paper argues that the customarily distinguished two large categories of residential and institutional segregation need to be further decomposed to provide satisfactory explanations for remarkable differences in the socio-economic standing and also in the institutional inclusion of different Roma groups facing the phenomenon. Based on the findings of a recent cross-country comparative study on “Faces and causes of Roma marginalization in local communities”, the discussion of the patterns of segregation will address a set of factors shaping local social relations and providing the patterns of inter-ethnic encounters. Among the important factors: the general well-being of the local society; imprints of earlier inter-ethnic cohabitation and cooperation in work; the internal stratification of the Roma communities by socio-economic differentiations; the impact of cultural and religious differences within the Roma community; and the overall dynamics of economic and labour market developments within the locality will be considered. It will be shown that the listed factors and processes largely set the stage of local segregation while they exert differential impact on marginalisation. In a next step, a set of examples of institutional segregation in education and on the labour market will be introduced and their interplay with the residential patterns will be scrutinised. It will be argued that institutional segregation can follow rather independent paths, but when the end-results are considered, it tends to fix and deepen segregated residential arrangements.

In the second part of the discussion, different patterns of segregation will be looked at from the perspective of Roma self-protection. In this context, formal and informal interest-representation in education and work will be presented as attempts for crossing the borders of institutional segregation while tacitly accepting residential separation. It will be demonstrated that such attempts at partial break-out can attain certain success in increasing the cohesion of the local ethnic community; however, their impact proves to be rather limited on generating processes and paths for Roma inclusion.

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Section: The Social Meaning of Children and Childlessness

Factors Influencing Childlessness in Hungary and Switzerland

Although childlessness rates have been increasing in most European countries this topic has received little attention in Hungary and Switzerland so far. The present study investigates what kinds of life course developments may lead to remaining childless. Previous research findings have shown that partnership, educational and employment histories might be particularly important in this respect (Tanturri – Mencarini, 2008; Szalma – Takács 2012; Mynaroska et. al. 2013). The educational level matters differently between men and women: higher educated women are more likely to remain childless, while the opposite tendency can be observed among men. Employment status is also important for both genders in the transition to parenthood. Based on our preliminary qualitative research we found another potentially important factor which can be regarded as a path to childlessness in Hungary: the instability of the financial situation. Considering the effect of this factor we chose to compare the Hungarian childlessness pattern with the Swiss pattern supposing that they will differ in this respect.

Our main hypothesis is that Hungarians remain childless mainly because of external factors such as uncertain employment status and financial obstacles, while Swiss men and women are more likely to remain childless because of subjective features.

The empirical base of our proposed presentation is given by the Hungarian datasets of the Gender and Generation Survey; its first three waves were carried out between 2001 and 2008. For Switzerland we used the Swiss Household Panel (SHP) which has been carried out every year since 1999. We have applied panel analysis and logistic regression models.

Acknowledgement: The research leading to these results has received funding from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) under grant agreement no. 320116 for the research project FamiliesAndSocieties. The research of Judit Takács was supported by the TÁMOP 4.2.4.A/2-11-1-2012-0001 "National Excellence Programme – Elaborating and operating an inland student and researcher personal support system convergence programme", subsidised by the European Union and Hungary, and co-financed by the European Social Fund.

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Section: Social Dimensions of Economic Transformation

The rise of organised crime in Hungary after 1990

The main topics of the lecture are:

- the legal and sociological concepts of criminal organisation and association,
- the main factors of rising organised crime in Hungary after the system change,
- the main actors and organised criminal groups, and their international ties,
- features of Hungarian organised groups in an international comparison.

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Panel: Memory and Traumas

Roma, holocaust, trauma

I wish to approach the concept of trauma through the memory of the Nazi genocide on Roma. I am interested in the relationship between the historical trauma, that is the Holocaust, and its Roma experience. Since the 1970s, slowly more and more representations of the Nazi genocide have appeared and have become accessible (in songs, films, interviews, art works etc.). I will explore a few of them, taking into account their social, political and historical background on the one hand, and established practices of the memory of the Holocaust on the other.

