



REPORT

on the activities of the UPS-CESCO Research Group on Cross-Border Cooperation in 2022

I. About the Research Group

The Research Group on Cross-Border Cooperation was established on 2 December 2021 under the NKE Rector Order No. 37/2021.

The founding members:

Dr. Zsuzsanna Fejes	Head of the Research Group, Habilitated Associate Professor (Faculty of Public Governance and International Studies, University of Public Services)
Prof. Dr. Norbert Kis	Head of the Institute, Professor (Faculty of Public Governance and International Studies, University of Public Services)
Dr. Tamás Kaiser	Deputy Dean, Head of Department, Associate Professor (Faculty of Public Governance and International Studies, University of Public Services)
Dr. Dániel Gázsó	Research Fellow (Faculty of Public Governance and International Studies, University of Public Services)
Dr. Péter Belcsák	Senior lecturer, doctoral student (Faculty of Public Governance and International Studies, University of Public Services)
Dr. Zsolt Menyhárt	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Melinda Benczi	International Relations Specialist, Ph.D. student (CESCI)
Dr. Teodor Gyelnik	Senior Research Fellow (CESCI)
Dr. Gyula Ocskay	Secretary-General (CESCI)

Joined internal members:

Dr. József Balla	Vice-Dean for General Affairs and Institutional Development Associate Professor
Prof. Dr. János Sallai	Head of Department, Professor (Faculty of Law Enforcement, University of Public Services)
Dr. László Vájlók	Master Instructor (Faculty of Law Enforcement, University of Public Services)

External members:

Dr. Szabolcs Pogonyi	Associate Professor, Central European University
Dr. Edit Soós	Habilitated Associate Professor, University of Szeged
Dr. Sara Svensson	Assistant Professor, Halmstad University, Sweden

The Research Group held 2 meetings in 2022:

- 24 March 2022
- 27 June 2022

Website of the Research Group:

- In Hungarian language: <https://research.cesci-net.eu/>
- In English language: <https://research.cesci-net.eu/en/home-page/>
- From the website of the University of Public Services: <https://antk.uni-nke.hu/kutatas-tudomanys-elet/kutatointezetek-szakmai-muhelyek/hatarmenti-egyuttmukodesek-kutatomuhely/kuldetesunk>

II. Application activity

Applications submitted:

1. Horizon Twinning “Peripatein 3.0” (did not win)

- Partners (Lead Partner: NKE/University of Public Services)
 - University of Eastern Finland, Karelian Institute (Joensuu)
 - European Academy, EURAC (Bolzano)
 - Lisbon University Institute (Lisbon)
 - CESCO
- The goal: Strengthening research institutions in the new Member States through networking activities, focusing on research management and research administration capacities (reducing the scientific gap).
- Score achieved: 10,5

2. Horizon-CL3-2022-DRS-01-01 on Enhanced citizen preparedness in the event of a disaster or crisis-related emergency, under the theme of Disaster-Resilient Society (did not win)

- Leading Partner: Faculty of Social Sciences, Nord University, Levanger, Norway
- ‘Cross-border Cooperation in emergency in Europe from a multi-level governance and planning perspective’

The primary role of University of Public Services, together with the Romanian Academy of Sciences, would have been to present the disaster management situation along the Hungarian-Romanian border region (cases of accidents, existing institutions, organisations, management mechanisms in cross-border disaster management, previous projects, potential future cooperation, participation and preparedness of citizens in the management of accidents) at the level of case study, as well as coordination of the project's 3rd work package (technological background examination).

Consortium partners:

- Nord University, Levanger, Norway
- Umeå University (Sweden)
- University of Luleå (Sweden)
- University of Tartu (Estonia)
- University of Eastern Finland (Finland)
- University of Iceland (Iceland)
- University of the Aegean (Greece)
- Autonomous University of Barcelona (Spain)
- Mid-Sweden University (Sweden)
- University of Strasbourg (France)
- Nordland Research Institute (Norway)
- Romanian Academy of Sciences
- Institute of Human Geography and Regional Development
- University of Tübingen (Germany)

III. Conferences, workshops

1. 20th Anniversary Meeting and Assembly of MRTT, 6-7 October 2022

The Research Group had an independent section: Section 7: State – Border – Politics

The Presidents: Szilárd Rácz Research Fellow, Institute for Regional Studies of KRTK – Zsuzsanna Fejes Associate Professor, Head of the UPS-CESCI Research Group on Cross-Border Cooperation

Speakers:

- **Dániel Gázsó**, Research Fellow, University of Public Services (NKE); Member, UPS-CESCI Research Group on Cross-Border Cooperation: Mother country activity in Central and Eastern Europe
- **Zsuzsanna Fejes**, Associate Professor, University of Public Services (NKE): Hungarian Border Research and the UPS-CESCI Research Group on Cross-Border Cooperation
- **Gyula Ocskay**, Secretary General, CESCI; Member, UPS-CESCI Research Group on Cross-Border Cooperation: Integration processes along the Hungarian-Slovak border

- **Melinda Benczi** Ph.D. Student, University of Sopron; Member, UPS-CESCI Research Group on Cross-Border Cooperation; international Relations Rapporteur, CESCI: The role of national minorities in Hungarian-Romanian cross-border economic cooperation in the context of Interreg projects implemented between 2007-2020
- **Edit Soós** Associate Professor, University of Szeged; External Member: The Hungarian-Serbian border region in the light of the challenges of the 21st century

