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FOR SOCIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS
OF TRANSBORDER COOPERATION**

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SOCIOLOGICAL REFLECTION AT THE SYSTEM OF INFORMATION SERVICE FOR TRANSBORDER COOPERATION

This paper analyzes the factors that cause the necessity to intensify empirical sociological research of cross-border cooperation (CBC) at new Eastern EU border. Article considers the main aspects in sociological reflection of cross-border processes, there are proposed its definitions. Substantiates the notion of "information service system of cross-border cooperation", examines the functions of empirical sociological knowledge for informational provision of modern cross-border phenomena management.

Keywords: *cross-border cooperation, empirical sociological research, sociological reflection, information service.*

With the direct access to the European Union's border with Ukraine in Europe was real, objectively conditioned strategic interest in non-conflict and the evolution of its Eastern neighbor as a whole and contact its border regions in particular. The problem is that Ukraine now is to use this interest in full.

Undoubtedly, the EU enlargement to the East has created as many serious complications and uncomfortable events, first in the communication space. The introduction of strict visa regime leads to difficulties in communication of the people, particularly those with family ties as well as those who are united in national, cultural and religious identity. There are acute problems in economic activity, unemployment among disadvantaged populations of border regions.

Criminal phenomena such as illegal migration and smuggling goods have not disappeared, they acquire new ones, often more subtle forms.

This requires adequate response by management subjects on both sides of the new Eastern border of the EU. Public authorities and local self-government bodies in order to solve the encountered problems are making efforts, which bring certain positive effect.

However, it is surprising how little attention is paid to maintaining feedback with main subjects of transborder processes – inhabitants of border areas, with those who have been first of all affected by geopolitical changes and above all – to studying their opinions, moods, assessments.

Lack of “alternative” to official information brings about the sequence of interrelated problems. Management bodies often make specific decisions without full, balanced and reliable information, based on one-way bureaucratic assessments by one or another institution. As a result, these decisions prove to be not effective. In turn, non-effective decisions down the line do not solve problems, arising imperceptions, and rejection of those by population. More than that, it happens that they provoke new complications (one example is occasional conflict situations at the border between border staff and citizens).

Therefore, establishment of feedback, getting “alternative” information about border functioning is a most important condition of transborder cooperation optimization. It is possible to solve this main problem only with the help of special methods of opinion survey available in sociology.

The purpose of this article is to analyze the problems of specific sociological reflection of cross-border reality in Central - Eastern Europe and ascertain the place of sociological component in modern information system of cross-border cooperation

The concept *"sociological reflection of transborder processes"* means:

- a) analysis of the formation and development of the specific sociological knowledge about the phenomenon of "transborder" and
- b) research of techniques and methods used in empirical sociological knowledge of this social reality important phenomenon.

In what state is actually sociological reflection of cross-border processes?

First, consider the activities in this area of the European Union.

Known that the study of public attitudes in this association has been authorized state structure, called the Eurobarometer. ***Eurobarometer*** (Eng. Eurobarometr) - International Project of regular opinion polls carried out under the auspices of the European Commission [1]. One of the main partners of Eurobarometer is a group Taylor Nelson Sofres (TNS) - the world leader in market research "in order" [2].

Analysis of the Eurobarometer published over four decades and especially in recent years (after the EU enlargement to the East) materials show that, unfortunately, none of them are special studies border issues, especially those devoted to cross-border processes at the new Eastern border of the European Union. Only one study, conducted in 2006 dedicated to the study of the effects of EU enlargement in the form of tangent and raised some issues of borders and the functioning of the modern development of border regions.

It is quite surprising, because outside of due care was a layer of critical problems that cause persistent debate in the European Union (first of all it is - the problem of migration and security). For comparison, another agency of the European Union, which is responsible for Statistics - Eurostat - in recent years very actively and purposefully engaged in development issues of quantifying cross-border processes ("cross-border statistics"), first at the new Eastern border of the EU. [3] This problem particularly was dedicated to Pan-European Conference leaders of statistical agencies and researchers, held in Cracow in 2011. Definitely, European leaders developing cross-border statistics issues is Polish scholars and practitioners led by Professor Joseph Olensky, who has long been a head of the Polish Statistical Office.

In one way or another social research issues of border and cross-border cooperation were also conducted separate countries that not long ago joined the European Union and Ukraine are neighbors. It refers to Hungary, Slovakia, Romania and Poland.

Concerning Ukraine, the problems of border and cross-border processes, of course, could not fail to interest of our sociologists. Even back in 1988 in Uzhhorod State University was established one of the first in Ukraine laboratory for sociological studies, which

actively engaged well known today Ukrainian sociologists, in particular PhD, associate professor of Uzhgorod National University O. Palin and Doctor of Social Sciences, Senior Researcher at the Institute of Sociology in NAS of Ukraine, Director of Social and Political Studies "SOCIS" O.G. Stegnij. Laboratory also was assist by Doctor of Social Sciences, Senior Researcher, Institute of Sociology, Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, CEO of TNS Ukraine M.M. Churylov. Laboratory has gained certain material impact on cross-border processes of interethnic and interfaith relations in the border region.

Unfortunately, very limited resources prevented conduction of complete research on border issues.

The second, more successful attempt to make such a study was done in 2007. Then the newly created Institute for transborder cooperation initiated the pilot survey "New Eastern Border of the European Union: the issue of transparency, security and cross-border cooperation (Poland, Slovakia, Hungary and Ukraine)". This study was performed under the direction of the candidate of sociological sciences, Professor P.V. Tokar [4].

To organize this research have been involved research centers, governmental and non-governmental organizations, local governments, foundations and NGOs – about 10 institutions in four countries - participants of the project (Poland, Slovakia, Hungary and Ukraine).

The results of this study provide rich information about the current state of cross-border cooperation between these countries, comparative analysis of the level of development, evaluation of consular and border services. However, unfortunately, this study also was limited both by time and financial resources.

Certain aspects of the modern cross-border cooperation are reflected in other Ukrainian sociologists study conducted at central and regional levels, not only in the Western but also on the Eastern border of Ukraine.

Significant opportunities for large-scale and comprehensive work on sociological reflection of modern cross-border processes

open the project "Borders through the eyes of people", performed by the Institute for transborder cooperation and its partners within the frameworks of EU ENPI CBC Programme in Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine.

Overall objective:

Form sociological service of transborder cooperation of neighboring regions of Hungary, Romania, Slovakia and Ukraine

Specific objectives:

1. Set up International Center of Sociologic Analysis of Transborder Cooperation (ICSA), as a special mechanism of joint monitoring of transborder processes which secures reliable feedback between transborder cooperation management bodies and its direct participants – population of neighboring regions of Hungary, Romania, Slovakia and Ukraine.

2. Build capacity of transborder cooperation actors in the sphere of sociologic analysis and efficient use of its results, in particular:

- develop special methodology and tools for the sociologic research of transborder cooperation
- develop training package “Sociology of transborder relations” for its introducing in higher educational institutions of border regions of Hungary, Romania, Slovakia and Ukraine.

3. Conduct initial international sociologic survey of transborder cooperation of neighboring regions of Hungary, Romania, Slovakia and Ukraine and submit it to decision makers

Project implementation period: 06.2012 - 05.2014.

Applicant: Institute for transborder cooperation, Uzhgorod, Ukraine

Partners:

- KIUT Association for Regional Development, Zahony, Hungary,
- Transcarpathian State University, Uzhgorod, Ukraine.

*Concrete sociological reflection of transborder processes and practical use of the information obtained is part of **the system of information service** for transborder processes (e.g., transborder cooperation).*

System of Information Service (SIS) for transborder processes is the system that provides the perform of the obtaining function, the input or the collection, storage, retrieval, processing, transfer and practical use of information on genealogy, current and forecasted progress of modern transborder processes (including CBC).

System of information service has its own *architecture*, which can be viewed through the prism of different criteria. In terms of composition the SIS *is a set of elements (blocks)*:

a) informational, b) technical, b) software and organizational support, and d) staff.

Development of the System on information service for transborder cooperation should be done by mutual efforts of CBC subjects from different countries.

***The Institute for transborder cooperation and its partners** provide contribution to the development of SIS.*

Laid methodological and methodical basis for fruitful *information and analytical work*:

- The system for indexation and monitoring of transborder processes, including transborder cooperation has been developed;
- The methodic on practical use has been developed;
- The pilot implementation of this system has been launched via conducting the index monitoring of transborder cooperation at neighboring regions of Hungary, Slovakia, Romania and Ukraine.

It is encouraging that the developed product immediately had find practical use in other segments of the new Eastern border of the European Union.

One of the first attempts at practical implementation of methodology for indexation of CBC was done within the frameworks of the project "Index of CBC - informing interested in parties." This

project was implemented in 2010-2011 under the auspices for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway. [8] Another experience of the methodology for indexation of CBC application was gained as a result of the Polish-Russian project, entitled "Let's consider the borders", implemented in 2011-2012 [9].

In November 2012, at the third European Forum on Cross-Border Cooperation in Chisinau (ITC, as it is known was a co-organizer) were presented the results of another project "Cross-border cooperation at the new Eastern border – learning from the Finnish and Norwegian experience", implemented under the methodology of comparative analysis in order of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland [10]. Institute for transborder cooperation performed a comparative analysis of the borderland between Ukraine and the European Union.

Very important area of information and analytic block in service of transborder cooperation is a *cross-border statistics*. The issues of "*Modern transborder processes and its statistical layout*" are in active development. This work is carried out within *the project "Better knowledge - better cooperation"* under financial support of Visegrad Fund.

Information block on genealogy of the object has two directions:

1) Development of the "Essays on the modern history of cross-border cooperation in the Carpathian region" by the international team of authors which will be presented at web-site of the project "Connecting history" (Visegrad Fund).

2) Establishment of the International Museum of Modern History of cross-border cooperation in the Carpathian region - both on-line version and exposition.

Launched the implementation mechanism for application of theoretical developments - International Institute for transborder analysis and management. Development Strategy of the Institute and its Statute have been approved.

Its organizational structure is under construction. Due to financial resources of the project the issues of logistics and software have been resolved.

Prepared the Informational resource (IR), without which transborder business communication of subjects is impossible.

Prepared the project on development of "The Dictionary of transborder cooperation" in 8 languages (English, Ukrainian, Hungarian, Slovak, Czech, Polish, Romanian, Moldovan) and "Glossary of transborder cooperation" in 8 languages.

Strong interregional expert community (more than 40 highly qualified specialists from among scientists, government officials and representatives of local self-government, NGO activists from different countries) was formed.

Thus, there is a reason to state that the information service system for cross-border cooperation is gradually formed.

To summarize, we can obviously make the following main conclusions.

1. The unit of specific sociological information should be an integral part of the system of information service for transborder cooperation because without establishing a reliable and systematic "feedback" between managing subjects and population, the effective cooperation of the neighbouring regions is being impossible.

2. In this system specific sociological component should perform two main functions:

- a) *function of generation of an adequate, comprehensive and complete information* about the needs and interests of people which they represent in their assessments of the processes occurring at the border and around it;

- b) *function on management adjustment*, which mean fullest consideration of these assessments in the preparation and adoption of appropriate management, above all, political decisions.

3. While, specific sociological provision is an "Achilles heel" of the system on information service of transborder cooperation. I am confident that our mutual work on the project "Border through the eyes of people" would provide concrete sociological knowledge, as it should be an important element of the theory and practice of modern transborder processes in Europe.

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SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACHES TOWARDS CROSS- BORDER RELATIONSHIPS

Abstract

The objective of the contribution is to demark possible shapes of cross-border relationships, which could be a subject of sociological analyses, embracing various methodological approaches, depending from the specification of the research problem. The contribution could be understood as an outcome for the formulation and the concretization of the subject (subjects) of sociological or multidisciplinary approached analyses of the phenomenon of cross-border relationships.

Introduction

The phenomenon of a border in time-space connectivity does proceed through changes, whereby these changes are evident in the territory of Central Europe at the moment of the end of the last decade of the XXth century.

The phenomenon of a border is since a long period one of the focusing themes of the European Union and this at least on a political level – how to form and formulate new common policies of cross-border relationships in a integrating Europe and in the European Schengen space, as well as internally and also towards “neighbors” outside of this space. Parallel with this is in a long-term actual also the economic level and within this context questions of movement of persons and goods towards the EU. An actual and sensitive question is mainly non-legal (illegal) shape of this movement. In this context authors: Mirabel Casas-Cortes, Sebastian Cobarrubias and John Pickles do state, that "Migration and management of borders are at the present within the centre of the process of the creation of the European Union. With this intent have been centrally launched three specific politic processes for the implementation of the present Pan-European borders of the Schen-

gen, extension and externalization." (Mirabel Casas-Cortes, Sebastian Cobarrubias a John Pickles, 2013, p.38) This dimension of a common "Macro-policy" within the question of border functioning does have beyond question an impact to the perception of the border and the cross-border shape also within the Central European space. We could state that within this space we do have to act with two, respectively three types of borders: internal European Union borders, border of the Schengen space and the external border with the countries outside of the EU. Specially the EU border with the countries which are outside of the EU, in spite of certain liberalization steps still do remind, resp. does have a shape of a classical restrictive border.

The change of the character of the "border" – inter-state border – within the internal EU space does in a **considerable manner specify the socio-space relationships on a macro, mezzo and also on macro regional levels.** These changes and new processes at the territory do deserve an increased attention of social sciences in general and notably those of sociology, because they are touching social subject of various types, starting with the individual, through social groups, institutions and processes, into which they are entering.

In our contribution we would like to bring the attention to certain **social-space impacts of the phenomenon called "border"** and their possible research seizure from the point of view of sociology, although – as the contribution will show – it is a space for multidisciplinary approaches. For a complex knowledge of possible shapes of cross-border relationships it is therefore useful, if sociologists, as well as human geographers, polimetricians, lawyers, regionalists – regional economists, but also economists and ethnologists, and at the present period of information technologies also experts in this area, do join their forces.

Possible theoretical scopes

The problematic of cross-border relationships could be perceived from the point of view of inter-state relationships and policies of neighboring countries and political-integration alignments (European Union space, resp. Schengen space versus non-member states neighbors, etc.). In other words as a subject of political analysis of macro-regional relationships and their development and

possible further perspectives. Such a macro-regional (interstate) perspective could be applied also towards policy analyses, approaches and real processes in various other spheres of social life of bilateral or multilateral relationships between the contact countries and political-integration alignments.

But our attention will be focused to lower regional levels related to mezzo or micro regional interconnections and relationships of immediate borderline regions, to which the border is physically juncted.

Cross-border relationships and civic society

Socio-political changes from the end of the 80ties and the beginning of the 90ties of the XXies century, of which the accompanying sign was the **orientation towards creation of a civic society, is linked also with the liberalization of the border**. The border was presented as a real line dividing one state from the other with a concrete scope of restrictions, barriers and constraints, which limited the possibilities of the citizen freely to cross this line. **Possibilities of cooperation in the area of cross-border activities, we could envisage as one of the manifestations (but also indicators) of the level of development of the civic society**. The liberalization of the border in the context of creation of a civic society is also connected with the course of change of competencies and rights (within subsidiarity) not only towards an individual – citizen, but also towards through created by civic it alignments, institutionalized civic associations. Therefore, it is important to realize **comparative analyses of the legislative background (environment)** in mutually neighboring countries, because this is creating a smaller or greater space for cross-border cooperation and cross-border relationships. Parallel, the **identification of existing civic associations acting in cross-border regional (micro-regional) relationships** does co-create a picture about roles and concrete cross-border activities in the civic sphere, about the intensity of those activities and programme orientation and shapes of common approaches for their fulfillment. Towards such an identification and specification of concrete activities, could lead expert focused discussions (interviews) with the representatives of civic associations, including analyses of documentation related

to such activities. In other words, one of the possible research focuses could be the **research of cross-border contacts (their shapes or forms and intensity) of civic subjects within the borderline regions on both sides of the border**. The subject of interest could be **mechanisms of their support** but also their effectiveness for the **building of sustainable relationships between the civic subjects and their contribution for the creation of the awareness of the borderline (cross-border) identity**. From the point of view of such perceived problematic, from the point of view of used methods **are important analyses not only of the programming documents of such subjects, including project activities, but also focused discussions (interviews) with experts, which could be equally representatives of civic associations acting in the given area but also representatives of supporting institutions – funds and foundations for the support of cross-border cooperation**. But parallel it is also important to **monitor also the impacts and reactions to realized activities** in various social groups which are living in the borderline regions.

Cross-border relationships and institutional cooperation

An important component of the cross-border relationships is the **institutional cooperation**. There are institutional contacts, relationship and cooperation of institutional subjects in borderline regions. The objects of research institute are mainly **institutions of public administration intuitions of state administration or institution of regional and local administration**. In as much as that we are focused to cooperation and relationships within borderline regions, focus will be given to cross-border relationships of administrative institutions, **forms and content of the cooperation and their plan into functioning of territorial or settlement alignments on both sides of the border**. Subject of the research could be:

- **Bilateral relationships on inter-municipal level** – how is the level of inter-municipal relationships, in which manner did it develop in programme, which areas does it include, who besides of municipal administration are further co-actors, from which financial sources is it supports, etc. Also in this case it is important to know the legislative background. In the case of Slovakia it is

the Act on Municipal Regulation № 369/1991 and the Act on Administration of Higher Territorial Units № 302/2001. In both cases these acts do demarcate the competence also from the administrative municipalities as well as administrative higher units – districts – to enter into international partnership relationships and associations. Already in the case of cross-border relationships it is important to know and to analyze the shapes of such relationships, their factual – programme – orientation, their durability, but also the impact towards the creation of further partnerships or co-partnerships from the environment outside of the public administration. As an example in this area we could provide the development of infrastructure for the support of cross-border relationships, where also for the citizens but also for entrepreneurial subjects in the border area the traffic infrastructure on the development of which, not only the cooperation of the state but also of the administration regions and administrative municipalities on both sides of the border is necessary. The importance of such analyzes do documents also analyze in the Slovak-Polish border area, which have been focused on questions of traffic accessibility of borderline regions and their impacts to possibilities of mobilization of tourist traffic in this area (**Marek Więckowski, Daniel Michniak and coll., 2012**). Comparatively frequent is neglected the attention devoted to the development of the information infrastructure, which is so important for the creation of the awareness of the common space on the one side, but also conditioning the multi-dimensional interests in the neighboring borderline space (economy and trade, tourism and the development of the tourism trade, culture and cultural heritage, sport, etc.)

As of the point of view of the utilized methods which could be possible to use, but also to combine a couple of methods, there are being:

- ✓ Expert discussions with representatives of the state administration, regional and municipal administrations and local subjects involved into cooperation

- ✓ Sociologic exploring – through questionnaire inquiry – perception (and civic participation) on cross-border inter-municipal activities of partnership municipalities
- ✓ Analyses of documents related to inter-municipal cooperation
- **Forms of activities on the base of Euro regional associations of municipalities on both sides of the border** – the 90ies of the XXies century in post-communist countries of Central Europe brought the acceleration towards forming Euro-regional alignments, which should have helped the development of the neighboring borderline areas and parallel broke the still existing persisting border barriers and limitations. Such a Euro-regional mobilization is in full force to be applied for Slovakia (**Falan, L., 2004**).

The created Euro regions have been often associations mobilized by activated municipal residence subjects, which did associated on one side of the border and on the other side to create formally afterwards one common (although internally autonomy) Euro region. Internal budgeting was provided by each party of the Euro region, according to their own possibilities and legislative circumstances. A big role does conclude also the acceptance and the form of support from the side of the state administration, resp. regional administration in the concrete country. In this context there could be important misbalances, which could restrict the common activities. Equally restrictive factor and factor of misbalance could be also the fact, if on the one side the Euro region is created by an association of administrative municipalities (cities and villages) and on the other side of the partner is regional administration, which does have much more competencies as well, as financial tools towards regional development (including borderline regions).