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Section: Youth and Sport

“They cannot work, they can only play football!” Theoretical and methodological dilemmas during the research of the “Orczy-kerti Farkasok”(Orczy-Garden Wolves) football team

Our research project originates from the Critical Pedagogy workshop organised by ELTE College for Advanced Studies in Social Sciences. We have been working together since 2012 to examine the practical applicability of critical pedagogy in Hungary. Our research concentrates on a self-supporting soccer programme in one of the poorest areas of Budapest (the 8th district). Our hypothesis is that the programme is able to compete with structured academies and can help young disadvantaged boys to recognise their situation and help themselves in advancement. The heart of the programme is the coach himself. We believed that because of the diverse ethnic, socio-cultural and economic backgrounds of those living in the eight and surrounding districts, the coach – through the Orczy-Kerti Farkasok (Orczy Garden Wolves) soccer team – aids and enables his players to break out of their backgrounds and seek advancement through alternative means, which is consistent with the oppression negationist theory of critical pedagogy. We had to realise that acquiring valid and reliable data for a quantitative analysis would be nearly impossible because of two reasons: (1) the young players alternated quite frequently, and (2) the operation of the initiative changed due to its inconsistent financial funding. The application of various quantitative and qualitative techniques gave us the opportunity to gain insight into the ways such a group (in which there are informal relationships that are sometimes exploited) can be maintained among the existing recruitment system. Based on our results we can say that sport in this example is able to aid emancipation defined by critical pedagogy, mostly because there is a specific method with which the coach is able to motivate the children. Based on the experiences gained from the research we think that the initiative cannot be regarded as a model for future efforts and the main reason for this is the wide variety of the children’s social backgrounds.

Keywords: Empowerment, Critical Pedagogy, Emancipation of disadvantaged young people

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Section: Interdependencies in the History of Sociology

Interactions Between the Hungarian Sociology and the Ethnic Hungarian Sociology of Romania During the Early Communist Decades

Relevant social research had been pursued in Transylvania even before the First World War and the creation of Greater Romania. Following the annexation of Transylvania, the Hungarian elite of Transylvania promoted social (village) research also as a means for defending the Hungarian identity. Although having been designed in an ethnically-tinted framework, Transylvanian sociology had an open character: its main representatives had leading role in the European transmission of Romanian sociological thinking (notably the Gusti School), ties between Hungarian social thinkers enhanced the international cooperation in the field. During the Hungarian occupation of Northern Transylvania sociology was sustained by the scientific institutions of Cluj, employing Hungarian social scientists teaching and publishing even during the transitory postwar years.

Connections between the Hungarian and Transylvanian sociologies were ruptured during the Stalinist years. A modest rebuilding of the exchange channels could be witnessed under the Khrushchev Thaw, the relationships made frozen again after the 1956 Revolution. References to Hungarian social science circumspectly re-entered the field, mostly through the Cluj-based Hungarian-language journal *Korunk* (Our age). In the following period of relative liberalisation (partly) Hungarian-transmitted Western sociological thinking and original developments of the Hungarian sociology were presented in the *Korunk*. It also took a central role in building relations between the Romanian and Hungarian sociological endeavours, by publishing key texts from Romanian sociologists.

This study intends to analyse the mediating role of the Hungarian-language publications of Transylvania and relevant Budapest-based journals with respect to the evolutions in the Hungarian and Romanian sociology. The ongoing research scrutinises publications from the 1950s and 1960s, hypothesising a relative unbalance in the Romanian-Hungarian sociological exchange: references to Romanian (including ethnic Hungarian) sociology were supposedly rather scarce in the Hungarian publications, whereas Transylvanian publications cited Hungarian sources more often.

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Section: Social Dimensions of Economic Transformation

The Challenges of Labour Market Integration and its Analysis Using the Social Network Approach

This paper has in its focus a theoretical discussion about whether relatively good jobs can be accessed through using informal search methods in post-socialist labour market; and under which conditions? The restricted number of job offers on the labour market, accompanied by growing uncertainties; the pluralisation of forms of employment contracts; the decrease of the permanent contracts; the weakening of income security; the fragmentation of life course are concomitant phenomena of turning to the market economy in post-socialist countries. During and after transition informal search methods get a higher importance. Information supplied via contacts may increase the number of job openings for job seeker; may provide information that is not accessible otherwise; can increase the number of job offers a worker receives; and finally may improve the fit between the worker and the job.

The strength of weak ties hypothesis considers that the transmission of job information is a diffusion process; and argues that weak rather than strong ties are useful for job seekers to find a good job.

Social resources theory formulates that resources are unevenly distributed, thus access to information and influence as well. In this context contact status has a direct effect on the outcome of using informal search method.

The theory of employee referrals concentrates on using employees as referrals. According to this approach, both employers and employees play an important role in this process (bringing together vacancies and potential workers). For employers the incentive of using employee referrals is the reduction of different labour costs, while they hope to gain good workers. Bringing in a good worker can result in a better working-team, a growing reputation, or cash-rewards for the employee.

