Introduction of professor János Rechnitzer, candidate to Board membership

Mr. Professor Rechnitzer is a prominent scholar of regional sciences not only in Hungary but also in Central Europe. His oeuvre includes a very extensive field from spatial planning and territorial development through urbanism and innovation theory to the building up of development partnerships.

The research of cross-border issues and the promotion and coordination of cross-border cooperation form an eminent part of his scientific and scientific organisation work which partly was predetermined by the fact that he was born in Hédervár at the tri-border area of Hungary, Austria and Czechoslovakia.

Mr Professor Rechnitzer graduated in 1975 at the Faculty of Economics of the Janus Pannonius Science University of Pécs where three years later he defended his doctoral thesis and, in 1999, habilitated. In 1985, he was awarded by the title academic doctoral candidate while in 1995 he became an academic doctor of science at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. He was the founder and (for ten years) the head of the Western Hungarian Institute of the Centre for Regional Studies of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. He founded the Doctoral School of Regional and Business Administration Sciences of the Széchenyi István University of Győr and he managed it between 2008 and 2020, until his retirement. He held different positions at the university such as head of department, head of institute, dean and vice-rector.

His scientific oeuvre is extremely comprehensive and colourful, by his school-founder impact he is recognised among the biggest scholars in the field in Hungary. He has been the president of several scientific organisations, and between 1994 and 2010 he managed the work of the journal *Tér és Társadalom* (*Space and Society*). Besides, he is a prominent actor of everyday urban and spatial development. In this position, he assisted the work of the Prime Minister's Office but he also played a decisive role in the development of the partnership between the AUDI factory, the local municipality of Győr and the Széchenyi University.

His activities have been acknowledged by several awards, e.g. the freeman of the municipality of Győr, Academy Award of the HAS and the Hungarian Order of Merit of the Hungarian Republic, just to mention but a few.

Our association is privileged that he accepted our invitation to the Board membership.