Taking into consideration the above mentioned, it is therefore important to identify the formal point of the created or existing Euro regions – who is creating them, which subjects being involved, with what competence possibilities, given legislative background, but also economic-financial possibilities. On the other side important is the

programming part of the Euro region. In other words, which common objects did the Euro region set up, what would they like to transplant, whereby the chosen methods are important, steps but also sources for their implementation. In this sense it is important in what extent the Euro regions could themselves enforce through their projects in the European Union grant schemes. Since 2006 there are also certain changes within the approach of the EÚ towards the questions of Euro regions (**Decision Nr. 1082/2006 of the European Parliament and the Council as of 5th July 2006**). The wording is about **European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation**

(http://ec.europa.eu/prelex/detail_dossier_real.cfm?CL=sk&DosId=200887).

In this context important are:

- ✓ analyses of programming documents of individual Euro regions and their partnership subjects, which are creating them, but also
- ✓ mentioned EU documents and
- ✓ national documents related to cross-border cooperation.

Parallel are appropriated:

- ✓ expert discussions with the top representatives of the Euro regions
- ✓ expert discussions with member subjects of the concrete Euro regions (representatives of member cities and villages)
- ✓ sociologic probing, to which level the existence and activities of the Euro region do resound in the awareness of the citizens of the Euro regional territory

- Policies and forms of cooperation between neighboring regional administrations

The Act on Administration of Higher Administrative Units № 302/2001, created assumptions for the possibility that administrative higher territorial units could enter into international cooperation and also into international associations. At the same time these international cooperations and relationships aren't interlinked to

borderline territories. Whereby in Slovakia all administrative higher territorial units with a part of their territory are situated on the border of the state, therefore this possibility of an international cooperation is within it more important. In other words, we could state, that the higher territorial units in borders which are limited by the law, could form their own policy of international cooperation with partner regional subjects abroad. For an direct cross-border cooperation it is important which agreements exist within this line between directly neighboring administrative regional subjects. In this context it is important to know what forms of cooperation are, and what is their programme focus. Also it is important to know which supporting financial schemes have been created for such kind of cooperation and to which extent exist other financial sources, outside of the budget. In this context it is inevitable to know to which extent and which are the European Union financial funds utilized for the programmes. Taking into consideration that we are interested in cross-border cooperation of neighboring administrative regional territorial-administrative subjects, we are also interested if Euro regions are active within the framework of their territory. In the case of functioning of euro regions on the territory of such regional subjects it is necessary to know, if it is existing and in which form cooperation does it exist and if coordination of cross-border activities exist between them. If there is some form a direct or indirect financial support of Euro regions from the side of administrative territorial-administrative subjects, on the territory of which such Euro regions do act.

Cross-border relationships and regional development

Taking into consideration that within the history of the development of state subjects the border was understood as a division of the territory, communities, economies, as well as also cultures, ideologies, etc., its role was not only to separate the geographical space with its social, socio-cultural and economic content, but also to be a barrier and in a various manner understood as "protection" afore foreign, ineligible or threatening issues. This evolved also the assumptions that this territory is in it frequently a space of trespassing of regulations of contacts among different state subjects, not once also conflicts, including arm

and blood. Therefore for a long period this wasn't a space for investments and development which would be based on them. As a consequence it was valid for a very long time that the borderline regions have been usually marginalized regions, what in a lot of countries and especially in post-socialist countries, does apply in great manner up to now. Very often mainly as of political reasons have been in these regions an undeveloped mainly transport infrastructure – by the way, one of the crucial factors of development of the regions. If we are taking as an example Slovakia so the past transport links towards Austria, which has been destroyed during the II. World War hasn't been renewed already from political-ideological reasons. Paradox, in spite of the reasonability towards a common political-ideological group a whole line of historical transport infrastructures, which emerge from the past between these countries, fade mainly on a regional level and there wasn't a will to recover. This does apply also for Slovak-Hungarian, but also for Slovak-Polish or Slovak-Ukrainian borderlines. This markedly limited not only the possibilities of movement of persons, but also of goods and the concluding effect did constrain the local and regional cultural and economic development. Therefore with the changes of political characters in these countries there is a slow breaking of barriers; however this is a difficult process, mainly financially. In a lot of cases also at the present with such attempts it is necessary also to solve a couple of political-economic, but also social-political problems – mainly at the European Union border with Ukraine. In those borderline territories, where these problems could be solved, we do note considerable pro-development changes, not only from the point of view of the development of tourist traffic in borderline territories and the relevant infrastructure of foreign travel (an example could be the Slovak-Polish borderline and the Slovak-Czech borderline), but also economic speed-up in the area of business, small entrepreneurship, but also cross-border movement of the working forces (Slovak-Polish, Slovak-Czech and also Slovak-Hungarian and Slovak-Austrian borderline). A specific effect at the Slovak-Austrian and Slovak-Hungarian borderline in the area of Bratislava, are sub-urban processes „over the border“. In this case at the moment the Austrian and Hungarian borderland does be-

came residential attractive for a lot of people – till lately – people from Bratislava, or immigrants from other parts of Slovakia, who do connect their life or working carrier with Bratislava, but residential they are coupled (mainly from economic reasons) to borderline municipalities in the two aforementioned countries.

In this context it is important that analyzes from the borderline regions are to be focused also on the character and the intensity of the investment inputs into the borderline regions. Also, if there are certain resemblances of interlinking with the borderline neighbor, for example also in cross-border movement of the working force, goods, tourism, socio-cultural activities, etc.

The subject of the analyses should be relevant statistics, documents and programmes, sustainable forms, shapes and intensity and escalation of these intentions and at the same time the assessment of their real realizations.

Cross-border relationships and civic dailiness

Common citizen, inhabitant of borderline regions apperceive cross-border relationships through his "dailiness" contact with the border and with his cross-border neighbours. At the times, when the border was a strict barrier such a common everyday contact with the "neighbour" wasn't taken into account, on the other side it was aliasing. Therefore this barrier was strengthening through zones. The borderline zone in which also municipalities could be finding was – in the period of the outmost control – available only to persons living there, all the others should have had special permits. Then there was the border zone, where they haven't access – up to special exceptions – even inhabitants of the municipalities in the borderline zone couldn't enter. This zone was already under the control of the border police. At last the border line, which was under sharp control of the border units. From the above mentioned it does result, that the "dailiness" had specific signs in the shape of the awareness for the "local" that there, somewhere behind the barrier, which couldn't be crossed are also people, even unknown. About this "not knowing themselves", when the border was a non-transitory barrier also among the socialist countries, even formally as friends and allies, also Kathryn L Cassidy mention it

in a case study of two neighbouring municipalities at the Ukraine-Romanian border (**L Cassidy, Kathryn, 2013, p. 91-101**). At the so called socialist border, although equally guarded and controlled, but less consistently, to the dailiness it did belong, that the local citizens from time to time did, however illegally "bounce" over the border to the neighbour either only to a local dance, or for "business" – to smuggle something to one or another direction. That enabled not only the knowledge of local geography, but also the language closeness, or identity – mainly in Slovak-Polish, or Slovak-Hungarian borderline. At the border created the so called "Iron Curtain", did this dailiness transpose not once into the perception of "extraordinary events", when gunplay was heard at the border and an increased movement of armed forces was visible. It meant that somebody tried illegally to over step the border (**Mentálna hranica, 2003**). For example during the socialist period, based on bilateral agreements in the Slovak-Polish borderland an area was created for so called small border contact. This enabled the citizens of the berth borderline, but also for visitors from other parts of Slovakia (Slovak citizens), in identifying to cross the border and to move to a designated depth of the neighbouring territory. This was related mainly to touristic attractive Orava, High Tatras and Pieniny on both sides of the border. Besides of tourism the locals mainly use it for trade. But this was limited and controlled.

With the change of the socio-political situation at the end of 1989, also the dailiness of the border become new shapes. Mainly there was the abandonment of the movement of persons. Markedly restrictions constraints have been in the relation to movement of goods. All these did in the case of a regular citizen have impact to his perception of the border. Initial doubts from what could bring the liberalisation of the border and the openness towards daily movement of the citizens from borderline territories didn't fulfil. At the beginning of the 90ies of the XXies century these doubts have been relatively strong, for example in the Slovak-Austrian borderline and this on both sides. Small Austrian entrepreneurs, whether if in business or service, did fear that through the opening of the border they will lose a part of their domestic clientele, which will start to use cheaper services, but

also certain business offer from the area of alimentary in the borderline municipalities and small towns of Slovakia, eventually of Bratislava. The bearers of these fears have been mainly the owners of barbershops and coiffeuses, small car repairs, small alimentary shops, restaurants and catering, but also in some cases also dentists and dental technicians. This was in this period also one of the reasons, why from the side of the Austrian partner the introduction into operation of the provisional boat bridge over the river Morava between Hohenau in Austria and Moravský Svätý Ján in Slovakia was delayed. At the Slovak side also fears resounded that "they will buy us up". None of this was fulfilled, on the other side, profits are on both sides. There is always something which is worth to buy on the other side. Already the daily contact did lead to that after initial disbelief and certain dominance on the Austrian side; at the present at the borderline municipalities or cities the client from the "neighbour" is being appreciated. Low cost shops with often crummy goods, whether from the area of electronics, clothes or shoes, which emerged immediately after 1989 in some of the borderline cities of Austria, did again very quickly vanish. They have been replaced by standard shops and shopping centres with an adequate quality of goods, as well as for domestic but also for other clients, for example from cross-border clients. A part of the dailiness became work – although meanwhile still more oriented to one side, where the offer is on Austrian side. In the borderline Austrian territories in a lot of shops, or restaurants worked people from the proximate Slovak borderline (but also from the inland of Slovakia), but also from Hungary. This is decreasing the language barrier and it is also favourable for the cross-border clientele. In the borderline areas of Austria there are attractive offers in the area of health or social services. It is attractive also therefore that the users from the Slovak borderline municipalities could go to work on a daily basis, without the exigency to look after accommodation and to be in a longer term without their families. The mentioned dailiness in the sphere of work does have impact also to some of the borderline areas in Hungary, where also work force from Slovakia does commute. A part of the dailiness is also the spare time and its utilisation within the borderline neighbourhood. Taking

into consideration and in relation to the character of local activities – nature, historical objects, cultural events, but also offers for sport, or culinary attractiveness - those became a goal, mainly through weekend dailiness. For example for the area of Bratislava, where cycle paths are interlinked to Austrian and also to Hungarian sides, are these in both directions intensively utilised, similarly as golf places, or trips with motor boats at the river Danube. An important reality is that with the liberalization of the border, its openness for the regular citizen also in the sphere of the dailiness, has been markedly lowered that sphere of social pathology, which was connected with the smuggling of goods and grey economy. A part of the style of life became also the regular and non-complicated visiting of the territory on the other side of the border. We mentioned already several times that a more complicated situation is on the eastern border of the EU, which is from the point of view of Slovakia, is the border with Ukraine. This does doubtless forming also the “dailiness“ of borderline or cross-border relationships within this space. The cross-border movement and cross-border relationship should respect a lot of constraints, which are directly related mainly to regular citizens on both sides of the border, whereby in a bigger manner the citizens of Ukraine as Slovakia. The cross-border dailiness from the point of view of the Slovak citizen in relation to borderline Ukraine is more oriented to utilitarian advantages of commercial character. This does apply also on the opposite side. Taking into consideration the restrictions in movements of goods, such activities could frequently lead to illegally aspects and to participation on grey economics. Again we could recall to Kathryn L Cassidy, who is describing the role of women (from the point of view of gender analyzes), as participants of such a kind of commercial-entrepreneurial activities at the Romanian-Ukrainian border (**L Cassidy, Kathryn, 2013, p. 91-101**). In this space the dailiness is not creating in her complexity of variability as well as of her manifestations. Her present shapes are still marked with factors of economic unbalance, deprival and a broad scale of constraints. These are assumptions for the creation of various shapes of social pathology, movement on the edge or behind the edge of the law. **The problematic of dailiness in cross-border relationships, analyzes of its shapes,**

social definitions, but also impacts towards the everyday life of the citizen of the borderline, would be in general require bigger attention so as of sociology, as well as of other social sciences.

Cross-border relationships and the perception of the neighbour (mental borders)

Already the previous statements do signalize, that an important factor how the cross-border relationships are created is, in which manner do the partnerships on both side of the border do perceive each other. The shape of this perception is historically laid; connected with generation skills, experiences, or events as well as also the scope of available information and their content character, or the absence of such information and experiences. All this do form the “picture of the neighbour“. Mainly in periods of strict restrictions in international contacts, at the background of which are very often political and ideological reasons and if such restrictions are long-term, resulting into massive deformations of the picture of the neighbour, towards forming frequently biased, repeatedly negative ideas and stereotypes about him. Besides the physical border with her restrictions also the mental border was forming and the existence of which, could in the conscience of people have effect also then, when the physical borders (supported and exponentiated politically-ideological) as barriers do eliminate and considerably liberalising. Wiping away the mental borders is therefore much more difficult and long-term process. The shape of the mental border we did monitor and analyze at the beginning of the 21st Century together with the Austrian colleagues at the Slovak-Austrian border, through the method of group discussions with selected groups of inhabitants in some of the villages in first hand contact with the Austrian villages at the other side of the border, resp. in Austrian villages similarly located in first hand neighbourhood (**Mentálna hranica, 2003**). In other words immediate matching neighbouring villages have been compared. Expressly in this analyzes appeared what did create in individual historical periods this picture, because mainly the oldest generation frequently returned also into periods which have been before the creation of the so called Iron Curtain and the closure of whatever contacts. From the bigger part **abolishment**

of family-affiliation relationships created in the past, which taking into consideration the length of the cut off of the contacts, outreaching one up to two generations, even the liberalization of the border after 1989 couldn't brighten up. **Not once a negative picture was formed**, exponentiated during the first years after the liberalization of the border with fears from the neighbour on both sides of the border and not at once also with not the best experiences from a lot of first contacts from visitors (contemn, arrogance, or apprehension) from the increase of social pathology (mainly theft), illegal working activities, beggary of visitors, etc., all this have influenced how was the cross-border neighbour perceived. This was transposed also into certain concrete manifestations for example in Austrian shops in Slovak language, warning before thefts (however their administrators shouldn't be just the citizens of Slovakia, but there have been those "from the East"). Within the process of creation of the neighbour and when shattering or keeping the mental level, an **important role do play media** and their information about the neighbour. In this direction the analyses of media (as well as regional and also countrywide) showed up on both sides of the border, that this information aren't often and in a lot of cases they are labelled by political interests (at the turning point of the 90ties of the XXies Century and the first years of the 21st Century in the Austrian media very frequently resound the question of the power plant in Jaslovské Bohunice, close to Trnava, approximately 50 km from the Austrian border. Offers and information about events behind the border have been more frequent in some of the Slovak print media (mainly in near Vienna), also at the Austrian side. Also at the present it is still actual and necessary to focus attention to the phenomenon of the mental border, because the forming of "pictures" is a natural part of perception, or reflection of the surrounding world (including the social world), which does execute the people through his whole history. And also in spite of that this perception is in a natural manner from main part created subjectively, but this point of view very often affects the real operations of the person and of social groups. How does this perception – picture –change at the present? In which manner participate at these picture institutions – and which mainly? Which

role on forming of such a picture does play media, or other sources of information (on local, regional and nationwide level)?

Briefly at the end

In an integrated world, the part of which are various countries, various partnerships, various cultures and with accruing migration movements, without taking into consideration their reasons, the cross-border relationships became extraordinary important and also attractive for research. Our existing knowledge is repeatedly related more towards political or geopolitical connectivity of such relationships, to macro regional shapes of infrastructure, or economic or socio-economic character. Less, is within this problematic perceived the extent of forming of partnerships at the border, or borderline partnerships in their social and socio-cultural shape with networks of newly created relationships and relations. It is a challenge for social sciences.

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**HUMAN CAPITAL, SOCIAL CAPITAL AND
INSTITUTIONAL CAPITAL AS THE FACTORS
OF SYNERGY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
OF TRANSBORDER REGIONS IN KNOWLEDGE –
BASED ECONOMY**

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1. THESES OF THE PAPER

1.1. MAIN THESES

1) Critical mass of harmonized human capital, social capital and institutional capital in transborder regions of neighbouring countries is necessary for efficient use of the capacities of those regions and their synergic development.

2) Development of critical mass and harmonization of institutional capital in transborder regions of countries is necessary for effective use of human and social capital and achieving the effect of synergy of

1.2. AUXILIARY THESES

1) Critical mass of human capital is necessary for social and economic development on sectorial, local, regional and national scale.

2) The prerequisite of capacity building of the critical mass of human capital is the coherence and harmonization of institutional capital developed and maintained in in transborder regions of neighbouring countries.

3) Creation of critical mass of social capital in transborder regions needs the transparency and harmonization of objectives of social and political organizations based on mutual trust. Common and harmonized social capital is the prerequisite of synergic interference of factors of economic, technological and social development in transborder regions.

4) Harmonized institutional capital in transborder regions of countries is the prerequisite of synergy of political, social and economic processes and creation of common economic and social space in transborder areas.

5) Harmonization of institutional capital is the stimulator of more effective use of human, social and economic capital in transborder regions.

2. BASIC CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

The concept capital for defining, specifying and measuring human, social and institutional resources is used by analogy with other forms of economic capital: financial capital, industrial capital, capitalized economic assets etc. The concept of human, social and institutional capital is argued to have similar scientific and practical benefits, although less measurable. However, the analogy with economic capital is misleading to the extent that, unlike traditional forms of capital, human, social and institutional capital are not depleted by use. To the contrary the capital (human, social, institutional) is depleted by non-use ("use it or lose it"). The more human, social and institutional capital is used the more resources of these capital are created.

2.1. HUMAN CAPITAL

2.1.1. DEFINITION OF HUMAN CAPITAL

Human capital is the stock of competencies, knowledge, social and personality attributes, including creativity, embodied in the ability to perform labor so as to produce economic value. It is an aggregate economic view of the human being acting within economies, which is an attempt to capture the social, biological, cultural and psychological complexity as they interact in explicit and/or economic transactions. Many theories explicitly connect investment in human capital development to education, and the role of human capital in economic development, productivity growth, and innovation has frequently been cited as a justification for government subsidies for education and job skills training¹.

Human capital includes all the knowledge, skills and capabilities that people already have accumulated. By extension it includes what they can learn, invent, create, and contribute to the community as a whole. To strengthen the human capital in our communities, we need to develop strategies that increase capabilities on every level. People who live up to their potential enhance their lives and the life of their communities. Maintaining these capabilities also involves developing

¹ Becker G., Human Capital: A theoretical and empirical analysis with special reference to Education. The University of Chicago Press, 1994.

systems that enhance wellness, and that care for people who are sick, physically and mentally challenged, too young or too old to care for themselves. It means building the caring capacity of our communities, so that people feel supported, feel a sense of belonging and mutual support, and where family relationships and social networks are healthy for the individuals in them².

In official statistics the non-material and non-financial economic assets are classified as called intangible assets or *intangibles*³. Human capital is one of intangible assets. It consists of all of the competencies, general and professional knowledge, professional and managerial skills, experience, potential and capacity, as well as commitment of the people within an organization and society. Other examples of intangible assets include: trademarks, brand, soft-ware, design, know-how, position on the market, working methods and customer relationships. The human capital asset captures all the people oriented capabilities needed for successful social, cultural, political, scientific and economic activities.

Human capital could be (a) potential and (b) effective. By potential human capital we understand the capacities of individuals that may be useful in some conditions. By effective human capital we understand the capacities of individuals that are efficiently used in concrete time, place, organization and society. Often the potential human capital is the set of capacities which are only partly used in practice. In knowledge - based economy full use of human capital is one of most important factors of economic development. Proper identification and creation of conditions of full use of human capital is the task of managers and politicians. Human capital building requires the cooperation of individuals, governments and businesses in an organization in the field of education, training, support and stimulation of investment in learning and maintenance of skills of individuals.

2.1.2. ATTRIBUTES OF HUMAN CAPITAL

The following attributes are characterizing human capital of individuals:

2

³ Olenski J., *Ekonomika informacji – podstawy*, PWE, Warszawa 2001.