Finally, an applicant with an inside contact has a higher probability of being hired than other applicants in certain types of jobs. These theories of informal job search, superficially highlight the importance of different explanatory variables that influence individual outcomes on the labour market, but we can find a common root using the homophily principle.

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Section: Religion(s) in the Carpathian Basin from the Perspective of Hungarians and their Neighbours

Comparative Analysis of the Performance of Confessional and Public High Schools in Transylvania

In our research we offer a comprehensive comparison of the performance of the confessional and public high schools in Transylvania through an in-depth analysis of the results achieved at the high school graduation exams. We will analyse the results of all the major cities where there are both public and confessional high schools with Hungarian as teaching language. The high school graduation exam has been much standardised in Romania and notable security measures have been introduced in order to avoid cheating and unfair advantages. Thus we believe that such an analysis can offer an interesting view both at a geographical and at an institutional level

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Section: Elites and Ethnicities

One Boat, two Passengers, one Lifebelt

There are two national minority communities which are very different today but used to be alike to a certain point in history. I am talking about the Hungarians in Romania and the Finn-Swedes (Swedish talking Finns). It is well-known that the current situation of these two minorities is very different as far as their statute and cultural-linguistic rights are concerned. But this was not always the case and my presentation points this out. As I said, the answer lays in history.

My findings, in a nutshell are as follows: before the rise of nationalism, the Finnish and the Romanian people already represented a vast majority of the respective populations, and yet inferior social layers because the intelligentsia and the bourgeoisie were few while the rest were peasants. On the other hand, the dominant Swedish and Hungarian aristocracy and wealthy bourgeoisie may not have recognised the Finns and the Romanians as equal co-nationals and some sort of oppression was also present, the first still facilitated the latter's cultural and intellectual development. In addition, the first two's dominance also represented a gateway to western civilisation and culture hence the Swedish and Hungarian language also enjoyed a high prestige in those times.

This kind of support eventually led to the creation of a new and militant intellectual layer among Finns and Romanians which embraced the expanding nationalist ideology so they started demanding more and more linguistic, educational and political rights for themselves. At the top of this series was inevitably the desire for self-determination which became possible in due time, under favourable internal and external political circumstances. Step-by-step, the traditional social structure changed in a way that the Swedish and Romanian 'second class' nations managed to climb up and became 'first class' citizens. Later on, the First World War put an end to this long process of struggle for power and the social structure definitely changed: dominant groups became minorities while non-dominant groups became the ruling majorities. What came after is another chapter in history which eventually made the difference between the two systems of minority protection.

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Section: Family, Gender and Social Inequalities in the 21st Century

Engaged Fatherhood Practices and Perceptions in Hungary

The focus of the proposed presentation is how actively caring Hungarian fathers make sense of the concept of engaged fatherhood. Through in-depth interviews with 72 self-identified engaged fathers from Hungary I explore the perceptions of their actively caring fatherhood related roles and practices.

The presentation will focus on their experience and interpretation of gendered role activity: themselves as fathers and the relationship with their own parents as potentially positive or negative gendered role models. The dynamic process of managing the tension between assigned norms and personal experiences – that might deviate from the norm – will be studied in detail.

The empirical base of the study is a collection of 72 semi-structured in-depth interviews, which were conducted between 2005 and 2008 in Hungary. Interviewees were recruited through fathers' clubs, online community groups, social media advertisements, with the help of NGOs – and with snowballing, where that was possible. Selection criteria included having at least one child younger than 16, and a self-definition of being an “actively caring father”. The mean age of interviewees was 37.3 (ranging from 22 to 60); most of them were married (55) with one or two children (54), lived in Budapest (49), had higher than secondary education (46). The sample also included a few (about 10%) ‘stay-at-home-dads’, i.e. fathers staying at home on childcare allowance, taking primary responsibility for childcare.

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Section: The Social Meaning of Children and Childlessness

Social Knowledge Construction on Childlessness in Hungary

Childlessness can be seen as an issue with a potentially increasing socio-political importance in Hungary because the very low fertility rate – that is below 1.5 births per woman from the mid-1990s onwards – projects a demographically unsustainable population. In the European context until recently, the proportion of infertile women was relatively low and childlessness seemed to be mainly due to traditional determinants of childlessness, such as permanent celibacy and sterility. In light of the rapid increase in childlessness among younger cohorts, the contemporary question arises as to whether, in addition to the previously known traditional causes of childlessness, (post)modern ones are emerging, possibly related to new family practices in changing socio-economic environments, where parenting is interpreted by an increasing number of would-be parents as not just having children, but as quality parenting, which involves mainly conscious time and skill (re-)arrangements to allocate enough “quality time” for children and other family members. On the one hand, it has been argued that motherhood might become a too demanding commitment when the traditional system of gender roles collapses but a new and egalitarian one is still lacking (McDonald 2000). On the other hand, voluntary childlessness might result from the changing framework of collective norms that can make motherhood more a matter of individual lifestyle preferences than of social obligations: thus the increase in childlessness could also be interpreted as modest, given the actual number of lifestyle options available to young Europeans (Sobotka 2004).

