



ANNUAL REPORT of the year 2023



January 2024

History

URBI was established in 1997 (registered at the Ministry of interior affairs in 29 July 1997 under n. VVS/1-900/90-12845) and for several years organized seminars about local and regional development in Slovakia for elected and executive representatives of local and regional government in Slovakia.

In July 2015 the association was revived, the URBI was transformed into CESCI-Carpathia (Central European Service for Cross-border Initiatives), the statute was changed and new authorities were elected.

On August 7, 2015, the changed Statute was sent to the Ministry of the Interior, and on August 21, 2015, the Ministry of the SR sent a new registered Statute of the association under VVS / 1-900 / 90-12845-1.

On March 14, 2023, there were registered latest changes in the Statute, adopted at the assembly in 2022 on the Ministry of Interior Affairs SR under num. VVS/1-900/90-12845-2.

CESCI-Carpathia is a member of the cooperating partnership network CESCI. The lead partner is CESCI Budapest and the other partner is CESCI-Balkans Novi Sad.

Activities 2023

Project “#ACCESS – Promotion of legal accessibility across Slovak-Hungarian border “,

targeting cross-border legal and administrative obstacles and financed from INTERREG SKHU program 2021 -2027 started on 1 May 2023.

Summary of the project: The main aim is to systematically unfold the persisting legal and administrative obstacles hindering stronger integration and a higher level of cooperation across the Slovak-Hungarian border and to promote their elimination. The main two interventions of the project are obstacle monitoring and obstacle management. As a result of the project, the partners will eliminate legal obstacles and develop solutions including a legal obstacles database, obstacle projects, legal recommendations, and a sensitization campaign addressing the authorities.

Activities:

- Promotion - Kick-off conference on 14 September 2023, hotel Hilton Košice organized by CESCI-Carpathia

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- 100 participants
- Present:
 - Mayor of the city of Košice and Governor of the Košice region
 - Representatives of MIRRI SR
 - Consul General of Hungary
 - General Secretary of AEER
 - Dean of the Law Faculty UPJŠ Košice



- Surveys in
 - schools,
 - companies,
 - project beneficiaries,
 - cross-border residents,
 - shopping people
- Interviews with representatives of
 - central authorities
 - regional government
 - local government
 - public organizations
- Reference group meeting preparation
 - Functional zones
 - Bratislava
 - Győr

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- Komárom-Komárno
- Esztergom, Štúrovo
- Šahy, Balassagyarmat
- Lučenec
- Tornaľa
- Košice
- Sátoraljaújhely

Project “EU Integration of Ukraine across borders”

Submitted to V4 fund, approved and financed

Lead partner: CESCI Budapest (prepared the project proposal)

Partners:

- CESCI-Carpathia
- Prešovská Univerzita v Prešove, Inštitút politológie, Filozofická fakulta
- Research Institute of EU Territorial Cooperation
- Technical University Liberec, Czechia
- Research Institute on Territorial and Inter-organizational Cooperation
- Association of European Border Regions

Focus area: public policy and Institutional partnership connecting the expert communities to find joint solutions to common policy challenges

Short description of the project: the project contains two events during the annual conference of the AEBR. The first day is dedicated to an international conference in Košice on the EU integration of Ukraine. On the second day a study tour for participants to Uzhhorod

Other:

- Memorandum of cooperation between CESCI-Carpathia and the law Faculty of UPJŠ Košice signed on 23 January 2023. The faculty was represented by the dean of the Faculty Mr. Miroslav Štrkolec (in the center). The responsible person from the faculty side was determined Mrs. Alena Krunková (on the right), Head of the Department of Constitutional Law and Administrative Law.

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- Memorandum of Cooperation between CESCI-Carpathia and the EGTC Via Carpathia Košice, 14th April, 2023



- Assembly CESCI-Carpathia, Košice, 18th May, 2023
- Agreement between CESCI-Carpathia and The Law Faculty of UPJŠ Košice signed, 22nd May 2023



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- General assembly of CESCI Budapest, 31 May, 2023, Budapest
- Participation at the conference “Art of cooperation”, Budapest, 17-18 October 2023



- Help to organize AEBR annual conference in 7-10 November 2023 in Košice
 - a. VII. Cross border school in cooperation with the Law Faculty, UPJŠ Košice



- b. General Assembly AEBR



- c. Annual conference AEEBR

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d. Study trip to Uzhhorod

- Preparation of the report about the social housing in the city of Košice, R.Bauer
- Participation in the work of the Council of the Košice for the urban plan
- Preparation of the project proposal “TrainGate” for the Children Railway Košice submitted to SKHU INTERREG program call
- Preparation of the project proposal “Improving the quality of life in border areas through strengthening the local economy – INTEGRITY”, submitted to INTERREG Central Europe call, main partner: KRTK – Regional Research Institute Pécs, Hungarian academy of science, the project was not approved and is not to be financed
- Project management training provided for Children Railway Košice staff, 4 days
- The lecture was given to students of the University of Syracuse, USA
- Participation at the workshop “Anticipating Future Realities” in Košice

Balance on bank accounts

FIO bank

Account on 1st January 2023: 35 494,28 €

Account on 1st January 2024: 793,39 €

SLSP accounts created in April 2024

Current account on 1st January 2024: 140 608,88 €

Donation account in 1st January 2024 5 605,96 €

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Composition of the association

Members in alphabet order

1. Rudolf Bauer
2. CESCI Budapest – Gyula Ocskay
3. Pavol Hric
4. Peter Kubičko
5. Alena Vachnová
6. Vladimír Grešš

Council:

1. Pavol Hric
2. Alena Vachnová
3. Rudolf Bauer

Director: Rudolf Bauer

Auditor: Vladimír Grešš