- Knowledge
 - general (including civilizational and cultural)
 - professional
- Education
 - level
 - profile
 - quality
- Skills
 - general
 - professional
 - managerial
- Experience
 - general
 - professional
 - managerial
- Capabilities and abilities
 - creativity
 - self-organization
 - self-discipline
 - communication
 - cooperation abilities
- Ethics
 - general
 - professional

The attributes of human capital are generating the effects of synergy of human capital of individuals. Human capital increases through education and experience. Human capital is important for an organization. Human capital is also important for the success of cities and regions.

2.1.3. USE OF HUMAN CAPITAL

Human capital in economy and society may be passive or active. If an individual representing certain resources of human capital is not active as an employee, manager, politician, scientist, or is not involved in other forms of participation in society or economy, his or her human

capital is passive. For example human capital of an unemployed person representing high level of education, experience and skills, is useless for the society and economy.

It often happens that individuals are effectively using only some part of their human capital. However it may also happen that an individual does not represent human capital necessary for proper fulfilling of economic or social duties as an employee, manager or politician. The larger are the resources of human capital of an individual, the smaller part of this capital is effectively used in practice.

Human capital when viewed from a time perspective consumes time in one of key activities:

1. Knowledge (e.g. activities involving one employee),
2. Collaboration (e.g. activities involving more than one single employee),
3. Processes (e.g. activities specifically focused on the knowledge and collaborative activities generated by organizational structure – such as silo impacts, internal politics, etc.) and
4. Absence (e.g. annual leave, sick leave, holidays, etc.).

The creation and management of human capital is one of most important theoretical and practical problems of information society and knowledge – based economy.

2.2. SOCIAL CAPITAL

2.2.1. DEFINITION OF SOCIAL CAPITAL

Social capital as a sociological category is the expected potential social or economic or economic benefits derived from the cooperation between individuals and groups. The core idea of social capital is that social networks, links, cooperation and interactions between individuals representing certain resources of human capital are of greater value than value of the “sum” of human capital of single individuals. Social capital is created in the processes of linking or integrating human capital of individuals by establishing stable or temporary social networks, like social organizations, associations, societies, clubs and any other forms of cooperation and communication of people. The efficacy or productivity of organized groups of individuals is – as a rule - greater than that of individuals. Different social sciences emphasize different

aspects of social capital. In economic sciences the social capital is classified as intangible resources or intangibles.

Social capital can be transferred or taught. International policies also often address human capital flight, which is the loss of talented or trained persons from a country that invested in them, to another country which benefits from their arrival without investing in them.

2.2.2. ATTRIBUTES OF SOCIAL CAPITAL

Social capital is defined as the concatenation of human capital of members of organizations. In other words social capital is the organized resource of human capital for realization of concrete goals of an organization: an enterprise, government, research institute, cultural or social society etc. However it refers only to human capital useful for concrete organization as a social or economic subject.

Human capital not relevant for the objectives of an organization is not creating its social capital. Social capital is recognized as social cohesion or social resilience and related concepts like celebrity or fame, as distinct from the talent that an individual has developed that cannot be passed on to others. It is also important to avoid a situation where the social capital in one sector of the community works against the ability of other sectors to have connections with the community as a whole.

Main attributes of social capital of an organization are inter alia the following:

- Relevance of human capital of the members of an organization with its goals, methods and tools of activity
- Effective use of relevant human capital of individuals participating in the activities of an organization
- Number of individuals actively and effectively participating in the activities of an organization
- Involvement of an organization in investing in the development of relevant human capital of individuals participating in the activities of an organization
- Cooperation of an organization with other social organization to achieve the effect of more efficient use of social capital of organizations.

In knowledge - based economy the building of social capital by the cooperation and links of many organizations is becoming more common approach to the development and more effective use of social capital in on the level of branches of economy, domains of research, in domains of social services (education, health, culture), on regional and local level. For example, the consortia organized for realization of specific objectives of for long – term cooperation in research, education, social services etc., have proven their efficacy in many economic processes and systems, social activities, domains science as well as in regions.

Social capital is co-decisive in managing of very large or very complex systems and processes. It is important in transborder regions because of extreme complexity, variety and dynamics of transborder processes and systems in heterogeneous political, cultural, social and economic environment.

2.3. INSTITUTIONAL CAPITAL

2.3.1. DEFINITION OF INSTITUTIONAL CAPITAL

A standard definition of institutional capital is hard to find – to some it means the financial resources controlled by key institutions and to others it represents the institutional framework governing the economy. In other words institutional capital are the structures, organizations, legal, and financial frameworks that enable a society to function. This includes the legal system and the rule of law, the insurance system that helps communities manage risk, the systems that establish different exchange mechanisms (national and complementary currencies), the regulatory structures that protect the natural environment, human rights, and human health and well-being, and all the institutional arrangements that provide a foundation for economic activity.

The concept of institutional capital was defined within the frames of neoinstitutional organization theory⁴. One of most important assumptions of the neoinstitutional organization theory is the statement

⁴ Bresser R, Millonig K, Institutional Capital: Competitive Advantage In Light Of The New Institutionalism In Organization Theory, in: Schmalenbach Business Review, Vol. 55, July 2003, pp. 220-141.

that the competitive advantage of economic or social systems and processes is strongly affected by its institutional environment.

In the neoinstitutional organization theory institutions are defined as “behavioral expectations that can be sanctioned if violated”⁵

Two broad types of institutions are distinguished:

- fundamental institutions
- secondary (deduced) institutions.

Fundamental institutions represent generally accepted norms and values that have evolved at a societal level, for example, human rights or professional ethics. They are adhered to largely at a subconscious level, because individuals have internalized the respective norms and values and often cannot even conceive of alternatives. Fundamental institutions are taken for granted and are difficult to change through purposive design.

Secondary institutions are deduced from fundamental institutions to regulate specific societal problems. They include laws, contracts, organizations, and organizational rules and procedures. Thus, secondary institutions are much more amenable to conscious design than are fundamental institutions. Although many norms and values represented by secondary institutions are consciously perceived, they too can become internalized by social or economic subjects and by individuals representing those units. For instance, organization members internalize the values constituting an organization’s culture over time and then take them for granted.

Institutional capital is the complex of laws, procedures, organizational structures and legal entities and other subjects that create internal and external institutional environment of economic or social processes and systems.

2.3.2. TYPES OF INSTITUTIONAL CAPITAL

Three types of institutional capital are distinguished:

- cognitive capital,
- normative capital,
- regulative capital.

⁵ ibidem

Cognitive institutional capital consists of knowledge about institutions, their objectives, task and duties and forms of activity in a given social, political or economic system.

Normative institutional capital consists of laws, regulations and standards determining the organization and functioning of organizations that are creating the institutional environment of society and economy.

Regulative institutional capital consists of procedures incorporated and followed by or-ganizations that are creating institutional environment of branches of economy, regions or states.

2.3.3. HUMAN, SOCIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPITAL – PREREQUISITE OF SYNERGY OF ECONOMIC PROCESSES

Human, social and institutional capitals are creating the environment in which all processes and systems are functioning. They create the conditions of the sustainability and efficacy of use and development of all other types of resources.

Harmonization of all kinds of capital: human, social and institutional and achievement of the critical mass of these capitals for concrete processes and systems is creating the conditions for synergetic development effective or profitable for all subjects operating in transborder regions.

3. HUMAN CAPITAL IN TRANSBORDER REGIONS

In transborder regions human, social and institutional capital is developed within the environment of different political system. In Europe the differences refer also to ethnical specificity, culture, historical traditions. On relatively small geographic space there is the variety of qualitatively different resources of all kinds of capital, human, social as well as institutional capital. These differences may stimulate the creation of new resources supporting the development of economies and societies of neighbouring regions of all countries, or – to the contrary – may hinder the transborder cooperation.

From the point of view of the impact of human capital on transborder cooperation and de-velopment the following aspects should be analyzed:

- 1) Symmetry vs. asymmetry of human capital
- 2) Complementarity and substitution of human capital
- 3) Critical mass of human capital in different domains and branches

3.1. SYMMETRY AND ASYMMETRY OF HUMAN CAPITAL

By symmetry of human capital we understand the coherence of attributes of human capital of different individuals, necessary for contacts, cooperation and collaboration, for example, knowledge and use of common languages for communication, equivalence of levels of educa-tion, relevance of professional knowledge and experience, identity of professional and busi-ness ethics, equivalent computer literacy etc. Symmetry of human capital is the prerequisite of formation of common social capital in transborder regions. Regional governments should be interested in building the symmetry of human capital in the domains that are important for communication and collaboration of entities, organizations as well as the contacts between people.

Asymmetry of human capital means that there are qualitative differences in knowledge, experience, ethics, between individuals and social groups. As a rule, asymmetry of human capital is hindering communication and cooperation of people and entities. Identification of asymmetries of human capital is necessary for policy makers in transborder regions for evalu-ation of social barriers of cooperation and for undertaking the initiatives and activities to re-duce or eliminate those barriers.

In transborder regions the priority in reducing the excessive asymmetry of human capital should be given to the following aspects:

- Common languages of communication between people and entities
- Dissemination of general information on transborder regions via mass media and internet (information on social

- and cultural events, information on economic activities, tourist information, information on laws and procedures)
- Facilitation of common use of social infrastructure and other capacities that are forming human capital, by people from different localities of transborder regions (e.g. secondary schools and universities, research institutes and research projects, cultural infrastructure, health care infrastructure)

Some level of asymmetry of human capital may stimulate the processes of production, transfer and absorption of knowledge that are bringing the information resources to symmetry. However in some domains the reduction of asymmetry needs long time and efforts, e.g. education on primary and secondary levels, university education, learning of common languages, ethical formation, collecting the professional and managerial experience, training of officers of governments etc.

Cooperation and coordination of activities of institution responsible for formation of human capital (education system, mass media, cultural institutions, other units providing social services that have the impact on the formation of human capital) in transborder areas is necessary for achieving necessary level of symmetry of human capital of individuals and social groups.

3.2. COMPLEMENTARITY AND SUBSTITUTION OF HUMAN CAPITAL

Complementarity of human capital in transborder regions is in knowledge based economy an important factor of social and economic development. For example, complementary knowledge and experience of scientists working at the universities or in research institutes based in different countries is facilitating the organizing of research consortia for realizing scientific projects. Complementary knowledge and expertise of specialists in any other domain of social services or economic activity is good basis for profitable and reliable outsourcing of their auxiliary activities by organizations based in different countries.

Substitution of human capital in transborder regions may create international competition and optimization of use of talent, knowledge and experiences of professionals. It is important especially in the domains in which highest level of skills is expected.

Identification of complementarity and substitution of human capital is the task of governments and managers responsible for the domains of economy and social activity, in which the quality of services offered by staff is necessary.

3.3. CREATION OF CRITICAL MASS OF HUMAN CAPITAL IN TRANSBORDER REGIONS

Critical mass of human capital is the number of people volume of knowledge and people. In different domains critical mass of human capital for effective social or economic activities is different. For example, in culture relatively single individuals or small groups of people disposing artistic talents may create critical mass of human capital for region or for the country. In research – as a rule – critical mass of human capital is created by some number of scientists conducting research of some topics and exchanging their ideas and findings by organizing seminars, conferences, by publications and direct personal links. In economic activity, production and trade, the critical mass of human capital is achieved by concatenation of knowledge and experiences of scientists, technologists, economists, managers, lawyers and other experts cooperating in some organization, region or branch of economy or technology.

The concatenation of knowledge and experience of people representing individual complementary human capital is creating critical mass of human capital for an organization, branch of economy, domain of research, domain of culture. The use of effects of complementarity and substitution of human capital can be achieved only if human capital exceeds critical mass necessary for specific area.

In open transregional environment the creation of critical mass of complementary human capital for specific domains of culture, economy or research is – potentially – easier and cheaper as within the

frames of border region of one country. The reason of this phenomenon is that in each one of border regions of neighbouring countries there is developed human capital complementary to that on the border territory of other countries. The complementarity is created by the differences in culture, habits, education systems, laws and regulations, administrative procedures.

Regional governments, social and cultural institutions, research institutes and businesses in transborder areas should analyze and identify the complementarity of human capital of individuals and groups of individuals to organize critical mass of human capital for solving specific problems or realizing projects. Stimulation of development of human capital oriented on the creation of its critical masses in concrete domains or localities is also the duty of regional governments and NGO's.

3.4. HUMAN CAPITAL AS THE BASIS OF SOCIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPITAL IN TRANS-BORDER REGIONS

Critical mass of human capital is the foundation of creation and development of social and institutional capital. In transborder regions the resources of human capital exceeding critical masses for specific domains or projects should be developed and maintained with the help of regional governments. This activity should be coordinated on the level of regional governments of transborder areas.

4. SOCIAL CAPITAL IN TRANSBORDER REGIONS

Quality of social capital in transborder areas is the foundation of cooperation of individuals and subjects in social and economic space of regions along the borderlines. Moreover, common social capital of transborder regions has the impact on delimitation of transborder areas. Main attributes of national social capital developed in the regions close to the borderlines influencing the development of common social capital in transborder areas are:

- Symmetry and asymmetry between national social capitals,
- Complementarity and substitution between national social capitals.

4.1. SYMMETRY AND ASYMMETRY OF SOCIAL CAPITAL

Social capital is symmetric in the transborder region if the subjects representing social capital have intellectual, organizational and technical capacity of cooperation and collaboration with their counterparts on the other side of the borderline. Symmetry of social capital is necessary for creation of common social capital in the transborder space, e.g. research consortia for realization of common projects, development of common information systems supporting economic, social and cultural activities of organizations based and operating on the territories of countries in transborder regions.

Asymmetry of social capital means that there are the gaps between organizations representing social capital, that enable these organizations to cooperate or make this cooperation more difficult and less effective. Those gaps mainly refer to the lack of necessary level of symmetry human capital, information gaps, difference in skills of staff. Low level of asymmetry of social capital may stimulate the processes of its harmonization. However is the asymmetry is deep, the harmonization of social capital needs the stimuli from outside the organizations, e.g. by realizing joint projects financed from external sources or by administrative decisions of governments.

4.2. COMPLEMENTARITY AND SUBSTITUTION OF SOCIAL CAPITAL IN TRANSBORDER REGIONS

Complementarity and substitution of social capital of the organizations based in the territories of neighbouring countries are important factors of mutually profitable cooperation of governments, non-profit organizations and businesses. The variety of social capital is an important factor of generating the effects of synergy of cooperating units.

4.3. CREATION OF CRITICAL MASS OF SOCIAL CAPITAL IN TRANSBORDER REGIONS

Effective cooperation of subjects in transborder areas needs the creating of critical mass of social capital, mainly the organization of links of units that have complementary resources of social capital, as

well as establishing the networks of cooperation between units that have so-cial capital of substitutional character. Critical mass of social capital, both complementary and substitutional, is the prerequisite of effective cooperation of effective competition and achiev-ing the effects of scale.

5. INSTITUTIONAL CAPITAL IN TRANSBORDER REGIONS

Creation, development and maintenance of common institutional capital in transborder re-gions seems to be the condition sine qua non effective cooperation of people and organizations from neighbouring countries.

5.1. SYMMETRY AND ASYMMETRY OF INSTITUTIONAL CAPITAL IN TRANSBORDER REGIONS

Symmetry of institutional capital is based on harmonization of laws, procedures, organiza-tional structures and building common institutions of supervision and control of transborder processes and systems, e.g. border control, customs, common investment projects, environ-mental control, common social services (incl. health, education, social care etc.), cooperation of system of security and justice.

Regional and central governments should pay attention especially on harmonization of laws and procedures in all fields important for transborder cooperation. It is also necessary to provide full transparency of these laws and procedures by organizing common transborder information system on laws, administrative procedures and on organization and functioning of governments and cooperating institutions.

Asymmetry of institutional capital is the relict of the past, when borders between countries were oriented on isolation of people and economies. In open, democratic societies the institu-tional asymmetries that are still existing, should be limited and eliminated in the process of cooperation of central and local governments. The experiences of the European Union in harmonizing laws, procedures and institutions can be good example of building common in-stitutional capital on international level.

5.2. COMPLEMENTARITY AND SUBSTITUTION OF INSTITUTIONAL CAPITAL IN TRANSBORDER REGIONS

Institutional environment of transborder regions is diversified. Laws, regulations, procedures and the implementation of laws and procedures in practice are different in the countries of transborder areas. Those differences may hamper the possibilities of cooperation and development. But in specific cases the differences of institutional capital may create the differences of potentials between countries and may play the role of factors stimulating the cooperation and trade.

Because of that, central and regional governments should be interested in optimizing the development of institutional capital by harmonizing laws, procedures and organizing common institutions and regulators of institutional environment.

The harmonization should be oriented on the eliminating of contradictions between laws and procedures, elimination of their duplication, effective use of complementarity and substitution of institutions on the territory of transborder region as a whole. Careful analysis of complementarity and substitution of institutional capital is necessary for effective harmonization and development of common institutional capital.

5.3. CREATION OF CRITICAL MASS OF INSTITUTIONAL CAPITAL IN TRANSBORDER REGIONS

For each domain of cultural, social and economic life critical mass of harmonized institutional capital is necessary. By critical mass of institutional capital of concrete branch, sector, domain of cultural or social activities, we understand the complex of harmonized and coordinated laws, regulations, procedures and practices of institutions of all countries of transborder region, necessary for creating institutional frameworks of effective development and activities of individuals and organizations. In many branches of economy and social life this is rather the goal to be achieved than the reality. Anyway the governments should take the creation of critical mass of institutional capital for each domain

important for the development of trans-border region as their task of utmost priority.

For example, in transborder tourist area the priority should be the creation of critical mass of institutional capital by harmonizing laws and regulation relevant to tourism and by providing informational transparency of all procedures connected with tourism. In the transborder region involved in international transit the critical mass of institutional capital will contain the harmonization of laws and regulations of border crossing, customs, activities of businesses providing services connected with transit, etc.

Creating critical mass of institutional capital for each sector of economy and social activity important for the development of transborder region is the prerequisite of development and effective use of other forms of capital and of other kinds of resources of regions.

5.4. INSTITUTIONAL PREREQUISITES OF DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF HUMAN CAPITAL AND SOCIAL CAPITAL IN TRANSBORDER REGIONS

As it was mentioned above, modern open, knowledge – driven economy is characterized by deep institutional interventionism⁶. In transborder regions institutional interventionism has much stronger impact than on the same processes on the level of national economy. Because of that the building of common, harmonized institutional capital is the prerequisite of use and development of other forms of capital and of other resources of transborder areas. Common institutional capital in the form of harmonized laws, regulations, administrative procedures and infrastructural information systems managed or coordinated on transborder level is duty of central governments, but especially the duty of government of transborder regions

⁶ Olenski J., op.cit.

6. CONCLUSIONS

6.1. Building common human, social and institutional capital for transborder regions is necessary for more effective development of these regions in more open, market and knowledge driven economies

6.2. For each domain of cultural, social and economic activities in transborder areas human, social and institutional capital for each national segment of transborder region should be defined.

6.3. Analysis and monitoring of symmetry and asymmetries as well as complementarity and substitution of resources of human, social and institutional capital is the task of researchers and experts involved in supporting the governments, non - profit organizations, NGO's and businesses.

6.4. International cooperation of research institutes in transborder regions in the field of identification, analysis and evaluation of the resources of human, social and institutional capital shall create the resources of knowledge necessary for proper governance in transborder regions.

6.5. The critical mass of each kind of capital (human, social, institutional) should be defined for each transborder process and system.

6.6. Theory and methods of identification, classification and measuring of human, social and institutional capital for transborder regions is the entire part of transborder economics as the discipline of economic sciences.

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SUMMARY

The specificity and role of human, social and institutional capital in the development of trans-border regions are analyzed. Methodological problems of identification of symmetry and asymmetry, complementarity and substitution of human, social and institutional capital in heterogeneous political environment of transborder regions are specified and discussed. The need building critical mass of human, social and institutional capital for transborder processes, systems and organizations is expressed. Cooperation of research institutes, NGO's and governments is necessary for the elaboration of methods, forms and tools of optimal use and creation of common resources of human, social and institutional capital in transborder regions.