The main goal of this study is to present an overview of medical and legal procedures and regulations as well as normative social expectations that can affect the lives of childless people in Hungary. Our data derive from key informant interviews conducted with experts – including (in)fertility specialists, psychologists, policy makers and legal experts, demographers and theologians – who can actively contribute to the social knowledge production regarding childlessness.

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Section: Roma in the Carpathian Basin in the Light of Recent Sociological Research

Multiple Discrimination and Roma People on the Labour Market

This paper investigates the phenomenon of Multiple Discrimination in Hungary, with special attention paid to cases of intersectionality based on ethnic origin. The research unfolds those mechanisms that lead to multiple discrimination in the field of job seeking, hiring, and employment. The phenomenon of multiple discrimination is studied, on the one hand, from the perspective of decision-makers representing public and private employment agencies, on the other hand, from those who are the victims of discrimination on multiple grounds. The research project identifies the personal and institutional perceptions, impacts of and actions taken with regard to discrimination by the various stakeholders. Through a series of semi-structured interviews and a survey of private and public employment agency clients we demonstrate how a low awareness level of discrimination, in particular of multiple discrimination, among victims, and a high level of inertia and inaction on behalf of decision-makers lead to the reproduction of social mechanisms responsible for discrimination.

Acknowledgement: The research leading to these results has received funding from the OTKA – Hungarian Scientific Research Fund under grant agreement no. 101468 for the research project Multiple Discrimination: Individual and Institutional Perceptions, Effects and Actions.

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Section: Interdependencies in the History of Sociology

The Agrarian Reform in Transylvania and its Reflection in the Considerations of the Members of the Sociological School of Bucharest

In 1921, after Transylvania became officially integrated into Romania (1920), one of the main preoccupations of the government in Bucharest was agrarian reform, aimed to redistribute and reallocate the land ownership in Romania, and consequently in Transylvania. The affirmed intention and justification of this action was a social one, according which all those agriculture workers, or agricultural proletariat, who did not have any means of work, should gain agricultural land to fulfil their own needs, by taking land of those land owners who possessed extensive wealth.

Inevitably, this reform gained an ethnic connotation, as in Transylvania the Hungarians and the Saxons were the ones who, historically, possessed extended areas of agricultural lands and forests, while the Romanian, being immigrants, were in the majority of those persons, who did not have any, or just a small percentage of land possessions.

This situation remained valid even considering that in the early 20th century a lot of land was traded from the Hungarians to Romanians. In conclusion, the land reform in Transylvania could be interpreted as taking the land from the Hungarians and the Saxons and passing it to the Romanians.

Venczel József, officially a member of the EMGE (Hungarian Economic Society of Transylvania) in his analysis written between 1940 and 1942 shows that this reform had an ethnic and not an economical logic, as the largest lands that were redistributed consisted of woods and grasslands, so the redistribution did not contribute to the equilibrium of the agrarian ownership distribution. What is more, those lands which were taken from the original owners, and did not have any pretender, were left in state ownership as a “reserve”.

The agrarian reform in Romania was also analysed by R. Cressin and D. C. Georgescu who had an intellectual connection with Venczel, so I find it interesting to analyse the appreciation of the same law by the members of the same School, but of different ethnicity.

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Section: Environment, Consumption and Local Society. Locality and Global Challenges

The Public Structures and Public Activity in Győr and its Agglomeration

A large research group at Széchenyi István University undertook a large-scale, multidisciplinary research project in the past two years, where the major goal was to complete a sociological examination of Győr, one of the Hungarian centres of the automotive industry. As part of this research two surveys among residents based on similar methodologies were conducted. One was focused on the population of Győr, while the other survey focused on those who are related somehow to the city – have their workplace there, use the services of it etc. – but live in the wider agglomeration. Because Győr is situated near the Slovakian border the survey of the agglomeration was extended to those settlements too. The sample of Győr was representative of gender, age, and city quarters the while the agglomeration sample was representative to sex, age and to the type of settlement.