2. Workshop within the framework of the Hungarian Science Festival of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences

Opening of the Rector

Greetings: Zsuzsanna Fejes, Associate Professor, Faculty of Public Governance and International Studies, University of Public Services (NKE), Head of the UPS-CESCI Research Group on Cross-Border Cooperation

Lecturer:

- **Jaroslav Jańczak, Professor, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań. Guest professor at the Ludovika Fellowship program**
- **Title of the lecture: (Re-)bordering Tendencies in (Post-)Pandemic Europe, COVID-19, Borderless Europe and Cross-border Governance in the EU.**

Closing remarks: Gyula Ocskay, UPS-CESCI Research Group on Cross-Border Cooperation, Secretary General (CESCI)

3. Inclusion of the Research Group into TEIN

On 14 December 2022, Zsuzsanna Fejes, Head of the Research Group, attended the General Assembly of TEIN (Transfrontier Euro-Institut Network) at the University of Luxembourg.

The Research Group applied for a full membership in the autumn of this year and was admitted to TEIN with unanimous support at the General Assembly on 14 December 2022.

TEIN (<https://transfrontier.eu/>) brings together European research institutes on border issues and professional organizations supporting cross-border cooperation.

Within the framework of TEIN, the Research Group connects with the following universities and can launch joint research projects, as well as do exchanges of the experts:

- Carinthia University of Applied Sciences, School of Management, Austria
- University of Ljubljana Faculty of Public Administration, Slovenia
- WSB University, Poland
- ICRESS (Institut Catalan de Recherche en Sciences Sociales), Spain
- University of Girona, Spain

- IEC/Institute of Catalan Studies, Spain
- Université Savoie Mont Blanc, France
- IEP/University of Strasbourg, Science Po, France
- UPVD (Université de Perpignan Via Domitia), France
- Item, Institute for Transnational and Euroregional Cross Border Cooperation and Mobility, University of Maastricht, Netherlands
- European University Viadrina Frankfurt(Oder), Viadrina Center B/Orders in Motion, EGTC Center of Excellence, Germany/Poland

IV. Publication activity — with affiliation of the Research Group

Published publications:

Ocskay, Gy. — Guillermo-Ramírez, M. — Medeiros, E. — Peyrony, J. (2022): Post-COVID symptoms in EU cross-border cooperation. *Strategic Papers in Northern Hungary*, 19:4, pp. 20-33.

Submitted for publication:

- Benczi, M. (TKP2021-NKTA-51): *The role of national minorities in economic cooperation across the Hungarian-Romanian border in the light of the INTERREG projects implemented between 2007-2020.*
- Benczi, M. Outlining the main perception stands on The Hungarian-Romanian border. In: B. Wassenberg (eds.): *Frontiers in Motion*. Bern: Peter Lang.
- Fejes, Zs. *Legal framework for cross-border cooperation*. (publication at Social Horizons; editor: Slobodan Pajovic)
- Gyelník, T. (TKP2021-NKTA-51): *Formulation of the Slovak national narrative and its Slovak-Hungarian constellation.*
- Ocskay, Gy. (TKP2021-NKTA-51): *Innovation in Cross-border Cooperation Programmes: Integrated Territorial Action Plans of the Interreg V-A Slovakia-Hungary Cooperation Programme.*
- Ocskay, Gy. *The list of phone numbers and the paradox of representation. Reflections on resilience in a cross-border context.*
- Ocskay, Gy. – Scott, J. W.: Cross-territorial Governance via EGTCs for Territorial Cohesion. In: E. Medeiros (eds.): *Public Policies for Territorial Cohesion*. Cham: Springer.
- Sallai, J. Border Control on the Romanian-Hungarian Border in the Socialist Era. In: B. Wassenberg (eds.): *Frontiers in Motion*. Bern: Peter Lang.

V. Educational activity

1. In the autumn semester 2022/2023, the members of CESC (Melinda Benczi and Gyula Ocskay) participated in the teaching of 2 courses:

- Institutional basis and process of governance (in Hungarian)
- Comparative analysis of government systems (in Hungarian and English)
(Subject notary: Dr. Zsuzsanna Fejes)

2. Internship Opportunities for Students (CESCI)

Since 2012, CESCI has been providing practical opportunities for the students of the University of Public Services (UPS) to complete their compulsory internships (without benefit), as well as to implement professional internship (with scholarship support).

3. Topic in doctoral training

- Doctoral School of Public Administration, Doctoral Program: State Science and Governance
- **Topic 15: Cross-border governance – Opportunities and challenges of territorial cooperation in Central and Eastern Europe**
Supervisor: Dr. Zsuzsanna Fejes PhD, Associate Professor

4. Preparation of future activities

- Identification of possible foreign lecturers and relevant courses
- Strengthening of the embeddedness of the Research Group on Cross-Border Cooperation in Central and Eastern Europe, networking
- Presentation series of the members of the Research Group on Cross-Border Cooperation, from spring 2023
- International conference with high prestige in the near future
- Publication of a series of booklets on the communist border regime and its dissolution

The report was compiled by:

Dr. Zsuzsanna Fejes
Head of the Research Group on
Cross-Border Cooperation