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CLASSIFICATION OF CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION ACTORS

On the basis of summarizing the current research methodology, concepts and theories, author's approach to the classification of actors of cross-border cooperation is formulated. This research can be applied to analyze the effects of international life and become a methodological basis for sociological research in the field of cross-border cooperation.

Keywords: *actor, cross-border cooperation, the state, civil society, international organizations, region.*

Despite the large number of publications on the subject of cross-border cooperation as a form of international cooperation and its impact on the political and social life of states and some of their regions, methodology and tools of such research are not sufficiently developed in modern domestic science. In particular, this applies to the classification of actors of cross-border cooperation. From the perspective of Ukrainian researcher V.I. Honin, building a model of international relations involves distinguishing typological differences of components of this multidimensional system, defining the nature of a number of structures that integrate it into wholeness, and considering their inherent mechanisms of interaction of subjects [6].

Therefore, the purpose of this paper is to determine basic definition of cross-border cooperation actors and their characteristics in order to clarify methodological design of social research in this area.

Famous French sociologist A. Touraine makes distinction between the concepts of “actor”, “subject” and “agent”. He emphasizes that “... to be a subject means to want to become an actor, that is to change one’s environment instead of remaining completely dependent on it” [7]. In international relations theory is also often used the term “player”, borrowed from intercommunicative sociology, supporters of which often give it an advantage over other terms to describe the actors included in the extensive network of global interdependence. Therefore, in literature are quite commonly used such terms as “game” (“game space”) and “stakes” (“stake” meaning a consent of “player” with the terms and rules of the game, and most importantly, his willingness to take risks in a situation of uncertainty in order to achieve his goals). Herewith, the terms “player” and “actor” are often used interchangeably. “The Game Space” - wrote the famous French sociologist - is “a set of options, in which various actors, in accordance with how they position themselves in the moment, on the basis of objectively existing options generate strategies that prompt them to make stakes” [7]. As for the most widespread in international relations theory term “international actor”, it refers to any actor who takes an active part in international processes. However, as noted A. Touraine, if the basic characteristic of a subject is his desire not “to be a pawn in the system”, the actor’s characteristic is his ability to act and actively change the environment. One of the main distinctions between the concepts of an actor and a subject is that the actor correlates to the strategy. Second distinction is that it is not related to intersubjectivity. Finally, the third distinction is that it is associated with the search for identity.

If we are to proceed to classification of cross-border cooperation actors, we can distinguish the following levels and their types.

1. National level (governmental institutions).

Conceptually, the process of regionalization takes place mostly at the national level and helps to strengthen sub-national relations, whilst the process of European integration takes place at the supranational level. However, these two processes are interrelated and at present time to some extent are in agreement, such as in achieving consensus, which provides adequate compensation to the interests of individual

participants, and is manifested in the convergence of agreements in the formation of the Common Economic, monetary union, as the needs of redistribution are also defined by regional policy [4].

It is the state that has a key role in the establishment and continuous improvement of conceptual frameworks, institutional mechanisms for the implementation of regional policy, as well as local implementation of programs and projects, because it represents national interests.

Commonality of legal framework, uniform prices and tariffs, free flow of goods and capital within a country are factors conducive to the spread of horizontal integration of reproduction processes on the basis of regional cooperation. Lack of administrative levers of influence on production and marketing orientation of enterprises, reinforces the importance of market control levers management of counterparties choice. Interregional cooperation relies on personal contacts of partners due to economic needs, aimed at establishing and deepening economic, social, scientific, technical, environmental, cultural and other relations between the regions [2]. Interregional cooperation is a tool for solving internal regional problems not based on competition to attract centralized financial resources, obtain budget subsidies and subventions or regional tax preferences, but on the efficient use of resources of the region. This reduces the burden on the state budget to address the issues of local, regional development.

2. International Organizations.

The modern theory of international relations have long departed from the interpretation of nation states as the only actors on the international scene. The very nation-state in the modern interpretation is a jurisdiction over a territory, political and administrative apparatus, and the state does not recognize any constitutional power higher than its own. [9] However, as some researchers note, although the concept of sovereignty and independence are often used as synonyms, there is still a difference between them. Sovereignty is primarily a legal concept, while independence is more of a political issue. Some scientists rush to draw conclusions about the decline of the role of states in the international arena, and about the reverse process of increasing impact and importance of non-state actors. Objective processes caused

the formation of new theories that seek to explain the new reality, in particular the theory of representatives of transnationalism - “complex interdependence” - R. Cohen and J. Nye.

If we use standard classification, all non-state actors can be classified into two categories: international intergovernmental organization (IGO) (non-state actors created by nation-states) and international non-governmental organization (NGO) (non-state actors created by a group of persons, business or other social agents). [8] IGO - is a voluntary association of sovereign states, formed to implement many of the purposes for which the states wish to cooperate within the formal structure, but which they can not implement themselves. Particularly active in creating IGO are stronger states wishing to protect their interests. IGO can be classified by an extent (global and regional) and functions (political, economic, social and environmental). IGO kind of complement national state and play an important role in providing funds for cooperation between political entities. Influence of IGO depends on the ability of member governments to use their own reserves and powers.

Non-governmental organizations are institutions that are formed by non-state actors, or at least one party of these organizations is not a state. There are many types of non-governmental organizations, including transnational organizations, those organized by the government, regulated by the government, business, civil society organizations, advocacy, and supposedly anti-governmental organizations. Their number is constantly increasing, and their impact on international politics is growing. NGOs, in turn, can be classified using the approach of M. Ataman who defines:

1) Multinationals (large corporations with branches and internal hierarchy that operate simultaneously in many countries);

2) National and ethnic movements (in areas that integrate many ethnic communities in one country, (which is relevant to the Carpathian region) ;

3) Epistemic communities (experts and scientists involved in the development of public policy and providing technical expertise to enhance international cooperation);

4) Religious and humanitarian organizations (Council of Europe, European Commission on Human Rights, Green Peace, Amnesty International and others);

5) Terrorist groups and structures engaged in illegal smuggling (of people, drugs, weapons, etc.) [8].

Thus, non-state actors of international relations play an important role in foreign policy and in decision-making of nation-states and significantly affect their foreign policy behavior, with the potential of lobby not only in domestic but also in international politics.

3. Regional institutional level.

Effective administrative structure not only at national but also at regional and local levels is a crucial condition for success of public-private partnerships. In the context of balanced sustainable development particularly important in the regional dimension is community sector (because it performs a social function), which has a significant proportion and acts as a multiplier of economic development and provider of jobs.

Economic growth and demographic changes both affect the communal needs for quality, quantity and allocation of resources.

Local and regional development has an impact on economic development and the labor market. Cross-border cooperation can ensure economic potential growth through information sharing and joint development projects in such areas as:

- Improvement of tourism infrastructure, development and implementation of joint projects;
- Development of rural space: development of agriculture and forestry, environmental protection, restoration of villages, development of crafts, services, tourism, sales of goods.
- Development of professional regional marketing;
- Development of cross-border regional planning as a basis for solving problems of cross-border infrastructure development and optimal use of public funds;
- Strengthening entrepreneurship, small and medium enterprises, supporting local employment initiatives;

- Adaptation of the labor market;
- Fundraising for education, culture, health [5, p. 315-316];

4. Civil Society.

Civil society is a complex and contradictory phenomenon. On the one hand, it is a historically changeable phenomenon that defies reductionist explanation, on the other hand - a process in which can be distinguished stable tendency towards the emancipation of man and transformation of patrial to citizen based on sustainable struggle for freedom and inviolability of human rights. Civil society unfolds under the conditions of circumstantial and acquired freedom. But most significant is the existential freedom of human self-determination, because it is most closely related to creative ethic of responsibility.

R. Dahrendorf defined three main features of civil society. The first feature he believed to be the diversity of its components, i.e. maximal polystructuring. Second is the existence of many autonomous organizations and institutions. Third is a specific “spirit” of the society, which he defined as civic consciousness [1].

Complementarity (or subsidiarity) is registered at the level of cooperation efforts, abilities and skills in social interactions and expressed in synergy or social order based on the manifestation of individual and group freedom of action. Component institution of complementarity is that it is performed in responsibility, that creates field of social and ethical interaction [3].

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На основании обобщения методологии существующих исследовательских концептов, теорий и подходов определена основная классификация актеров трансграничного взаимодействия, которая может служить моделью для анализа явлений международной жизни и быть методологической основой при проведении социологических исследований в области трансграничного сотрудничества.

Ключевые слова: актер, трансграничное сотрудничество, государство, гражданское общество, международные организации, регион.

On the basis of summary of existing research methodology concepts, theories and approaches defined the basic classification of cross-border cooperation of actors that can serve as a model for analyzing the phenomena of international life and be the methodology of sociological research in the field of cross-border cooperation.

Keywords: actor, cross-border cooperation, the government, civil society, international organizations, region.

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METHODS AND RESULTS OF TWO BORDER RESEARCHES ON THE HUNGARIAN-UKRAINIAN- SLOVAKIAN TRI-BORDER AREA

Based on the consequences of two researches carried out on the Hungarian-Ukrainian-Slovakian tri-border area we tried to reveal the region's social processes especially the effect of the border on the inhabitants. It was also the goal to explore cross border networks, and differences between the Hungarian-Slovakian and the Hungarian-Ukrainian border.

The aim of this paper is twofold. First to present some migration and network-related results of a former border project (Border as a complex system¹) while the second part is addressed to the methods being used and developed in our present research, (EUBORDERREGIONS²).

Keywords Hungarian-Ukrainian tri-border area, methodology, network, migration, youth, income generation

Some results of the “Border as complex system” project

In summer 2011 Eötvös Loránd University (Budapest) has conducted a research at the Ukrainian-Slovakian-Hungarian tri-border territory using both quantitative and qualitative methods. In our presentation we summarized the outcomes of three subtopics: border's

¹ The fieldwork and the research “*Border as a complex system*” was part of the program „*For Knowledge on a European Scale, ELTE*”, supported by the European Union and co-financed by the European Social Fund (grant agreement no. TAMOP 4.2.1/B-09/1/KMR-2010-0003)
<http://kp.elte.hu/nagy-rendszerek/kutatocsoportok/a-hatar-mint-komplex-rendszer-1>

² <http://euborderregions.eu/en>

effects on organizational networks, features of income generation abroad and students' perception of the border.

Bridges and barriers – borders' effects on organizational networks

The data were collected through personnel and phone interviews using snowball sample. The whole dataset contains 208 actors nominated by 60 organizations.

In the overall data most of the organizations are state owned (56%) and have Hungarian seats (51%). As the first table shows below, the distribution of organizations by sector is similar in the three countries. The actors – around 55 percent - are mostly state-owned organizations, while there is only 16-17 percent who work in the business sector. We experienced a small difference in the proportion of the civil organizations and the church: Ukraine has the more religious actors, but the fewer NGO-s in the network.

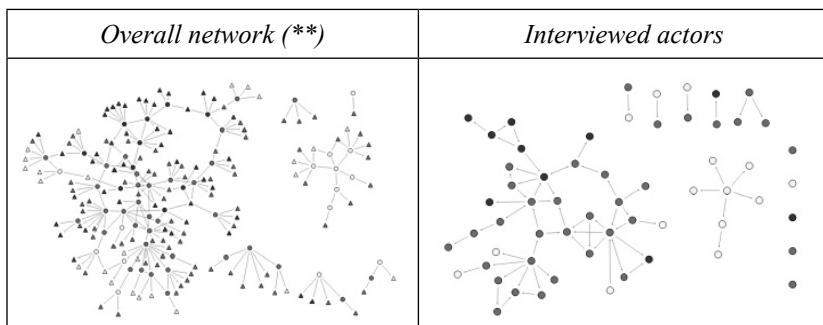
1. Table

Organizations by sector and country in % (N)

	Governmental	Business	NGO	Religious	SUM
Hungary	(60) 56	(18) 17	(25) 24	(4) 4	(107) 100
Slovakia	(21) 53	(6) 15	(9) 23	(4) 10	(40) 100
Ukraine	(33) 59	(9) 16	(7) 13	(7) 13	(56) 100
SUM	(114) 56	(33) 16	(41) 20	(15) 7	(203) 100

The network is organized into one large (162 actors, 78%) and six smaller components. There is only one single-national component. In this network, relations are centred at the interviewed organizations and form star shape. There is only a few closed shapes (e.g. triplets and clicks) formed.

Figure: The overall network and the network of the interviewed actors ()*



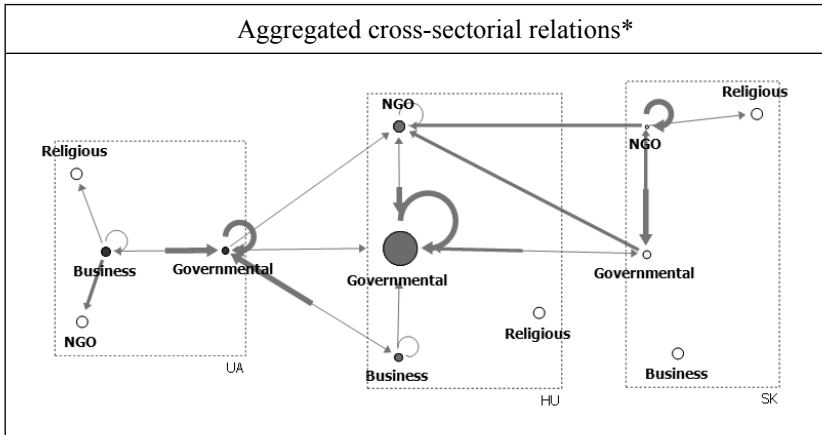
() Red refers to Hungary, yellow Slovakia, blue Ukraine.*

*(**) Circle shaped nodes were interviewed.*

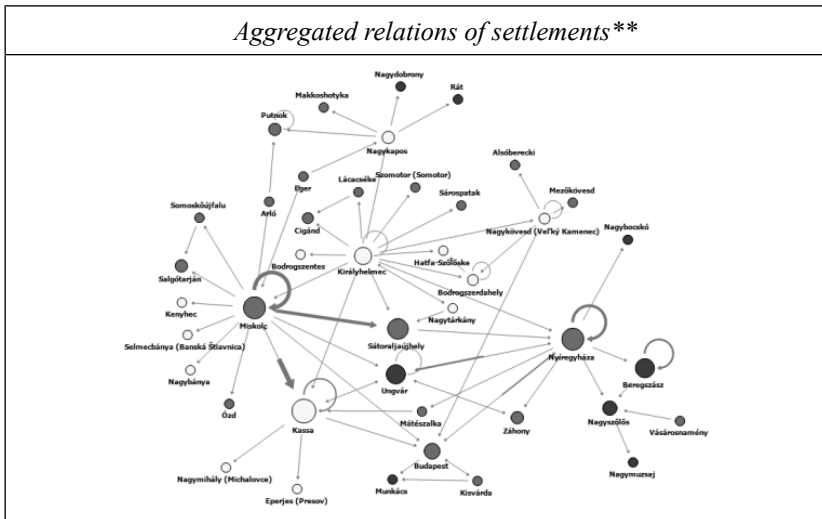
The network of the interviewed actors shows different results: this network has only sixty actors and it is much more connected. Although there are similarities – there is also one large component consists of the sixty-two percent of organizations – there are many differences compared to the overall network: Here we are able to identify the central actors, closed shapes, triplets and so on.

Sectorial relations are highly influenced by the borders. Mostly the sectors are connected to each other inside the countries. As we see on Figure 2. although in Hungary the church, in Slovakia the business sector remains separated, but the other sectors are connected to at least one other sector's organizations. Cross-border picture here is different: the main broker of relations is the state. Hungarian state-owned actors have relations to both Ukrainian and Slovakian actors, as we see mostly to state-owned organizations. Church remains closed inside the countries in all cases, while civic actors work differently in Ukraine (they have just in-country relations), and in the other two cases: there is a relatively strong and vital connection among the civic sectors of Slovakia and Hungary.

2. Figure: Sectoral and settlement network



(*) The letters sign the countries (HU=Hungary, UA=Ukraine, SK=Slovakia). The size of the nodes refers to the number of outgoing relations a node has. Empty nodes have less than 10 outgoing relations. The line thickness is proportionate with the strength of ties.



(**) The line-thickness refers to the strength (number) of ties. The node size refers to the number of out-going ties.

The connection among countries is embedded in cultural similarity: as the right picture of Figure 2 shows the connected settlements have Hungarian majority or a great Hungarian minority in Slovakia and Ukraine as well. Relations among Hungary and the other two countries show a different structure. Larger Hungarian cities, like Miskolc have vital relations to smaller villages and towns in Slovakia. Besides that, smaller settlements on the different sides of the border have relations with each other. The Ukrainian-Hungarian networks are smaller and mainly formed among larger cities. Uzhhorod and Berehove collects the relations on the Ukrainian side, while Nyíregyháza in Hungary.

Brokerage

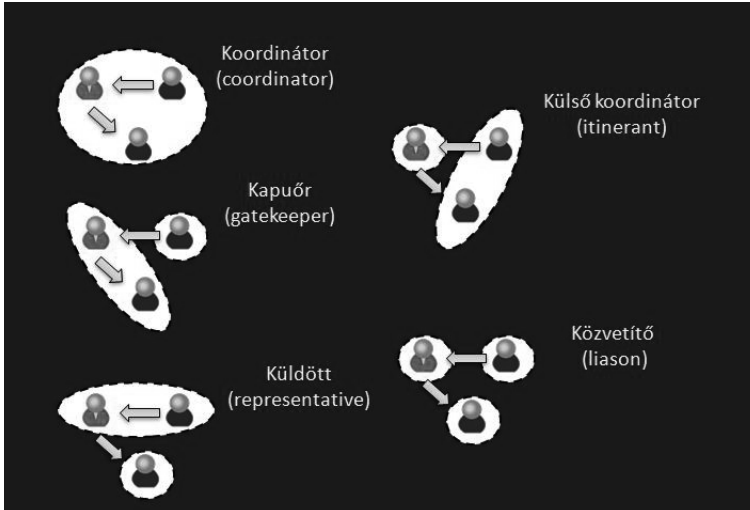
According to Granovetter (1973) brokers are the connection between different groups even they have only one connection with each of them. The concept of broker was developed more precisely by Gould and Fernandez (1989) as they determined five types of it.

The coordinator's role is important within a group. It is an actor which has in and out coming connections as well, so it is able to mediate among other actors or to provide the flow of information.

With consideration of two groups' relation, Gould and Fernandez identify three types. The gatekeeper only receives the incoming ties without trying to connect to others. The representative represents the groups (for example a country abroad), while the itinerant is the member of one group, but also establishes connections to members of an outside group. For example if the relation between a mother and her child is problematic, a psychologist can help them to solve their problem.

And finally liason can be identified in case of at least three different groups. This role coordinates between two other groups. Using the previous family example if a couple divorced and they do not want to communicate with each other a jurist can mediate between them.

3. Figure: Five types of brokerage



In our analysis we show the actors brokerage roles regarding to the three countries (see Table 2). In Hungary and Ukraine we can identify coordinators but this role is almost missing in Slovakia. In Hungary the governmental organizations are the basic coordinators, but the business actors have an important role in Ukraine, as well.

The missing liason shows that there is a structural hole among the three countries because there is no organization which could coordinate the cooperation between them.

The results of the brokerage show us that there are organizations and actors which are inherently mediators, for example chambers and consuls. The Hungarian consul in Uzhhorod has an important role but we cannot see a similar actor on the other side of the border. The Hungarian consul in Kosice is also almost invisible and since the Slovakian consul's seat is outside the region (in South-East-Hungary) we are not able to compare their roles. Slovakia has a consul in Uzhhorod, while Ukraine has one in Presov but none of the actors mentioned them. To summarize, the efficiency of governmental brokers are low, but actors from other sectors are not able to fulfil these roles.