In our presentation we would like to show the results of one of the sub-topics of this huge research project related to participation social stratification and the use of the public sphere. The main concept is to examine the civilian residential status (*lakópolgár*) formulated by Pál László in the late eighties as an experience and outline the differences among various sections of society in the city.

Civilian residential status has two major elements: one is the information supply, the public access and use of various channels in the public sphere, the second is that of the various forms of active participation or active citizenship.

In addition to analysing relationships between different activities and use of the public sphere in the city society structure, the homogeneous neighbourhoods and social groups in the agglomeration of presence were also compared. Thus, the examination of the local community and regional social structural elements has been introduced.

Our hypothesis is that the civilian residential status, is being greatly influenced by the relationship with the city, the place in social stratification and how one uses the city and place of residence.

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Section: Religion(s) in the Carpathian Basin from the Perspective of Hungarians and their Neighbours

The (Quasi) Religiosity or Spirituality of Transylvanian and Hungarian Astronomers

Astronomers might be considered outright atheists or believers, searching for proofs in the sky in either case. However, from a functionalist approach, astronomy in itself might be considered as a religion. The activity of astronomy contains all of the seven dimensions of religion, as indicated by Ninien Smart (1997).

Printed and online questionnaire survey will be conducted among Hungarian and Transylvanian non-professional astronomers in their observational camps during the Summer of 2014. The survey will probe different aspects of their attitudes towards both astronomy and religion. The questions will investigate whether the astronomers are in agreement with the sociologist of religion regarding the religious dimensionality of astronomy. Another block of questions will probe whether and to what extent the amateur astronomers are spiritual, as conceived and developed by Piedmont (1997), who claimed that spirituality is the sixth factor of human personality. They will also examine whether astronomers consent with Harmatta's suggestions on the subjective aspects of non-professional astronomy (2013). At last, but not least, the astronomers' relationship with science will also be looked at.

The astronomers' relationships both with their instruments and with the association of astronomy will also be examined. Other issues intended to be inspected in the survey include the searching for meaning in life, the perceived and actual benefits of amateur astronomy, their future plans, the limitations of being a non professional astronomer, etc.

The presentation compares the results obtained from the Transylvanian and Hungarian astronomers.

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Section: Spatial Exclusion and Social Inequalities

Different Patterns of Boundaries between Roma and non-Roma Neighbourhoods

According to various sociological surveys, every fifth Roma lives in segregated neighbourhoods, and of those every third lives in a small town. Small towns have been described as places where differing patterns of segregation and the separation between Roma and non-Roma people appear in a most diversified manner. In my view the status of various parts of the towns, referred to as 'segregated' in the development documents and in the narratives of policy makers, is not fixed, but rather, continually changes and reflects the relation of townspeople and leaders of the local community to poor people and various ethnic groups. In other words, wherever majority society is still stable and has enough resources to uphold the spatial, social and institutional segregation of the Roma, it will continue to do so in most cases, and it will regulate exactly which parts of the settlement the Roma can move in to. Whether the Roma families in the settlement live concentrated in one neighbourhood or in several locations of various status and public perception reflects the degree of separation and the different needs of Roma and non-Roma for segregation, as well as the difference among the various groups of Roma. Based on that, we can establish the existence of sharp physical or/and mental boundaries within the settlements, enclosing the segregated Roma neighbourhood within a given settlement; or blurred boundaries separating such a neighbourhood from the rest of the settlement. The degree of sharpness of separation is mostly influenced by (1) whether a newly segregated neighbourhood was formed during the seventies' programme to eliminate Roma ghettos; (2) how layered the local Roma society is; (3) whether economic co-operation or social contacts exist between Roma and the non-Roma. The boundaries between the two groups were either relaxed or fixed by the realisation (or the lack thereof) of intensive development programmes and infrastructural subsidies targeting the alleviation of poverty.

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Keynote lecture

Unity or Regional Identity: Differences of the National Identities of the Minority Hungarian Communities

The presentation is based on the comparison analysis of the ethno-national identity of Hungarian minorities living in Romania, Slovakia, Serbia and Ukraine, including the identifications to majority community and the relationship with Hungary, respectively.

We comparatively analysed the way in which ethno-national belonging and the identification to the citizen's status functions among different ethnic Hungarian minority communities inside or outside of the European Union: Slovakia, Romania, Serbia (Vojvodina) and Ukraine, the effect of (ambivalent) mobilisation coming from Hungary in relation to the unity of the Hungarian ethno-cultural nation. Second, we also aim to understand how citizenship and the relationship toward the state of residence is framed and reflected in the ethno-national identity of Hungarian minorities, and we are interested if this is affecting majority–minority relations and patterns.

According to the empirical results of Karpat Panel study, a unitary ideological knowledge may be detected and the huge majority of our Hungarian minority respondents agree that they are a part of the “unitary” cross-border pan-Hungarian nation. In the same time, in every Hungarian minority population, the community with the pan-Hungarian ethno-cultural nation, and the identification with actual Hungary, is less important than regional Hungarianness in the minority identity of Hungarian minority members from outside the borders of Hungary. The primary in-group is the self-minority community in every country: Transylvanian Hungarians, Slovakian Hungarians, Vojvodian Hungarians and Trans-Carpathian Hungarians. These identities may be empirically grasped both at the level of the perceptions of social distances and at that of stereotypes towards Hungarians from Hungary and towards majority populations (Romanians, Slovaks etc.).

To some extent, significant differences may be observed in the identity of Hungarian communities from different countries, which may also be interpreted in the sense that they have become integrated into the majority nation at different levels from the point of view of citizenship community. Romania exhibits the most advanced level in this respect (the majority consider that the Hungarian minority is also part of the Romanian nation in the sense of citizenship community, they feel that they are closer to the majority in terms of social distances and they have fewer problems correlating their Hungarian ethno-nationality and their “non-Hungarian”/ Romanian/Slovak/Serbian/Ukrainian citizenship).

Hungarians from Serbia are the least integrated into their Serbian citizenship in their perception of their minority situation and experiencing discrimination, which is mainly due to the Yugoslav wars and their consequences.

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Section: Spatial Exclusion and Social Inequalities

From Industry to Agriculture: a Strategy of a Roma Family

As a part of Ethnic and social gaps in local communities research project by the MTA Institute of Regional Studies I would present the first results of the research in a case study. I introduce the local community through a story of a Roma family that moved from a North-Hungarian industrial town to the periphery of a village in the Great Hungarian Plain, seeking a better life, in the mid 90s of the post-socialist Hungary.

In my research I address the problem of different forms of social integration that the micro-environment of a farm can produce. I focus on the strategies of acculturation that were presented to us by a Roma family, who left the industrial town trying to integrate into the community of a village, where work was based on agricultural production. On the one hand I give a sketch about what it meant to leave an environment of a declining industrial city, and what promising opportunities surrounded the poor, but agricultural space.

On the other hand, I would like to analyse how macro economic and social processes shape the life of a family in their local economic and social environment – the relation between micro and macro levels. In that sense the specific question of my observation is whether the migration was successful in an economic way and to what extent can the Roma immigrant family adapt to the local agricultural conditions. What kind of skills and relations did they develop by working with the local social institutions during this period? How did ethnic borders develop upon this context of social relations of the community, and how did they reproduce those borders through their narratives?

My case is an example for the poor and unemployed people's various strategies in surviving the everyday challenges after the structural transitions of the 1990s in Hungary. In this study we can observe a family moving from the industrial to the agricultural sphere of work. Since these days a very widely spread idea is that the unemployment in rural environment can be improved by means of agricultural work, my case is a good opportunity to test the possibilities and limits of such an attempt. There are many public policy approaches in today's Hungary, that imagine the integration of the Roma.

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Section: Spatial Exclusion and Social Inequalities

Introductory Notes on the Spatialisation and Racialisation of Social Exclusion

Roma marginalisation in a neoliberal post-socialist context is both social class and status, and ethnic-identity based: its forms know different degrees of the juxtaposition of material deprivation, social status-based displacement and racialised stigmatisation. These structural factors generate the economic marginalisation of Roma and their inferiorisation as an ethnic group conceived as the “racial other” (associated with the “cultural behaviour” or “physiological essence” of the “socially assisted”, i.e. of the “inferior” kind of people who are supposedly unable to fit into the new social order). Forms of socio-spatial segregation are situated on a continuum from the economically deprived (at the most, adversely incorporated into the larger society) to the excluded marginal (impoverished, neglected and cut out of developmental investments, citizenship entitlements and human rights). The most severe cases of Roma marginalisation are those in which economic deprivation overlaps with spatial ghettoisation and racialised stigmatisation or dehumanisation. In these cases, the majority population and in particular the local authorities defending their aspirations for “law and order” segregate the “undesirable elements” of the locality that perceives itself as civilised. The racialisation of poverty in these instances means that persons, families and groups categorised as useless sub-human are displaced to the peripheral territories of the locality. The latter usually lack proper infrastructure, are polluted and isolated and of course stigmatised, so that the disgrace attached to the space becomes the dishonour projected on people, and eventually results in dehumanisation. These spatialised socio-economic re-arrangements are also part of re-defining nationhood, i.e. of who belongs or who deserves to belong to “The nation” or who threatens its security and sense of pride, but even more, while depriving impoverished Roma of means of a decent life, they even contest their humanity.