2. Table

Brokerage results

Name	Country	Coordinator	Gatekeeper	Representative	Itinerant	Liason	SUM
Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg County Government	HU	14	0	9	0	0	23
VÁTI Hungarian Non-profit Limited Liability Company for Regional Development and Town Planning	HU	11	4	2	0	1	18
Kiút Regional Development Association (Záhony)	HU	6	3	1	1	0	11
Hungarian-Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	HU	0	0	6	5	0	11
Bodrog Tour, Tourist-Information Centre	SK	3	0	2	0	0	5
Nagykövesd Local Government	SK	1	0	4	0	0	5
HUSKROA	SK	0	2	0	1	1	4
University Safarik Kosice	SK	0	3	0	0	0	3
Hungarian Consul in Uzshorod	UA	0	0	5	8	0	13
ADVANCE Transcarpathian Advocacy and Development Centre	UA	6	0	2	0	0	8
Lear	UA	7	0	0	0	0	7
BeregKábel GMBH	UA	5	0	0	0	0	5

Income generation and labour market

The survey based research was led by Endre Sik and Júlia Koltai³. The observed territory was the region which is approximately 50-50 km from the border lines, where 55 settlements were selected randomly. With the help of stratified sampling method 1202 respondents were selected from the 18-65 age group using special quotas in the case of ethnic Hungarians in Slovakia and Ukraine⁴.

There were two main questions:

- How extensive is income generation abroad (as employee or as entrepreneur) in the tri-border region?
- Which factors influence the chance of foreign income generation in this region?

1. table

Income generation abroad - employment and entrepreneurship by border region, country and ethnicity (%)

	Hungarian-Slovakian border region			Hungarian-Ukrainian border region			Total
	Hungarians living in Hungary	Ethnic Hungarians living in Slovakia	Slovakians	Hungarians living in Hungary	Ethnic Hungarians living in Ukraine	Ukrainians	
N	300	200	100	302	200	100	1202
Income generation abroad	6	18	19	5	17	14	11
Employment (part of income generation)	4	12	10	1	11	8	6
Entrepreneurship	3	8	10	4	9	7	6

The results of the multivariate analysis suggest that those groups that have a good labour market position (ie. younger, male, qualified) are the ones who mainly move in connection with income generation. These practices are generally embedded in other foreign activities of the individual or the household: those who have adequate human resources (ie. language knowledge) and social capital (ie. connections) are the most likely to move.

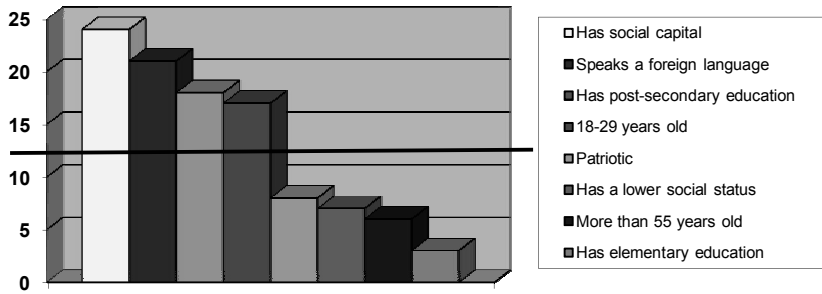
³ EndreSik – senior researcher at TÁRKI Research Institute, professor at Eötvös-Loránd University

JúliaKoltai – assistant professor at EötvösLoránd University

⁴ mother tongue was the selection criteria in case of these groups

1. chart

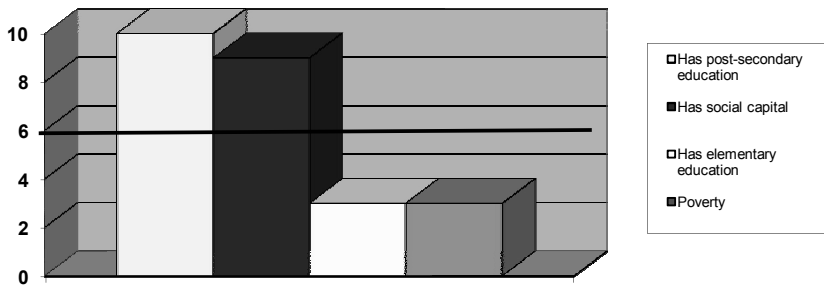
Income generation abroad – values that derive significantly from the mean (13%) by social groups (%)



Working abroad is most likely among those who are dissatisfied and have the appropriate human capital and demographic profile, while the chance to run a business is higher among “smugglers” who have an enterprise within the family and who are likely to be moody due to the problems of frequent border crossing.

2. chart

Enterprise abroad – values that derive significantly from the mean (6%) by social groups (%)



School in the border region

Another part of the research focused on high school students and its aim was to explore the Hungarian and ethnic Hungarian students’ opinion on the possibilities and barriers caused by the tri-border. The researchers – Dorka Sik and Judit Szécsi - chose four

secondary schools which have Hungarian students in the tri-border area. In these institutions 9 focus groups were organized with the students, and semi-structured interviews were taken with the head of the schools.

The selected institutions: Gymnázium Kráľovský Chlmec (Slovakia), Bethlen Gábor High School, Berehove (Ukraine), Kossuth Lajos (No. 4.) Secondary School (Berehove, Ukraine), Kossuth Lajos High School, Vocational School and Dormitory (Sátoraljaújhely, Hungary)

The discussed topics can be arranged along 4 dimensions: language, identity, welfare and closed vs. opened borders. Based on these, three types of students can be formed:

- (1) “Leavers”: those who would like to spend some time (shorter or longer period) in Hungary (in the case of ethnic Hungarians) or in Western Europe in order to work or study there
- (2) “Integrated”: they stay in their country of origin, they learn the language of the state and focus on how to make their living there
- (3) “Stayers”: they won’t leave their country of origin either, but there are two sub-groups based on whether (a) they make compromises (ie. learning the language), approaching the neighboring nations with an open attitude or (b) they form a close up, considering their presence in the country as a mission.

In the case of the Slovakian-Hungarian border it seems that the plans including mobility and further education are more of an economic issue. “Getting by” is the key expression and the most important factor of motivation, based on which the youngsters make their decision. But in Berehove due to the strong presence of the border the motifs of national identity and the Hungarian patriotic elements are more tangible and distinct when it comes to future plans. While students in Kráľovský Chlmec “*go over to Hungary*”, the students from Berehove “*go out to Hungary*.”⁵

⁵ „*kimennek Magyarba*” - „*átmennek Magyarba*”

About the methods being used in EUBORDERREGIONS project

EUROBORDERREGION is a 4 year-long FP7 project launched in 2011 involving 14 partners with the main objective to compare the different types of economic, social and territorial cohesion as well as regional development potentials observed on the outer borders of the EU.

The mixed methodology (combining qualitative and quantitative methods) being used within the framework of the project enables us to carry out a deep analysis combining the benefits of the two kinds of researches. Since the project is partially based on the findings and methods of the former project “*Border as a complex system*”, we had the possibility to develop the methods and learn from past experiences.

We decided to use a mixed methodology engaging qualitative and quantitative methods including (1) expert interviews and mapping of homepages, (2) structured observations, (3) media analysis, (4) stakeholders’ forum and (5) analysis of statistical data⁶ in order to carry out a comprehensive report not leaving out geographical, statistical, economic, historical and geopolitical aspects.

In accordance with the goals of the project the aim of expert interviews (1) is to gain information about the opinion of stakeholders about

- CBC participation,
- the effects of CBC projects on the area and the organization,
- and the effect of the proximity of the border on the region on the life of certain actors (local governments, inhabitants, NGO-s).

Altogether 50 expert interviews will be conducted (25 from each side of the border⁶) with the representatives of the most important organizations including governmental and non-governmental organizations, entrepreneurs, schools and churches. Before starting the interviews the key information about the organization will be put together into a data base with a strong focus on the cross-border relations appearing on home pages serving as an important basis of

⁶ In the present paper the qualitative methods will be introduced.

the network-analysis. To be able to conduct the network analysis properly we decided to use the snowball sampling method to gain new participants to the interviews.

The structured observation (2) is a rather soft/anthropological tool and is arranged around four main activities. The first one is the border-traffic observation which is carried out four times in the observation year (one week in each of the four seasons). The almost random allocation of observation units allows us to make conclusions about the nature and extent of the traffic. The second one aims to compare exchange rates of the national currencies (on both side of the border) with the rate appearing on the homepage of the national bank. The third tool aims to explore the price differences among the most popular goods (including gas) being sold on both side of the border. We compare the price of gas as well as certain products' prices. The goods selected are commonly known as "home", "neighbour" and "multinational" products in the shops and open markets of Ukraine and Hungary.

Media representation of the neighbouring country is also to be observed. We analyse the content of online and offline media (3) examining the homepages of settlements in the border area, while also analysing the products of the popular printed media available on each side of the border.

Based on our experience of a former expert workshop and using the results of the current research we will set up two stakeholders' forum (4) on both side of the border inviting the most important actors. The analysis of the forums will be incorporated into the final study.

List of sources

1. ***Granovetter, M. (1973): The strength of weak ties. American Journal of Sociology, 78. 1360-1380.***
2. ***Gould, J. - Fernandez, J. (1989): Structures of mediation: A formal approach to brokerage in transaction networks. Sociological Methodology, 89-126.***

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HOMOGENEITY OF THE EUROPEAN TERRITORIAL LAYOUT FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

“What we have is the first non-imperial empire... We have twenty-seven countries that fully decided to work together and to pool their sovereignty. I believe it is a great construction and we should be proud of it.”

José Manuel Barroso

Abstract: *The boundary is a dynamic value in terms of time. The EU enlargement process is now for its citizens the substitute of the history, which Europeans always understood as progress, linear progression from one to the other tees.*

During the feudal period state borders often united heterogeneous territories, the convergence of which had been ensured by “dei gratia” legitimacy of monarchs. When the “Spring of Nations” in the mid-19th Century occurred, other aspects of the territorial organization came to the fore: ethnic, linguistic or religious. Today, the Union is riddled with many geographic, economic, cultural, mental boundaries yet. Where is the final frontier expansion? Will Europe respects similar entities as herself - Islamic world and Russian Eurasia, or try to build a bridgehead in them?

So far, valid response can be found in Article 49 of the Maastricht Treaty from 1992 in conjunction with the European Council Declaration, containing so called Copenhagen criteria (1993). The criteria define the principles of enlargement as follows: the right of access belongs to any country that shares concrete (political, legal, economic) values, and is in the same time geographically European country. But already today Europe is a geographical term subject to a political assessment. Europe’s territory is yet and will be henceforward most likely defined by its mental, and not by strictly speaking geographical, boundaries.

Where is Eastern Partnership in this regard today? – Will it be a “frontier”, border seen as a broad transition zone, or Europe one day will cross the line of convergence (which is just too clear in Ukraine between the western and eastern regions) and instead of “cordon sanitaire” will see space for further expansion in this territory, far beyond its final mental boundaries?

Homogenous realm - it is from historical point of view a contradiction in adjective, on the other hand, the image created by a composition of dissimilar parts is suggesting future state of territorial layout after a termination or weakening of unifying authority – the picture made by seismic lines of disintegration.

Expanding boundary defined American mentality in the 18th and 19th centuries. The Manifest destiny has granted to Americans easily understandable perspective of national territory enlargement to the borders of the continent, from “ocean to ocean”. Another realm that perceived expansion as its existential principle, the Roman Empire, at some point had to proceed to deliberate implosion. During the reign of Emperor Hadrian and Antoninus Pius they left the province in Mesopotamia and in Britannia the Romans withdrew back to the Hadrian Wall. During the great crisis of the third century and Romans evacuated province of Dacia also. Transition to the defensive and shortening lines of defence was the first, still unclear “writing on the wall” on the road to the extinction of the Western Empire.¹ Heir of Roman expansionist mentality, Ottoman Empire, underwent a continuous implosion, once it reached the limit of maximum distance from its logistic and organizational centre in the south of the Balkans and continuing offensive happened technically impossible to the armed forces. In 1867 there was the Alaska purchase. Russia ceased to be the realm of three continents in exchange for a relatively small amount of dollars but considerably greater amount of spared rubles.²

¹ Curry, A.: The boundaries of the Roman Empire. National Geographic magazine, Issue September 2012, pp. 46 - 87.

² Tindall, G. B., Shi, D. E.: Dějiny Spojených států Amerických. Lidové noviny. Praha 1996, p. 453.

Nowadays, the enlargement process of the European Union represents to the Europeans a history, the content of which since the Enlightenment optimism era is understood as an all-round development, an advance in a linear fashion for improvement - and enlargement, which should be equivalent for progress in respect of any territory. Lev Nikolayevich Gumilev has described the current state of Europe as achievement of a stage of inertia in the process of ethnogenesis, meaning that the local ethnos passed through climax phase characteristic by external flourishing of culture. Now is in the state of inertia, in which although “the big states are shaped, and there is a building and accumulation of material wealth”³ but energy is being depleted increasingly, and life is on the flywheel. The thought of “sustainability” and “absorption capacity” are creeping more and more. But Europe still fills the old debts and the enlargement process continues, intends to exceed the traditionally and geographically defined Europe.

Croesus, king of Lydia, was once asking Delphic oracle what happens when his army crosses the border river. Oracle is answer was: “Then a great empire will be destroyed.” King rejoiced and boldly ventured into the adventure. He did not realize, however, that the oracle did not speak of a hostile empire, but of his own kingdom. In connection with its expansion Europe must postulate two basic questions: how far could stretch its limits in order to avoid subsequent centrifugal tendencies in the periphery? And Europe should also ask whether the competing geopolitical entity - Russian Eurasia and the Islamic world would respect any European bridgehead in the sphere of interest of theirs own.

The EU membership is established by the Treaty of Accession to the European Union.⁴ The treaty concludes on the one hand EU Member States and on the other acceding State or States. For the acquisition force needs to be ratified by all States Parties.

Terms of membership are governed by Article 49 of the Treaty on European Union (TEU). This article provides not only the material

³ Gumil'jov, L. N.: *Od Rusi k Rusku*. Praha 2012, p. 18.

⁴ Zmluva o Európskej únii. Ú. v. EÚ C 326, 26.10.2012, s. 13 – 390, <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:12012M/TXT:SK:PDF>

conditions of membership, i.e. what conditions the state must meet in order to become a member of the EU, but as well as process conditions, i.e. the procedure to apply for membership of the EU.

The Article reads as follows: „Any European State which respects the values referred to in Article 2 and is committed to promoting them may apply to become a member of the Union. The European Parliament and national Parliaments shall be notified of this application. The Applicant State shall address its application to the Council, which shall act unanimously after consulting the Commission and after receiving the consent of the European Parliament, which shall act by a majority of its component members. The conditions of eligibility agreed upon by the European Council shall be taken into account. The conditions of admission and the adjustments to the Treaties on which the Union is founded, which such admission entails, shall be the subject of an agreement between the Member States and the Applicant State. This agreement shall be submitted for ratification by all the contracting States in accordance with their respective constitutional requirements.”

The requirements for membership in the EU under Article 49 TEU are therefore as follows:

1. The member country may become only European state
2. The State must respect the values referred in Article 2 TEU

The article 2 TEU: „The Union is founded on the values of respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities. These values are common to the Member States in a society in which pluralism, non-discrimination, tolerance, justice, solidarity and equality between women and men prevail. “

The examination of whether the State respects these values does not take place only at the time of accession negotiations, but also during the membership of the State in the European Union. Article 7 TEU provides a procedure for the case that there is a clear risk of breaches or even mentioned values are violated.

3. It is necessary in accordance with Article 49 TEU to take into account the conditions of eligibility agreed upon by the European Council.

The European Council defined the conditions to be met from the side of the acceding State on the meeting in Copenhagen in 1993 and completed them during the meeting in Madrid in 1995. They are known as the Copenhagen criteria.

Membership criteria approved by the European Council can be divided into three categories:

- Political criteria: the existence of a stable institutional base assures the democracy, the rule of law, human rights and respect and protection for minorities
- Economic criteria: the existence of a functioning market economy, capacity to cope with competitive pressures within the Union
- Other criteria: ability to ensure fulfillment of the obligations arising from membership in the EU and the involvement in the implementation of the objectives of economic, monetary and political union in particular.

Copenhagen criteria which the country has to meet in order to gain membership in the EU implicitly refer to the concept of absorption capacity. „In Euro jargon this concept is understood as the need of the Union to define, or rather redefine itself and its potential in the light of further expansion.”⁵ Since 2005, after the failed referendums in France and the Netherlands on the European Constitution, is basically used as an argument against future enlargement of the EU.

The President of the European Council Wolfgang Schäuble in an interview given to the French newspaper *Le Monde* in January 2006 said that it is necessary to keep the promises which the EU gave to Bulgaria, Romania and to the Balkan countries and that after the accession of Turkey the enlargement should be stopped. “We should not continue, an important criterion is the absorption capacity.” If the EU wants to expand further, according Schäuble “Union must significantly improve its neighborhood policy.” He added that the definition of European borders is not just a matter of maps, but “also depends on the political decision. “ The former President of the European Council believed that it was necessary

⁵ http://www.europskaunia.sk/absorpcna_kapacita

to thoroughly discuss the dissatisfaction of Europeans and clarify what unites them.⁶

The criterion “European” is subject to political evaluation as all other criteria. Parts of Europe are today, of course, geographically non-European countries.⁷ Not only African Ceuta and Melilla, Asian island of Cyprus, or the overseas departments of France, the autonomous regions of Spain and Portugal, but one day probably Turkey, almost completely (97%) located in Asia. Greenland, the largest island in the world physiographically belongs to North America, but its 60,000 residents have citizenship of the European Union.

If Europe is a continent of shared values, it should be also a continent of the common mentality, which recognizes and prefers such a values. The Europe itself is extremely varied in every way (languages, customs, material culture, religion etc.). European fellowship of nations, from the ethnological point of view we could call it „superethnos“, is or will be (if the unification of Western and Eastern Europe respectively old and new member states, will terminate once from a psychological point of view) the result of the process in which more than origin, language, culture or ideology prevails the stereotypical behavior of everyday life. According to the above-mentioned Russian historian Gumiljov the bond of collectivity is a sense of „complementarity“ - a subconscious perception of the mutual sympathy and the community of people, the perception of the opposite between „us and them“ and of the distinction between „ours“ and “alien“.⁸ The true European boundaries are only mental ones.

The redefinition of internal European borders has already been in the past. Instead the territories of heterogeneous nature, converging together through “divine grace” granted to the legitimate monarch, we have since the “Spring of Nations” in the middle of the 19th century

⁶ <http://www.euractiv.sk/rozsirovanie/clanok/schussel-hranice-europy-su-politic-kym-rozhodnutim>, 25. 1. 2006

⁷ The European Union has on other continents either regions one of its member countries (Outermost Regions) or local authorities with a special relationship to one Member State of EU (Overseas Countries and Territories)

⁸ Gumiljov, L. N.: *Od Rusi k Rusku*. Praha 2012, p. 12.

the boundaries defined by new criteria. As a constitutive criteria of the territorial organization established themselves: nationality, language or religious affiliation.

However, where the process of revision of the territorial organization principles has not concluded yet for some reason, there is a time bomb often ticking and still getting louder. (Scotland, Catalonia, Basque Country, Flanders etc.). Even “invisible boundaries” remain within national units, which were united long ago, sometimes more than once. German West and Ost still not hold together entirely and for members of the “Northern League” Italy ends in Rome and their dream is to have a prosperous state, why not of the size of Slovenia. Canada as we know it will end when Quebec separates. Nevertheless, if the independent Scotland would emerge, from a European perspective few have happened. Just on the flag of the Union will be added next star (if it could be possible). But it will apply always and everywhere in the future? In Paris “à l’autre côté du Periph”⁹ is not so different world in terms of class nor the “zone of social deprivation”, but more likely an area where the adoption of the “French identity gift” was significantly problematized.

New “non-imperial” European empire (Eurosphere) is the area of influence interfering 20% of the world population in 109 countries on all continents. Within its context it is necessary to include primarily countries participating in the European Neighborhood Policy (ENP). It is the Eastern Partnership (2009) and its predecessor in efforts to avoid dividing lines between the EU and its neighbors, the Euro - Mediterranean Partnership (started 1995 like a Barcelona Process). Nature of the goals is common in both cases: gradual establishment of Free Trade Area, deepen of the respect for the European values (human rights, rule of law, democracy, the good government principle etc.), the political and security dialogue reinforcement and permeable border regime last but not least.

The outermost orbit of the satellites is represented by the Treaty of Cotonou (June 2000) between the EU and so called ACP countries.¹⁰

⁹ On the other side of the ring road t. j. on the Parisian suburbs, where mass riots broke out recently in 2007

¹⁰ Created by Georgetown agreement in 1975 it is The African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States.

British diplomat Sir Robert Cooper, member of the European Council on Foreign Relations, promotes “new liberal imperialism”. According to him the best response to now spreading global threats is “the cooperative empire.” He refers to Catherine the Great, who said that “there is no other ways of borders defend except to extend them” Critics, however, argue that it is not so much the spread of cooperation rather than a transition to coercion. ACP countries in exchange for a pot of money must to cope with the core principles and rules of the World Trade Organization, rather than with a principle of good governance. The new approach taken by the EU can be understood within the context of the hegemonic dominance of neoliberalism within political elites.¹¹

The concurrents of European Union represent two different groups: first one that believes himself to be cultural alternative to Europe (Commonwealth of Independent States, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), or also the communities that rose from a common past. For Europe, the Commonwealth of Nations and Francophonie should not be competitors in the true sense. Special ties connect world’s countries only to one of the European Union member. On the other hand, they are vital, expanding organizations and not the memorial associations to re-experiencing the memories of grand imperial past. For their future it is important that they are not looking for clients but built partner relationships within the community on strict egalitarian principles.

Using the metaphor of Nicholas Berdyaev - in Moscow they aren’t somehow yearning for a European groom for the Russian bride. Formerly, Russia in a German bureaucrat “adopted the false one as its chosen one, mistaken groom”. For Russian people imperialism in the Western sense is extraneous, but they gave humbly their power to build an imperialism, on which their heart was not interested”.¹² They do not want to repeat old mistakes. In any case Russia wants to go its own way in the 21st century. Belarus, Kazakhstan and Russia formed their own Customs Union in 2011 and some member states of the

¹¹ Hurt, S. R.: Co - operation and coercion? The Cotonou Agreement between the European Union and acp states and the end of the Lome Convention. *Third World Quarterly* Vol. 24, Issue 1, 2003, pp. 161 - 176.

¹² Berd’ajev, N. A.: *Duše Ruska*. Brno 1992, p. 18.

Commonwealth of Independent States , which is practically otherwise a symbolic organization, have signed a free trade agreement later in this year.

The Muslim world noted from the 70ies of the last century the advent of neo-fundamentalism and can hardly be surprising that the recent “Arab Spring” has brought to the power islamically oriented political parties in a number of countries. “It’s premature to assume that any of them, let alone all of them, will bring their respective countries out of the long Arab winter of authoritarian rule.”¹³ Impact radicals barely reached its apogee. Article 22 of the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam reads: “Everyone shall have the right to express his opinion freely in dry manner as would not be contrary to the principles of the Shari’ah.”¹⁴ In the future, Europe will be forced to admit more willingly than before, that the values on which is built have not universalistic claims. Not in the Muslim world at least.

Commonwealth of Nations is spread to all inhabited continents and in its countries one third of the world’s population lives. Core values of this community are compatible with those of EU (democracy, human rights, international peace, security, tolerance, respect, freedom of expression, rule of law, good governance, sustainable development, gender equality, protecting the environment, importance of civil society etc.).¹⁵ Newest, they are defined in the Charter of the Commonwealth, signed by Queen Elizabeth II. on 11th march 2013. If the community is defined by such values and goals, it is clear that the constitutional link to the previous British Empire is no longer a prerequisite for membership (Mozambique and Rwanda entered into the Commonwealth of Nations, although they had nothing to do with it previously) as well as the change of governmental form to a republican ceased essentially to mean termination of membership in the Commonwealth.

¹³ Totten, M. J.: Arab spring or Islamist winter? World Affairs; January – February 2012

¹⁴ Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam, 5. 8. 1990; <http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/instree/cairodeclaration.html>

¹⁵ Charter of the Commonwealth, 14. 12. 2012; <http://www.thecommonwealth.org/files/252053/FileName/CharteroftheCommonwealth>,

The organization “Francophonie” was founded in 1970 and heads of state began to meet up on the summits since 1986. However, summits held in Cotonou and Hanoi (1995, 1997 respectively), already started the tendency to give the cooperation a political dimension. Francophonie revised its charter, for first time occupied the post of its Secretary General and established new institutions with the aim to generate political influence in the future and thus become an active and dynamic player on the international scene. „Now the summits discuss major international political and economic matters, and organize cooperative programmes in a range of fields, such as agriculture, energy, culture, as well as the dissemination of scientific and technical information. When talking about community and what it actually takes to form and sustain one, is it likely that a common language would be enough?”¹⁶

Let’s go back to the Eastern Partnership and let us pose the question of what it should be. Optimistic voices argue that the European Union may not to define as “narrow west-centric intellectual construct.” The relativization of eastern border is a step in the right direction. “The provincial narrowing of the human world on the trade, GDP growth in numbers and statistics should be replaced by the broader „cultural” and cosmopolitan thinking. The good new vision of (Central European) West in this direction is therefore the further opening towards the East, but not with superiority of the type - “help build democracy to backward neighbors”, as so-called missionaries of the civil society are attempting henceforward. It is completely sufficient yet if the “new Europe” will be not closed for its immediate neighbors.”¹⁷ It is not about the admission of new members immediately. For the begin with the extending of the model of Polish - Ukrainian visa policy would be sufficient.

Eastern Partnership can of course remain what it has been so far: a wide transition zone, whose members share the benefits of the

¹⁶ Mason, M. K.: La Francophonie: History, Structure, Organization, and Philosophical Underpinnings; <http://www.moyak.com/papers/history-francophonie.html>

¹⁷ Buzalka, J.: Má Európa východnú hranicu, alebo aká bude Curzonova línia novej Európskej únie? <http://www.euractiv.sk/rozsirovanie/analiza/ma-europa-vychodnu-hranicu-alebo-aka-bude-curzonova-linia-no>

European Union enlargement in 2004, but under the conditions set out in the Action Plan, of course.

Or may even be something else - the way EU will break own farthest line of convergence, if will try to fully integrate any of the major countries of this part of the world. With acquisition of Ukraine, Europe could absorb Ukrainian “west - east” problem. Thus, instead of Ukraine like a part of a “cordon sanitaire” between Russia and Europe, Ukraine could become a place where Europe repeats the mistake of the king of Lydia. Just as in the case of the southern shores of the Mediterranean Sea, there could be crossed its mental boundary. The European Union would gain territory, which will be feeling “at home” outside the European Union.

Could Ukraine really be a “Trojan horse gift” to the European Union? According some Ukrainians scholars the different civilizational preferences in Ukrainian society, distinct on the regional division of the country, are the differences in the worldview essentially. “East” is a Soviet, of “Orthodox-Slavic” consciousness and what might be called “Russia” in the broadest sense. “West” represents Ukrainian national consciousness and Ukrainian national values. As the reasons for such a dichotomy are mentioned historical factors (Ukrainian society has evolved in the different countries), ethno-linguistical factors (linguistic diversity inside of the Ukrainian society), the religious factor (Greek Catholic Church, Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church, and Russian Orthodox Church) as well as significant socio-economic differences between eastern and western regions. For Ukraine and its political scene, however, it is also true that “in the modern world is an important source of governance the use of power to create myths and artificial conflicts and disagreements, images and ideas, forming them with the help of their enemies and friends, hiding the real problems and their solutions in this way.”¹⁸

If we examined the views on the further foreign policy gravitation of the country, taking into account the double consciousness of

¹⁸ Романюк А.С., Сокирка Ю.М. та ін.: Від соборності до незалежності: стан та динаміка інтеграції українського суспільства у контексті європейських процесів. СОЦІАЛЬНО-ПОЛІТИЧНИЙ ПОДІЛ В УКРАЇНІ НА ТЕРИТОРІАЛЬНИЙ (РЕГІОНАЛЬНИЙ) ОСНОВІ – Львів: ЦПД, 2009. – 140 с.

Ukraine, we would find that only a few years ago the focus on common economic space with Russia had a clear predominance over the European orientation with 10% difference. Currently, according to the survey of the “Democratic Initiative“ and the “Center Razumkova” 48.4% of Ukrainian citizens support integration to the EU, while 40.3% want Ukraine’s accession to the Customs Union of Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan. Significant differences are in the western and the eastern regions of Ukraine, while the central and southern regions give their preference to both directions equally. Experts attribute this development primarily to the generational exchange and the growing number of supporters of European integration in Eastern Ukraine.¹⁹ Despite of this trend, starting apparently favoring the orientation on the European Union, it is clear that the division of the country regarding the solution of the issue where it Ukraine wants to belong, is still fundamental and even more accentuated due to the fact that supporters of one or another orientation have the most significant superiority at opposite ends of the country in geographically clearly definable (and separable) regions of the country. The European Union must still remain “ante portas” of Ukraine.²⁰ It’s in the interest of both parties still, regardless of the specific problems that were discussed during the 16th Summit of the European Union - Ukraine in Brussels in February 2013.

¹⁹ http://www.bbc.co.uk/ukrainian/politics/2013/01/130110_ukraine_eu_cu_az.shtml, 10.01.2013

²⁰ Poland’s ambassador to Ukraine Jacek Klyuchkovsky estimated that Ukraine will become a member of the European Union, by 10 to 15 years after the entry into force of the FTA and Association Agreement. <http://ua.for-ua.com/politics/2010/03/22/113908.htm>

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LEVELS OF ANALYSIS OF CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION AS A SOCIAL INSTITUTION AT THE EASTERN BORDERS OF THE EU

Based on summarizing current research methodology precedents, historical experience of Europe and the current situation on the eastern border of the European Union, possible approaches to the study of cross-border cooperation are specified.

This is the basis for the formulation of levels of analysis that can be used for the design of social research in the borderlands of Central and Eastern Europe.

Keywords: cross-border cooperation, social institution, level of analysis, research methodology, the European Union.

Despite the extensive array of research and subordinate publications on the theory and practice of cross-border cooperation at the borders of Ukraine and in Europe in general, which does not make sense to enumerate, the question of its levels, defined by object basis, i.e. the criterion of direction of joint “across-the-border” actions is not conceptualized enough. Therefore, the purpose of this analysis is to formulate the list of objective levels of cross-border cooperation,

including approval of organizations and socio-demographic groups at the borderland of Central and Eastern Europe, among which it is necessary to conduct sociological and other fieldwork. The accepted definition among managers and experts on CBC is the one proposed by the European Outline Convention on Transfrontier Co-operation between Territorial Communities or Authorities (from May 21, 1980), namely that “transfrontier co-operation shall mean any concerted action designed to reinforce and foster neighbourly relations between territorial communities or authorities within the jurisdiction of two or more Contracting Parties and the conclusion of any agreement and arrangement necessary for this purpose.”[1]. That is the subject of this interaction is determined by activity, the aim of which is the establishment of partnership sufficient in the context of international legal documents.

At the same time, theorists of cross-border cooperation have tried to provide a more focused task (objective level), for the purpose of which it is necessary to establish “good neighbourly relations”, using for their concept the experience of post-war Europe.

The first approach can be defined as socio-economic, and according to it, the main purpose of cross-border cooperation is to create quality living conditions for citizens on both sides of the border. Living space of citizens residing in border regions is not limited to the national territory, but is also provided with cross-border markets in goods and services, and cross-border contacts (according to N. Mikula) [4, p. 63].

Another aspect of cooperation provides a sociocultural approach, according to which cross-border region is a complex multi-layered socio-cultural space with features and patterns of development within the national cultural institutions. In the cross-border area is possible dialogue of cultures, resulting in erasing the boundaries between them, even cultural assimilation, however, the adverse effect of this interaction could be “dissolution”, the disappearance of a particular culture (according to N. Zimina) [2].

The political approach perceives the above form of international communication as a manifestation of cross-border regionalism, by

which we must understand “spatially integrated form of political cooperation and resolution of problems that crosses national boundaries and administrative practices despite of these boundaries, trying to create awareness of connectedness, interdependence and common interests” (according to J. Scott, I. Studennikov) [7].

Finally, noteworthy is the sociological approach, in which the emphasis is on the perception of cross-border cooperation as a social institution; subjects of social interaction are local communities, which, in this way, want to meet common needs for safe and comfortable living environment. As for understanding the essence of concept of “institutions”, we use the definition of D. North, who perceived them as rules in a society, or rather devised by people limitations that may be formal (organization) or informal, which include traditions, customs, moral values mutual agreements.

If formal rules can be changed quickly by adopting legal or political decisions, customs, traditions and codes of conduct evolve in the process of institutionalization, which is predefined by previous development [5, p. 11, 15]. It should be pointed out that all of the above approaches are complementary, and only in combination form the matrix of the generalized cross-border cooperation and potential directions of development. However, in order to facilitate the formation of tools of social research of this phenomenon, it is worth to clearly indicate what level of interaction is the subject of attention.

Researchers from various European countries who during the recent years conducted field studies on cross-border cooperation at the Eastern borders of the European Union, adhere to this precise initial methodological position that can be considered a precedent for building tools for the project, which is being implemented by the Institute for CBC (Uzhgorod, Ukraine).

A. Slonimsky and A. Pobol, exploring trends of CBC of western regions of Belarus with partners from the “other side” of the border of the European Union in the field of business (economic approach) for purposes of the survey included in the sample representatives of:

- 1) The local authorities;
- 2) Chambers of Commerce and Industry and other business support organizations;
- 3) Non-governmental organizations;
- 4) Expert community that directly participated in cross-border contacts, or was aware of the current practice of interaction across the border.

The study was carried out in the form of interviews, which were only partly structured, as a defined purpose was primarily qualitative, not quantitative. Simultaneously, there was studied socio-economic situation of households, whose members are involved in cross-border business, especially “shuttle” trade, or in cross-border dialogue at the level of family, friendship and other social-humanitarian relations.

Thus, the levels of analysis of cross-border cooperation were:

- 1) Households as primary subject of capital accumulation and acquisition of competence in cross-border social relations (such a position shares the already mentioned N. Mikula) [4, p. 78];
- 2) Small and medium-sized enterprises;
- 3) Specialized institutions for cross-border business (trade and industry organizations, business incubators, etc.) [6].

At the same time, international research project “Interplay of European, National and Regional Identities: nations between states along the new eastern borders of the European Union”, which was implemented by a consortium of organizations from different countries of Central and Eastern Europe in 2008-2011, was aimed at collection of social data on 8-12 ethnic groups in Eastern Europe, which after World War II or earlier were separated by boundaries (sociocultural approach).

Under cross-national studies was conducted formal survey of about 8 thousand respondents, representatives of ethnic groups, which allowed a detailed cross-national comparison, and its instruments were

coordinated with standardized international surveys procedure (ISSP, ESS, Eurobarometer).

In addition, there were proposed a series of qualitative research, purpose of which was to collect non-statistic data that helped to explain the political, social, economic and cultural contexts of ethnic minorities living in Eastern Europe, their main methods of socialization, historical and social memory of their members. Within qualitative research were offered instruments for in-depth interviews (with representatives of ethnic minorities), expert interviews (with officials of local and regional authorities, leaders of non-governmental organizations), and the analysis of works of pupils, content analysis of local and regional press [3].

Thus, at the level of analysis of cross-border cooperation were identified following representatives:

- 1) Ethnic minorities of adult age living across the border from the parent state, and ethnic majority;
- 2) Children and youth, representing ethnic majority and minorities;
- 3) The leaders of the national-cultural societies;
- 4) Authorities operating in the border areas with a multi-ethnic population.

CBC studies on the eastern border of the European Union in the light of political and sociological approaches still wait for their researches. Contributing to this initiative, we would like to provide a summary table of levels and objects, which is formed on the basis of summarizing the methodology of the above mentioned research projects and our own vision of design analysis of political and social aspects of interaction on “cross-border” at the frontier between Eastern and Central Europe. We believe that professionals in the field of sociology can develop the most appropriate and effective tools that can be applied to the realization of the project of the Institute for CBC.

TABLE 1.

Levels and objects of the CBC analysis

Approach to the interpretation of the purpose of cross-border cooperation	Objects of analysis	Organizations and social groups, positions of which are studied
Socio-economic	Households	Local authorities
	Small and medium enterprises	Chambers of Commerce and Industry, business incubators
	Specialized institutions for cross-border entrepreneurship	Nongovernmental organizations
		Experts
Sociocultural	Ethnic minorities	Ethnic minorities (adults)
	Ethnic majority	Ethnic majority (Children and Youth)
		National and cultural associations
		Regional and local authorities, working in multi-ethnic regions and communities
Political	International Organizations	International Organizations
	National level of governance	National level of governance
	Regional and local authorities	Regional and local authorities
	Ethnic minorities	Leaders of the parties created along ethnic lines or national-cultural societies
		Experts
Sociological	Local communities living in border areas	The main socio-demographic groups living in border areas
		Regional and local authorities
		Experts

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The existing research precedents, as well as the European historical experience and the current situation of the European Union eastern borders constituted the preconditions for the formulation of the possible approaches towards the cross-border cooperation study. On this base, the levels of the analysis are defined that, in one's part, can be used for the sociological research design.

Key words: *the cross-border cooperation, the social institute, the level of the analysis, the methodology of the research, the European Union.*

На основани обобщения методологии существующих исследовательских прецедентов, исторического опыта Европы и современной ситуации на Восточных границах Европейского Союза определены возможные подходы к изучению трансграничного сотрудничества. Это является основанием для формулирования уровней анализа, которые можно использовать для проектирования социологических исследований на территории приграничья Центральной и Восточной Европы.

Ключевые слова: *трансграничное сотрудничество, социальный институт, уровень анализа, методология исследования, Европейский Союз.*

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THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE “PYRAMID OF ATTRACTION” METHODOLOGY ACCORDING TO STAKEHOLDERS IN THE STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT OF THE UKRAINIAN-SLOVAK CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION

The peculiarities of the method of “pyramid of attraction” of stakeholders during the development of the Ukrainian-Slovak trans-border cooperation strategy analysed. Described practical experience to achieve the principle of symmetry of the “pyramid attraction” on both sides of the border.

Keywords: *cross-border cooperation, strategy, stakeholders*

Preliminary remarks

The strategy of Ukrainian-Slovak cross-border cooperation (CBC) 2020 is being developed for the first time and implemented within the framework of the CBB ENPI EU Hungary - Slovakia - Romania -

Ukraine “Slovak-Ukrainian Culture Centre”. Senior partner - Rusyn-Ukrainian Union of the Slovak Republic (Presov), partners - regional Development Agency of Presov region (Slovakia), regional cultural and educational organization “Matica Slovenska in Transcarpathia” (Uzhgorod, Ukraine), NGO “Ukrainian-Slovak Cross-Border Cooperation Centre “Karpaty” (Uzhgorod, Ukraine).

The overall objective of the project is to intensify and deepen economic and humanitarian cooperation between border regions of Slovakia and Ukraine on a sustainable basis. The developed strategy is committed to help reach this goal through concerted and coordinated strategic management of TCS in target border regions, part of which is strategic planning.