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Panel: Memory and Traumas

Trauma in Relation to Body, Secret and Taboo

In my presentation I examine the term trauma in relation to body, secret and taboo. According to my hypothesis the interplay between the above terms has created a “magical” space around trauma by which the originally medical-psychological term has moved from its isolated extraordinariness to the heterogeneous world of social sciences on the one hand, and to the everydayness of the global media industry and common talk on the other. Also, two parallel processes can be observed in psychology (especially in psychotherapy) in the last few decades: the role of body as such has considerably increased (cf somatherapy, body work), and trauma understood in Freudian psychoanalysis strictly as something individual has more and more often been interpreted in a transgenerational context (cf family constellation). The above change of perspective has led to special results making use of the dynamic of secret and taboo such as the psychodrama group of victims and perpetrators of the Holocaust. And at this point we can witness the encounter between trauma and history...

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Section: Family, Gender and Social Inequalities in the 21st Century

Sociological Aspects of Cohabitation in Transylvania

A large number of empirical studies have reached the rising prevalence and acceptance of different marital and family arrangements, inter alia the ascent of cohabitation (Bumpass-Lu, 2000; Kiernan 2002; Perelli-Harris et. all. 2009; Spéder, 2004) In Western countries this kind of “pluralisation” and variety of partnership forms undermines the dominance of marriage as the normative and exclusive union type. There is a variation between countries in the ways people are forming partnerships. When a couple decides to form a union, social, demographic and economic factors also contribute to the decision making. Studies from Central and Eastern Europe have found that socio-economic gradients are main factors, and in this case cohabitation is seen as the poor man’s marriage. On the other hand cohabitation is considered an alternative, or a precursor to marriage. There is also a relation between union type and the values, attitudes; for example religiosity encourages marriage and promotes the establishment of partnerships and family relationships in a conventional, institutionalised way (Stolzenberg et. al. 1995). Others regard cohabitation as an indicator of individualism in modern society (Rindfuss – VandenHeuvel, 1990).

According to the theories we agree that within cohabiting couples there are distinct groups, which indicates that it is important to view cohabitants as a heterogeneous group. Our concept on Transylvanian cohabitants is that in addition to economic factors, values and community norms are also important for couples when they make a decision about union type and when they decide to institutionalise their partnership form. In other words, a couple with lower socio-economic status and with a strong religious background/community squeeze (for example newly converted Gypsy couples), rather pair off, than live in cohabitation. Additionally we consider that higher socio-economic status with post-material and individualistic structure of values may contribute a high level of preference for cohabitation. Another aim of this study is to explore by means of the objective circumstances the subjective motivations of cohabitation as a premarital and subsequent union type.

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Panel: Ethnic Relations and Economic Cooperation

A Welfare-Economics Approach to Minority Rights

In many countries there are linguistic, religious, and ethnic minorities coexisting with the majority. The phenomenon may be due to recent immigration or to historical factors such as the difference between the geographical boundaries and the historical settlements of the various groups. In this presentation, we attempt to set up a welfare-economics framework for analysing the granting of minority rights. We search arguments based on economics theory for different policies.

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Section: Elites and Ethnicities

“The so-Called Region” – the Autonomy of Szeklerland in Romanian Political Discourse

A specific segment of the complex question of minority rights in Romania makes up the issue of Szeklerland, a region with a predominantly Hungarian population and strong local traditions. This almost compact ethnic Hungarian block has been an important base (‘hinterland’) for the Hungarian elites since the Treaty of Trianon, and at the same time a serious challenge for the Romanian ones. While the larger part of Transylvania became gradually more and more integrated into the Romanian state, the “Szekler counties” remained up to this day a kind of a “strange zone”, where you can still have the sentiment as if you were not in Romania, even though the region lies in the centre of the country.

After the fall of Nicolae Ceaușescu and his national-communist regime, Szeklerland became again a ground for the two rival modern nation-building projects, the Hungarian and the Romanian one. From the point of view of the Hungarian elites, the idea of Szekler autonomy is an important goal, in which they see the best instrument to preserve and reproduce the national identity of the local Hungarian population (and it also serves as an excellent tool for political mobilisation). On the other hand, we can see a rare consensus in the Romanian political elite: all of the elite groups categorically and consequently refuse any ethnically based territorial autonomy. They do this for various reasons: either they defend the idea of the Romanian unitary and national state, which is incompatible with any concept of national autonomy, or they worry about the fate of Romanians in the region with a Hungarian majority. Of course, behind both sides’ arguments we can find the struggle of the central and local elite groups for power and influence.

In my research I try to analyse the Romanian reception of the Hungarian autonomy-efforts after 1989: how did the Romanian political elite groups (in Bucharest and in Szeklerland as well) react, what kind of responses did they formulate to this challenge in the last some 25 years? I rely mainly on the Romanian political discourse: the records of the Romanian parliament, public speeches, notes, declarations and different memorandums related to this issue.

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Section: Education

The Impact of Professional Development on Teachers' work

This study investigates in a cross-national way the role of professional development activities as a determinant factor in teacher quality and as a resource to further empower teachers to move students toward high achievements.

The purpose of study is to draw conclusions about teachers' perception of and engagement in professional development in terms of how they are related to the system of continuous professional development in Romania, how the professional development features compare with those of other countries and what are the relevant research innovations and implications for policy and practice applications. The qualitative international data is being interpreted in the context of larger national particularities and characteristics. The data allows an accurate comparison to be made between features of different professional development systems and validates the information in a particular national setting.

The results on teacher professional development will be taken from meta-analysis and re-analysis of the TALIS 2013 international data set. Government Decision no. 906/07.09.2011 (Published in the Official Monitor no. 688/20.09.2011) approved the Romanian participation for the first time in The Educational International Program developed by OECD, Teaching and Learning International Survey – TALIS 2013, regarding teachers' international assessment. Other participants were France, Finland, Croatia, Latvia, Japan, Serbia etc.

This study uses an explanatory mixed method design with qualitative and quantitative approaches of data gathering and analysis: firstly extensive document analysis (of policy documents, concept papers, and guidelines for CPD), secondly meta analysis and re-analysis of the TALIS 2013 international data set.

Demographic information such as gender, years of experience teaching will be taken into consideration to help to have a deeper understanding of the respondents of different countries. A significant number of documents will also be critically analysed in order to present the complex and multidimensional issue of in-service teacher education and to explore the educational policy aspects of teacher professional development in Romania.

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Panel: Memory and Traumas

The Order of Trauma-discourse

Considering trauma as a key concept of contemporary social practice, sociological research included, the presentation will critically examine how, in a Foucauldian sense the discourse on trauma regulates speech and defines subjectification. It will argue that, instead of liberating subjects from the domination of silence, or uncovering historical truth, the trauma-discourse normalises human action in a way that deprives actors from traditional possibilities of agency and inherently entails new forms of social conflict and domination. The presentation will explore on how social research practice can relate to this Weberian iron cage of late-modernity.

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Section: Elites and Ethnicities

Hungarian Minority Representations in the Romanian Press

Growing nationalism and ethnic tensions of variable intensity have been a recurring issue for democracies in Central and Eastern Europe. Struggling with the difficulties typical of the transition period, these countries have not always been able or willing to control the ‘demon of nationalism, ethnocentrism’ (The term ‘the demon of nationalism’ was first mentioned by Ernő Gáll. See: Ernő Gáll *A nacionalizmus színeváltozása*. Literator Kiadó, Nagyvárad, 1994. 9-10.). At this point it is important to clarify that with the usage of the aforementioned term – which I find accurate, nevertheless one having negative connotations – I do not intend to influence the evaluation of the phenomenon: I rather use the term nationalism in line with the relevant literature as a neutral one. In this respect, the media can have an important role in its construction and maintenance.

Following the events of 1989 a long process of democratisation started in Romania, which in the last two and a half decades has varied in intensity and success. This transformation has inevitably brought about the issue of ethnicities, which, though often obscured, had been present during the former regime as well. In the early 90s even open conflict (As shown by the events of March, 1990 in Marosvásárhely) took place and ever since Romanian-Hungarian relations have recurrently been on the agenda for various reasons and connected to different topics. The media plays a crucial role in conflict situations: it can actively participate in moderating conflicts, in maintaining or ‘extinguishing’ them. As far as the Romanian press of the 90s is concerned, it mainly incited conflicts (As shown by the media analysis of the period mentioned.), rather than to mitigate them. Have the minority representations in the standard Romanian media changed in all these years and if so in what direction? The present research seeks to answer the above question by analysing minority representations in the Romanian press.

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