Ongoing methodological approaches

In general terms, the logic and essence of strategic planning is thoroughly outlined in monograph of H. Mintzberg [1, p.5-21], which gives its generalized interpretation as a continuous “process”, and “an integrated decision-making.” For what purpose, in fact, do the organizations (the authorities, institutions, enterprises, social organizations) implement strategic planning? The answer is multifaceted - to ensure the future, coordinate efforts, to take into account the interests of all, comply with the principles of expediency and rational use of resources, monitor the achievement of the priorities and objectives, etc., [2, p.4-5, 3, p.10-19, 4, p.16-25]. In the case of joint subregion border between the two countries, situation becomes even more complicated for the parties and stakeholders, goals, interests, resources, and control for the strategic planning process. Especially evident in our view is that strategic planning of common border between two subregion countries needs greater methodological clarity, consistency, feasibility and consolidation of goals and intentions of communities, government, business and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) on both sides of the border. Therefore, logical and appropriate seems to be such a scheme of successive steps: “Sociological Research in the joint border region - strategic planning with deep community involvement, expert (including sociological) monitoring of the implementation of

the Strategy.” An example and experience of first such development - “Polish-Ukrainian border cooperation strategy for 2007-2015” [5, p.83-86] - confirms the absence of both the first and the last element of the scheme, as the development strategy in 2007 and 2008 took place only at the expert level, i.e., without the deep involvement of the communities of the Ukrainian-Polish border subregion. These authors have tried to avoid significant methodological flaws at least at the level of relatively deep involvement of different target groups, communities of boundary regions, to development of the Strategy of Ukrainian-Slovak CBC.

It should also be noted that at the initiative of central departments (Ministries) of Ukraine and neighbouring countries from time to time are implemented common spatial planning projects of interstate subregions. Given the need for spatial development of international and interstate border and transport infrastructure, custom transitions, water resources management and protected areas, this is fully justified. However, when it comes to general (non-local) spatial planning of common subregion areas in the border between the two countries, in our opinion, it just should precede strategic planning of joint border area, which is not really happening.

As one of the initial stages of the development of the Strategy of the Slovak-Ukrainian CBC in 2012 - 2013, a poll is being conducted on both sides of the border (Transcarpathian Ukraine and Kosice and Presov self-governing regions of Slovakia). To achieve a deeper involvement of various community stakeholders, survey is conducted in the seven target groups:

1. Representatives of local governments (municipalities, regional centre councils, village councils) and associations of local governments.
2. Representatives of state authorities.
3. Representatives of various NGOs.
4. Representatives of budgetary institutions - education, health, social protection and culture and so on.
5. Representatives of higher education, science and experts.
6. Representatives of small and medium businesses.
7. Young people and students, high school students.

Number of surveyed respondents in terms of the following seven target groups is consistent with both cross-border symmetry and “pyramid attraction” on both sides of the border. Processing of the survey is planned to carry out:

- In the context of each of the seven target groups and integrally - separately for Slovak and Ukrainian border;
- In the context of each of the seven target groups and integrally - in a joint Ukrainian-Slovak border subregion.

Such a methodological approach is aimed at identifying both differences and similarities in the perception of Ukrainians and Slovaks (for various target groups and integrally) issues of common border development strategy and key elements of the Strategy - Vision, Mission and Strategic goals. Listing and contents of 5 questionnaires with the possibilities of amendments for respondents are formed according to:

Questionnaire number 1 - rating of 15 most important problems, obstacles and barriers that prevent, hinder or enable development of Ukrainian-Slovak CBC.

Questionnaire number 2 - the choice of variants of answers to 4 questions on essence and importance of the Strategy for the respondent.

Questionnaire number 3 - the choice of version of vision of the future of Ukrainian-Slovak CBC of border regions in 2020 of the 4 proposed.

Questionnaire number 4 - the choice of option of mission statement of Ukrainian-Slovak CBC in 2020 of the 4 proposed.

Questionnaire number 5 - choice of 5 definitions of priority objectives of the Strategy of the 9 proposed.

It is important that questionnaires to be used in Slovakia received a good quality translation into Slovak language. Questionnaires themselves include the possibility of free choice of anonymous or non-anonymous answers. In addition, for a wider coverage of stakeholders' involvement in the “pyramid attraction” is provided option for distributing questionnaires by E-mail, posting on websites of NGOs

and “electronic” filling in and forwarding to the expert group on the strategy development.

Essential step in improving the feasibility of the prerequisites for strategic planning is the progress achieved in 2011 -2012 by the project ENPI CBC Programme Hungary - Slovakia - Romania - Ukraine - EU “Borders for people” (Lead Partner - Institute of CBC, Uzhgorod, Ukraine).

Specifically, this project developed indexing methodology and system monitoring of CBC, which would eliminate the discrepancy and inconsistency in assessment systems of economic and social development of the regions in Ukraine and the EU (including in Slovakia). Results of indexing and monitoring are detailed in joint publications [6,7], and their importance has been discussed previously in the work on the monitoring and evaluation of CBC [8, p.10-18], determining the competitiveness of the Transcarpathian region in comparison with similar or analogous regions of EU [9, p. 4-15] and researching preconditions and importance of the experience of Slovakia in the implementation of systemic reforms in Ukraine [10, p. 54-56], particularly at the level of regional public authorities and local governments to decentralize powers and financial resources and democratize all social processes.

Conclusions

Early and thoughtful strategic planning on both sides of the border would probably allow avoiding the main problem of development strategies, which is more in difficulty in achieving interconnectivity and synergy of solutions than in nature and accuracy of decisions themselves.

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CROSS BORDER STATISTICS AS AN INSTRUMENT OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Regular international scientific-practical conference on problems of methodology and tools of sociological analysis of cross-border cooperation is a consistent and logical phase of the research project “Borders through the eyes of people.” It is an honour and a pleasure to be a member of this gathering of highly professional scientists, leading sociologists, among which are M.Churylov - CEO of TNS Ukraine, Doctor of Social Sciences, Senior Researcher of Institute of Sociology of the Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, and academician V.Symchera, Honoured Scientist of the Russian Federation.

Relevance of sociological analysis research by TBC is undeniable, given the basic concept of increasing efficiency of cross-border cooperation in the implementation of the project, which at a high scientific level is implemented by the Institute for transborder Cooperation (Uzhgorod), Project Coordinator - PhD, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary S. Ustych.

When discussing issues of CBC, first of all, we must try to determine its place, role in modern terms, as the global financial crisis was another challenge to global civilization, which led to uncertainty of global perspectives, and national economies, accelerated the search for ways to modernize social systems.

Varied geopolitical influences on Ukraine in conditions of inefficient security guarantee, the presence of “protracted conflicts” in the border areas, and critical external dependence of national economy on energy resources are causing vulnerability of Ukraine, weakening its role in the international arena and driving it out to the periphery of world politics, - as stated in the Annual address of the President of Ukraine to the Supreme Council of 2011 [1].

Integration of national economies in the modern world economic processes in general, and international trade in goods and services, without exaggeration, could be called a key to dynamic of socio-economic development of any country, regardless of the extent of its economic potential. Ukraine is not an exception. Today, it goes without saying that international trading creates almost unlimited opportunities both for satisfying domestic demand with products and services of foreign origin, and sale of goods and services of national production on world markets, which ultimately leads to higher welfare of each country. Proof of this thesis is an analysis of the economic impact on Ukraine in recent years [2].

Simplified perception of market and public relations entails primitive view of the world as a whole, so as a result, so-called market fundamentalism, the ideology of domination of the world market has been criticized. It should be noted that market does not conform to either states or their associations or supranational bodies. At the same time, market anarchy causes depleting of resources and generates conflicts over their possession. However, the market does not destroy the state. Therefore, neither the concept of free market, nor the concept of a strong state should be imposed upon modern world. [3]

Global features of modern trade and economic relations, involving Ukraine, once again confirm the relevance of perspective of CBC Sociological Research.

The famous American scientist J. Moreno once said that one of the greatest achievements of social thought of XIX century was the emergence of sociology as applied science. [4] It is well known that attempts to learn, to understand society, to realize our attitude towards it have been influencing humanity in all phases of its history. On the crest of this wave, in the 30-ies of the XIX century was established sociology as a science of functioning and development of society and its structural elements.

As we know, the term “sociology” is derived from the Latin word “societas” (society) and the Greek “logos” (word, studies). In the 30-ies of the XIX century, French philosopher, sociologist Auguste Comte,

who identified social science that encompasses all areas of knowledge about society, introduced it to scientific use [5].

As is known, the subject and object of sociology are not identical. The object identifies something that is being studied. The subject always clearly outlines the scope and purpose of the study. Therefore, the subject of sociology is some aspects, peculiarities, and the relationship of the object of study. Thus, sociology is the science of formation, development and functioning of society and its elements, social relations and social processes, mechanisms and principles of their interaction.

It should be noted that in Ukraine have only recently been lifted ideological constraints, and emerged hope for a plethoric development of sociology as part of unified global science. In 1990 was founded Institute of Sociology of NAS of Ukraine. In Kyiv and Kharkiv University began to operate departments of sociology, and in Lviv, Dnipropetrovsk and Odessa - relevant sociological departments that train professional specialists in sociology. Sociology as an academic discipline was introduced in all higher and secondary specialized educational institutions.

Place of sociology in social and humanitarian sciences is conditioned by the fact that it is the science of society, its processes and phenomena, which covers general sociological theory, serving as the theory and methodology for all other social and humanitarian sciences. In the system of social sciences, sociology closely interacts with history. Object and subject of research of history and sociology is a society, regularities of its development and operation in specific temporal dimensions.

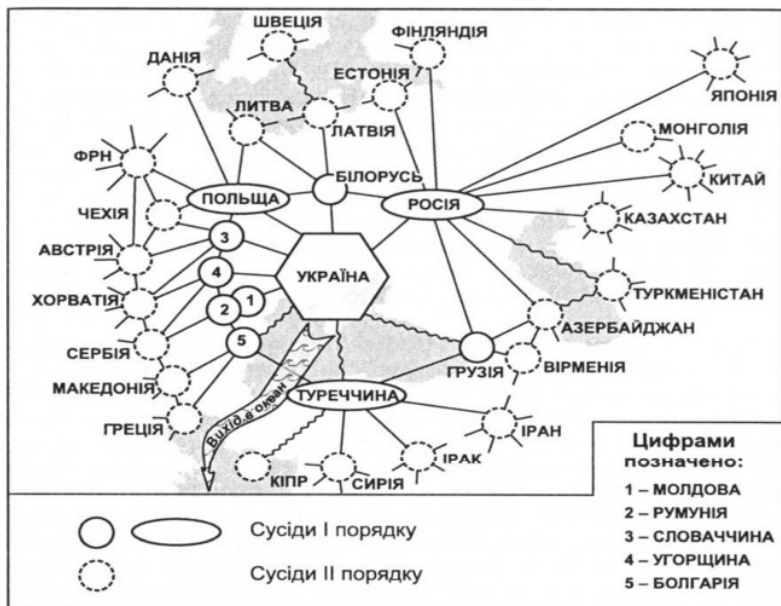
When studying problems of methodology and instruments of sociological analysis of cross-border cooperation, it should be considered that sociology “works” on the margins of economic science, the subject of which is the study of patterns and forms of functioning and development of relations in the process of production, exchange and distribution of wealth. This leads to the conclusion that economic sociology can be seen as a system of scientific analysis of complex problems, solution of which requires transcending certain scientific discipline [6].

CBC of Ukraine is aimed at solving national problems: social, economic, environmental, as well as ensuring the competitiveness

of Ukraine in the European and world community. That is why sociological analysis of constituents of cross-border cooperation is a crucial methodological part of the objective definition of the current state of problems and prospects of its development.

A particularly important factor of objectivity of sociological research is the analysis of diversified external relations of border areas of Ukraine with neighbouring regions. After all, border areas, utmost and foremost implement common interests of Ukraine and neighbouring countries.

The border area of Ukraine, where cross-border cooperation is implemented, covers 76.4% of its territory; there live 71.4% of the population. 19 of the 25 regions of Ukraine are border regions. The length of the land border of Ukraine is 5638.6 km., sea border - 1050 km. The longest borderlines are: with Russia - 22.95 km, Moldova - 12.92 km, Belarus - 1084 km. Length of the Ukraine-EU borderline is: with Romania - 608 km, Poland - 542 km, Hungary - 136 km, Slovakia - 98 km.



Ukraine in the system of countries of central Eurasia

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1. ***Ukrainian-Polish border crossings: Krakivets - Korchova, Mostyska - Przemyśl, Smilnytsia - Krotsenko, Rava-Ruska - Hrebenne, Rava-Ruska - Verhrata, Ustilug - Zosin, Khyriv - Krotsenko, Shegyni - Medica, Yagodyn - Dorogusk, Volodymyr Volynsky - Hrubieszow, Ludyn - Izov.***
2. ***Ukrainian-Slovak border crossings: Uzhgorod - Vishne-Nyemetske, Maly Berezny - Ublya, Chop (Strazh) - Chiyerna upon the Tisza, Mali Selmentsi - Ruska, Pavlovo - Matovtse, Uzhhorod (control point).***
3. ***Ukrainian-Hungarian border crossings: Vilok - Tiszabecs, Luzhanka - Berehshuran, Kosino - Barabash, Dzvinkove - Lonya, Chop (Tisza) - Zakhon, Chop (Friendship) - Zakhon, Batovo (control point), Solovka-Eperyeszke.***
4. ***Ukrainian-Romanian border crossings: Dyakove - Helmeu, Solotvino - Sighetu Marmatiei, Teresva - Kypulunhla Tisza, Dilove - Valya Vysheuluy, Kiel - Kilija Veche, Reni - Galati, Ismail - Plaur, Vilkovo-Pereprava, Ruska - Ulma, Bila Krynica - Klymoutsi, Shepit - Izvoarele Suchevey, Porubne - (Siret), Dyakovtsy - Rakovets, Krasnoilsk - Vikovu de Sus, Vadul - Siret (Vikshany).***

Expansions of the EU in 2004 and 2007 and the emergence of common Ukrainian-EU border objectively resulted in favourable situation for Ukraine's geo-strategic position, opening additional integration opportunities. This primarily concerns existing cross-border gas, transportation, energy arteries - pipelines "Progress", "Urengoy - Pomary - Uzhgorod", pipeline - "Druzhba", power grid - "Mir", the third and fifth international Cretan motor corridors, extensive rail network, etcetera.

Based on the fact that cross-border cooperation plays a key role in regional development in the context of European integration processes of Ukraine, sociological monitoring of existing problems is extremely important and relevant. In order to form a monitoring system of cross-

border cooperation, project “Borders through the eyes of people” is seeking to use existing methodologies and instruments of sociological analysis of this trend component of state foreign policy.

Speaking of features of cross-border statistics, Ukrainian scientist-researcher of issues of regional policy Z.Varnaliy noted that specifics of formation of cross-border statistics is the fact that the object of the study is adjacent territory of two or more countries, each of which is subject to national legislation, tax, financial and other systems, and is provided with national statistical information. In addition, cross-border regions at the frontiers with the European Union use Eurostat methodology [7, p.708].

It is therefore important to implement national statistical agencies, collection and processing of cross-border statistics as recommended by Eurostat. During the formation of the system of regional statistics in Ukraine, a number of authors introduced classification of regions into two groups:

- Regions of primary (basic) territorial division;
- Regions of secondary territorial division.

This classification, according to Z.Varnaliy, should be extended through the introduction of cross-border statistics into it.

Given that the Euro-regional cooperation is quite common and cross-border statistics is formed primarily as a research and evaluation of European regions, the monograph “State Regional Policy of Ukraine” offers to collect and process cross-border statistical information according to the following groups [7, p. 713-715]:

1. **General statistics.** Primary basic information on cross-border cooperation, such as area, population and employment, along with other specific data on demographic processes, transport, border communications infrastructure, environment, tourism, agriculture and so on. Such general statistical data is presented in the context of participants of the Euroregion and compared by territory of the participant and between the parties.

2. **The second group** of indicators for assessing the European regions can be obtained from statistical information relating to socio-

economic and environmental development of cross-border region: national average income per capita (in euros) across the territory, national average unemployment rate (%) across the territory; national average nominal wage (in euros) across the territory, number of business entities (by sector), investment in the area, including that of participants of the European region, their dynamics on the formation of the European region before and after its formation, as well as investment of the territory overseas, including to the territories of participants of the European region, external area trade with neighbouring countries (in goods and services) and its dynamics before and after the formation of the European region, border trade, spending of foreigners in the country and expenditures of population abroad, including in neighbouring countries, the level of pollution of the territory, environmental activities.

3. Group “**Border infrastructure**” includes following parameters: the length of the common border, the number of checkpoints across the border (current and projected): railroads, motorways, pedestrian ways, waterways, airways, hiking trails, etc. and their status (international, interstate, local, simplified), capacity of border crossings (on both sides), the level of technical support (high, medium, low) on both sides, the level of access roads’ development. Evaluation of border crossings for passengers and transport: the number of buses (regular-route or travel), the number of trucks and cars, the number of trains (passenger and freight, electric trains, etc.), cross-border movement of passengers and cargo for a certain period of time through all existing checkpoints.

4. Group “**Activities (projects) in various fields of cooperation**” within the Euroregion includes information on events in the political field: mutual consultation of the authorities and state governments, cooperation with other European regions, European international, interregional organizations, etc., in the environmental, economic, travel, cultural and educational sectors, on the development of transport infrastructure and so on.

Programme of Ukraine’s Integration into the European Union provides the measures to adapt Ukraine’s legislation to the EU’s one, including the need to: harmonize the methodology of calculating

shared statistical data with Eurostat, and continue to implement a unified statistical methodology and standards for the different branches of statistics. Therefore, for the purpose of development of methods for collecting and processing statistical data, we will cross-examine the statistics at border and cross-border regions, used by Eurostat.

Fast development of cross-border cooperation in the border areas of neighbouring countries raises public and private interest on both sides of the border regarding the content and presentation of the results of such cooperation. Therefore, there appeared new specific needs for the official statistical bodies of territorial-administrative units at various levels of cross-border statistical information, which should be based on accurate and informative common data for: [7, p.708-709]

- Reliable cross-border and comparative statistical information being accessible for the structures of border and cross-border regions (Euroregions), regional and local authorities, government and business structures;
- Researchers and planners involved in the development of border and cross-border regions having comparative statistical database for regional analysis, forecasting and amplification of socio-economic development.

It is important to note that comparable data of cross-border statistics is necessary to regional authorities for control of the border and cross-border regions, namely:

- For review carried out by municipalities, counties and regions on both sides of the border;
- For Regional Planning and regional development in all areas, including the immediate needs of socio-economic formations;
- To ensure development of regional science.

Extremely important tools for objective sociological analysis of cross-border cooperation, in our opinion, is the scientific concept of efficient growth of cross-border cooperation, implemented by the Institute for cooperation on the basis of the second phase of the project “Borders for people”, implementation, which enables the

use of quantitative methodology and qualitative assessment of CBC, and formation of the system of indexing and monitoring of CBC of neighbouring regions of Hungary, Slovakia, Romania and Ukraine. [8]

Under the said project, it was proposed to determine the overall CBC index according to a 10-point scale based on specific indices and indicators. The study offers the following special codes [9]:

- Geographical, climatic,
- Demographic;
- Historical, political and spiritual factors;
- Conflictogeneous: the risks and threats;
- Infrastructural and organizational;
- Contacts between people and institutional partnerships;
- Socio-economic potential and competitiveness of the region;
- Criminogenic effects and their control;
- Environmental Conditions and Environmental Protection.

Given the achievements of the Institute for CBC led by S. Ustych, we have every reason to believe that the implementation of the next phase of research of project “Borders through the eyes people,” an important element which is to define the methodology and tools of sociological analysis of cross-border cooperation, would enrich the scientific component of perspective issues of Ukraine’s CBC under conditions of global challenges of our time.

At the same time, assessing the status and prospects of cross-border cooperation in general, we would like to draw attention of the distinguished conference participants to the following:

- Complete absence of proper communication links between different segments of CBC and absence of effective collaboration between local authorities and representatives of business and public communities. In particular, there should be noted insufficient understanding by some participants of issues and motivations that guide other subjects among members of CBC;
- Inadequate information component of CBC in Ukrainian regions, which requires organizational strengthening and

updating of information and technical equipment of all actors involved in this field, especially in dealing with foreign partners and local communities. The priority direction to overcome this situation is the liberalization of foreign trade and levelling of living standards in Ukraine;

- The slow pace of adaptation of Ukraine's legislation and its institutions to the EU legislation in the field of regional development and cross-border cooperation.

We agree with the offer of expert researchers on CBC to define cross-border cooperation as a distinct sphere of international activities of local authorities, governed by special regulations. This is especially relevant for the successful ratification of the EU-Ukraine treaties on Association, Free Trade Area and the liberalization of the visa regime, which (at present time) is being the main priority for our country.

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MONITORING OF CROSS-BORDER TECHNOLOGY, SCIENCE AND INDUSTRIAL PARKS

Анотація: В статті показано, що в прикордонних регіонах України де-факто створюються транскордонні функціональні одиниці спеціальних економічних зон, технологічних, наукових та індустріальних парків, однак де-юре відповідний процес не врегульовується, в т.ч. і щодо моніторингу результатів діяльності їх суб'єктів господарювання. Акцентовано увагу на тому, що моніторинг результатів діяльності національних функціональних одиниць спеціальних економічних зон, технологічних та наукових парків здійснюється на підставі різних методичних підходів та переліків показників, що ускладнює процес їх співставлення та визначення впливу на стан економіки країни та економічної безпеки держави, а система моніторингу для національних індустріальних парків наразі взагалі відсутня. Вказано на необхідність розроблення спільної з сусідніми країнами системи моніторингу діяльності транскордонних функціональних одиниць спеціальних правових режимів економічної діяльності та окреслено можливий алгоритм дій щодо реалізації цього.

Ключові слова: спеціальна економічна зона, технологічний парк, науковий парк, індустріальний парк, спеціальний правовий режим економічної діяльності, моніторинг, економічна безпека.

The creation of functional units of cross-border special economic zone in the border regions of Ukraine and neighboring countries is one of the most contemporary manifestations of integration and processes of globalization.

According to international practice, the functional units of cross-border special economic zone - are defined as an unified territorial and

economic areas of two or more countries, where the special procedure of economic activity is acting for getting synergies effect in the implementing (solution) of common defined and/or similar regional and national interests, goals (problems) [1].

Work on the creation of functional units of cross-border special economic zone with neighboring countries in Ukraine has began over fifteen years ago. But, still there is no legislative control of the algorithm of actions and the list of legislative instruments, which are necessary for its creation and functioning.

Consequently, it was decided to create international free trade zone on the border of three countries Ukraine (Reni) - Romania (Galati) - Moldova (Giurgiulesti) [2, 3] in 1997. Soon legislative acts were adopted on the establishment of separate national functional units of cross-border special economic zone in each of these three countries. However, they do not function as the only cross-border structure because of the lack of legal basis.

Since 2007, in accordance to the decisions of Regional State Administration, the creation of cross-border industrial park in the border regions of Transcarpathia with Slovakia, Hungary and Romania is under development, namely: on the Ukrainian-Hungarian border in village Dyyda, Berehovo district and Chop in Uzhgorod district, on the Ukrainian-Slovakian border in village Solomonovo Uzhgorod district, and the Ukrainian-Romanian border in village Dyakovo Vynogradiv district [4, 5]. At the same time, the Law of Ukraine “On the industrial parks”, which was adopted in June, 2012 [6], does not contain the provisions on settlement of foundations and functioning of the cross-border structures.

“Ukrainian-Russian technopark” Slobozhanschyna” was created by Kharkiv National University named after V.N. Karazin, Kharkiv National University of Radio Electronics, Science Park “FED” and Federal State Autonomous Educational Institution of Higher Professional Education of the Russian Federation “Belgorod State National Research University” [7] in 2011.

This cross-border park still operates as a limited liability corporation and is not included in the State Register of technology

parks, on which, according to the Law of Ukraine “ On special mode of innovative activities of technology parks “ [8] state support is extended. Moreover, this law also does not provide and govern the creation of cross-border technology parks.

At present there is an idea of creation International Science Park on the basis of Uzhgorod National University, Technical University of Kosice (Slovakia) and University of Debrecen (Hungary) [9], but, the creation of international structures of science parks is not governed by national legislation of Ukraine. [10] System of state monitoring and predicting the activity results of business facilities of functional units of cross-border special economic zone has not being worked and is absent at the moment. Analysis of current methods of monitoring results of Ukrainian of special economic zones [11] and technology [12] and science parks (corresponding methodology for business entities of industrial park is not developed) shows that their foundation is slightly different. In addition, the authority to monitor the activities of these special legal regimes of economic activity is relied on (Special Economic Zones - Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Ukraine, for Technology Parks - State Agency for Science, Innovations and Informatization of Ukraine, for science parks - Ministry of Education and Science, Youth and Sports of Ukraine, industrial Parks - State Agency for Investment and National Projects of Ukraine).

It complicates a comparison between the performance results of business entities of various forms of special legal regimes of economic activity, and comparison with the business entity on general economic conditions, and makes it impossible accurately to determine the impact of their application on national economy and economic security. These national monitoring methods also differ from the methods that are used in the neighboring partner countries.

The lack of unified and concerted with neighboring partner countries reporting systems for businesses units of cross-border special economic zone of different forms of special legal regimes of economic activity renders impossible objective monitoring and predicting the results of their activities. This monitoring condition of business entities of special legal regimes of economic activity makes actual the best

practices scientifically grounded of methodical approaches for its implementation.

The following algorithm of actions is:

- 1) to undertake the research of systems of monitoring, that were used in the neighboring partner countries, and predicting the performance result of functional units of special national legal regimes of economic developments and the implementation of joint unified methodological approaches at the international expert level;
- 2) to conduct the approbation of an unified system of monitoring and predicting the performance results of functional units of cross-border special economic zone in cross-border pilot projects among Ukraine and neighboring partner countries (EU countries, Russia, Belarus and Moldova);
- 3) to implement the system improvement of the domestic regulatory framework in this area and introduce the unified reporting system for different forms of special legal regimes of economic activity and domestic and functional units of cross-border special economic zone and predicting the performance results of their businesses at the legislative level;
- 4) to provide publicity of generalized results of monitoring, including through creation of web resource for all forms of special legal regimes of economic activity and their functional units.

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Abstract: The article shows that in the border regions of Ukraine de facto are created functional units of cross-border special economic zones, technology parks, science parks and industrial parks, but de jure this process is unregulated, including a monitoring of the indicators of their businesses. The attention is attracted to the fact that monitoring of the indicators of the national functional units of special economic zones, technology parks and science parks is based on different methodological approaches and the different lists of indicators. It complicates the process of their comparing and determining impact on the economy of the state and the economic security of the state. Besides, system of monitoring for national industrial parks is currently absent. It indicates the necessity of developing a common system monitoring of cross-border functional units of special legal regimes of economic activity with neighboring partner countries and possible algorithm of regarding action.

Keywords: *special economic zone, technology park, science park, industrial park, special legal regime of economic activity, monitoring, economic security.*

Аннотация: *В статье показано, что в приграничных регионах Украины де-факто создаются трансграничные функциональные единицы специальных экономических зон, технологических, научных и индустриальных парков, однако де-юре соответствующий процесс не регулируется, в т.ч. и по мониторингу результатов деятельности их субъектов. Акцентировано внимание на том, что мониторинг результатов деятельности национальных функциональных единиц специальных экономических зон, технологических и научных парков осуществляется на основании различных методических подходов и перечней показателей, что затрудняет процесс их сопоставления, определения влияния на состояние экономики страны и экономической безопасности государства, а система мониторинга национальных индустриальных парков пока вообще отсутствует. Указано на необходимость разработки общей с соседними странами-партнерами системы мониторинга деятельности трансграничных функциональных единиц специальных правовых режимов экономической деятельности и намеченный возможный алгоритм действий в этом направлении.*

Ключевые слова: *специальная экономическая зона, технологический парк, научный парк, индустриальный парк, специальный правовой режим экономической деятельности, мониторинг, экономическая безопасность.*

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ACTUAL PROBLEMS OF ROMANIAN BORDERLANDS CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION

Keywords: Cross-border, projects, improvement, relationships, development, institutions, financial resource, European Union applicants (lead partners) by country per measure, ENPI contribution requested per country, priorities and measures.

Current issues of cross-border cooperation at the Romanian borderland (Abstract)

The cross-border cooperation between Ukraine and Romania already offered up to date some results deserving to be analyzed. The analysis must indicate the positive facts and also the lack of coverage in some areas. These facts have to be underlined for the improvement of the intended relations between the two countries. They must learn to use the borders as instruments for the attraction of financial resources from the EU. This may be of great importance for the development of institutions, infrastructure and other local

The accumulated experience of ENPI Programme 2007-2013 offers good premises for the further co-operation in the period 2014-2020.

European Territorial Cooperation is one of the cohesion policy purposes, which can make important contribution for complex and harmonious development of the regions, which are being involved into cooperation.

Within the programme period, in 2007-2013, Ministry of Regional Development and Tourism managed the Romanian participation in 11 European territorial cooperation programmes.

Analysis of cooperation possibilities on Romanian-Ukrainian border

The length of the border between Romania and Ukraine is 366.4 km, of which 250 km at the North-western region (185 km

of overland border and 65 km of the river Tisza). The border area includes Maramures (6304 km²) and Satu Mare counties (4418 km²) of Romania, Transcarpathian (12 777 km², consisting of 13 districts) and Ivano-Frankivsk regions (13 928 km², consisting of 14 districts) of Ukraine.

Both countries have natural and historical benefits, which might become the basis for cross-border cooperation in several fields of development, which can be easily applied to the specific situation in both border regions. In particular, the strengths of North-western Romania border area (Satu Mare and Maramures counties), Transcarpathian and Ivano-Frankivsk regions are:

Attractive and qualitative environment

The border region is being a part of Tisza river basin and the mega-Carpathian region. The Ukrainian side is represented by the lowlands, and our counties by mountains and hills. At the same time, the region includes unique natural ecosystems - UNESCO Biosphere Reserves: Carpathian Reserve in Transcarpathia and Rodna Mountains National Park, which includes glacial lakes. In addition, Maramures County is located in Maramures Mountains National Park, including protected areas, making it the second national thereby, it holds the second place at the national level and by the territory.

There are 38 protected areas in Maramures County (3 scientific reserves, 17 natural attractions, Rodna Mountains National Park, which is being UNESCO biosphere reserve, Natural Park of Maramures mountains, Tisza river). Satu Mare County is famous for Carei and Jer valleys, which are also being protected. They are presenting the remnants of rare wetlands, which are threatened with extinction, together with specific flora and fauna.

The regions of Ukraine are characterized by the availability of large deposits of oil, gas, and nonmetallic minerals. Transcarpathia is presented by 13 carbon deposits (lime, magnesite and marble) and 360 mineral water sources, Ivano-Frankivsk – by Eastern Carpathians with alpine meadows with the height of 1500 m. Chornogora is important in the region, where the mountain Hoverla is located, Ukraine's highest peak (2061 m), of which follows over the river Prut. Here are cascades

and waterfalls, which make the region attractive for water tourism. 41% of the Ivano-Frankivsk region is covered by the forests. In this regard, it is the first in Ukraine for the greatest diversity of animal species.

Demography and ethnic variety of different national minorities living in border area – Romanians, Hungarians, Germans, Slovaks, Roma and others.

From a demographic point of view, Ivano-Frankivsk region with the largest area is also the most populous (as of 01.01.2012 accounted 1,381,220 inhabitants), followed by Transcarpathian region (as of 01.06.2012 - 1,251,643 inhabitants) and Maramures and Satu Mare Counties with 461,290 and 329,079 inhabitants respectively, with less population density. Regional cities: Ivano-Frankivsk and Uzhgorod are the largest cities of the region in Ukraine, Baia Mare and Satu Mare - in Romania.

Largest share of rural population is in Transcarpathia (62.9%), followed by Ivano-Frankivsk region (56.8%), Satu Mare (54.0%). The majority of Maramures population (58.8%) lives in urban areas. The feature of the region is the large number of small villages (500-2000 inhabitants), especially in the Ukrainian side and in the middle villages of our country, the area is considered peripheral in both countries.

In the counties of Romania approximately 17% of the population is ethnic minorities (Hungarians, Ukrainians, Roma, Germans, and others.) On the other side of the border in Transcarpathia are quite large ethnic minorities: Hungarians (12.1%), Romanians (2.6%), Germans, Slovaks, Roma and others.

Availability of large thermal and mineral waters stocks

This region has a natural advantage, as it is represented by healing thermal waters and a number of other underground natural resources. These natural resources are found throughout the area of cooperation. In Transcarpathia there are about 50 springs of thermal waters. They are concentrated in Beregovo, Vynogradiv, Irshava, Mukachevo, Khust and Tyachiv districts. On the Romanian territory the thermal waters could be found in Satu Mare, most of which exploited in the

Southern part of the county – city Tashnad, Carej, Akash, Mihayeni, Satu Mare, etc.

The huge tourism potential conditioned not only by geographical advantages, but also cultural traditions of target areas - museums, places of rest, etc.

Maramures and Ukrainian regions are known by mountain tourism and winter sports. Also important meaning, especially in the Ukrainian side of the border, has a thermal tourism. Traditions, folk treasures, folklore, folk art, folk cultural heritage and built cultural attractions, especially wooden churches of Maramures, which are included in the UNESCO heritage, and buildings, churches of the Ukrainian side. In addition, we should emphasize on the importance of natural landscapes in Satu Mare, which enable the development of health tourism and, accordingly, environmental, green tourism in Transcarpathia, Ivano-Frankivsk and Maramures.

North-western region of Romania, especially Satu Mare and Maramures Counties, due to its geographical location, can participate in all kinds of regional cooperation, because they are territorial regions in the EU interregional cooperation programme, in transnational programmes, which include Romanian territory, i.e. in two types of cross-border cooperation programmes. Satu Mare County has common internal borders with Hungary and external borders with Ukraine, and in one programme - Maramures County.

Analysis of cooperation projects, financed in 2007-2013

North-west region participated in interregional and transnational cooperation in the programming period of 2000-2006 (INTERREG IIC and CADSES programmes). Cooperation was continued by INTERREG IVC Programme and Programme of transnational cooperation in South-eastern Europe 2007-2013.

For comparison, the Romanian-Hungarian border cooperation has been funded since 1996 by the first experimental programme of cross-border cooperation outside the EU and border Romania-Ukraine cooperation - since 2004, by the programme Phare CBC (in the period of 2004-2006, the programme has received financial support in 31

million euro, of which 15 million for Romania, which have been added over 4 million of national funding).

In the period of 2007-2013, cross-border cooperation along the both borders was funded by the Cross-Border Cooperation Operational Programme Romania-Hungary, and respectively ENPI Cross-Border Cooperation Programme Hungary - Slovakia-Romania - Ukraine 2007-2013.

Cooperation in the period of 2007-2013 was financed from the ENPI funds - indicative budget 68.638,283 euros. Priorities and measures of the programme:

Priority 1: Promote economic and social development. Measure 1.1 Harmonized development of tourism. Measure 1.2 Create better conditions for SMEs and business development.

Priority 2: Enhance environmental quality. Measure 2.1 Environmental protection, sustainable use and management of natural resources. Measure 2.2 Emergency Preparedness.

Priority 3: Increase border efficiency. Measure 3.1 Improvement of border crossing transport infrastructure and equipment at border controls.

Priority 4: Support people to people cooperation. Measure 4.1 Institutional cooperation. Measure 4.2 Small scale “People to people” cooperation.

Participation of Satu Mare and Maramures Counties after the first Call

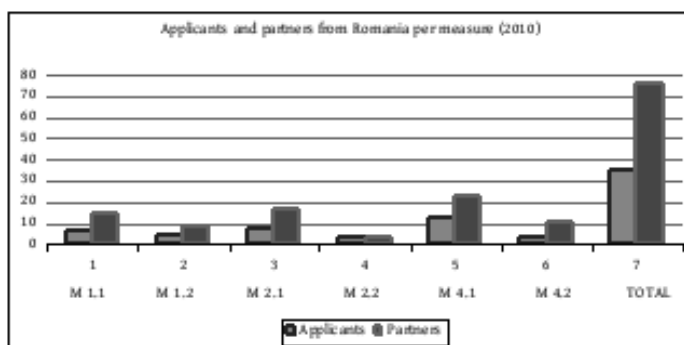


Chart № 1. Participation of Satu Mare and Maramures Counties (in total) after the first Call by measures.

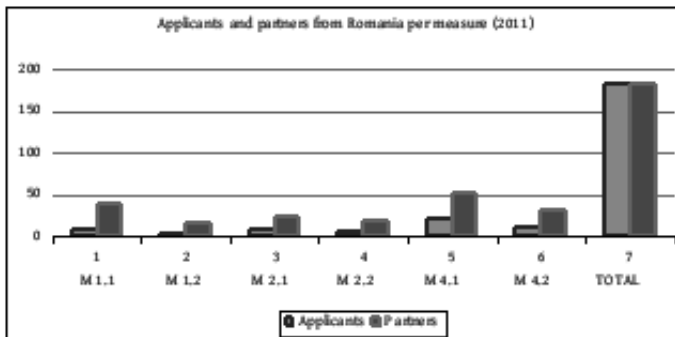
Within the frameworks of Measure 1.1 Harmonized development of tourism, in 7 projects submitted by Romania, between the winners of the project there was no Beneficiary, there were only partners in two projects, submitted by agencies of Maramures.

Measure 1.2 Create better conditions for SMEs and business development. Romania submitted 4 projects, where Maramures and Satu Mare Counties were represented by 8 partners. But in four projects won, were no Romanian representative.

On Measure 2.1 Environmental protection, sustainable use and management of natural resources, were won 6 projects, in three of which were involved as partners Satu Mare (2 projects) and Maramures Counties (1 project). Romania submitted 7 projects and attracted to the participation 14 partners.

All the four won projects of the Measure 2.2 Emergency Preparedness does not have any Romanian partner or Beneficiary, although Romania has submitted 3 projects and 3 partners were also from Romania.

Measure 4.1 Institutional cooperation has been an area that has attracted the attention of several institutions of North-western Romania. Of the 14 won projects, Romania was represented by Satu Mare County in two projects and by Maramures County also in 2 projects. As partners, only 2 institutions from Maramures participated in 2 projects. Here, Romania submitted to the Call 14 projects and 23 Romanian partners were involved for participation.



Within the frameworks of Measure 4.2 Small scale “People to people” cooperation, there were won 13 projects, where Satu Mare County was the acting as a Beneficiary in 2 projects, Maramures County – in 2 projects, and as partners – in 4 projects. By this Call Romania submitted 3 projects and involved into participation 10 Romanian partners.

The second Call

Chart № 2. Participation of Satu Mare and Maramures Counties (in total) after the second Call by measures.

Harmonized development of tourism, Measure 1.1, brought success to 3 Maramures institutions, where the County was acting in the role of Beneficiary (leader) in one (1) project and partner in two (2) projects. Satu Mare County has also been a partner in one of the won project. By this Measure Romania submitted 9 projects and has involved to the participation 40 partners.

This time, within the frameworks of Measure 1.2 Create better conditions for SMEs and business development, Maramures County was involved in 5 projects won, became the leader of one (1) project and partner with Slovakia and Ukraine in two(2) projects.

Romania submitted 2 projects, and has involved to the participation 15 partners.

Concerning Measure 2.1 Environmental protection, sustainable use and management of natural resources, were won 4 projects, of which three (3) being the projects under the direction of Maramures County. Here, Romania submitted 8 projects, and has involved to the participation 24 partners.

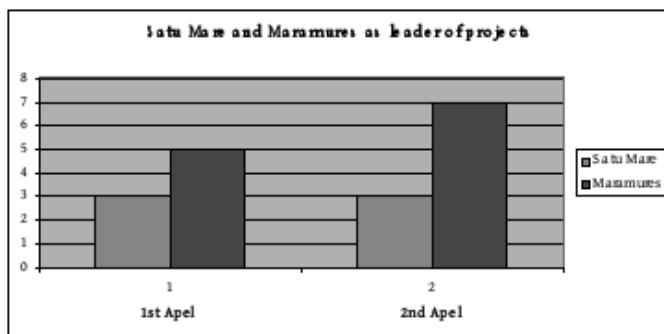
Maramures County has been a leader in one project of Measure 2.2 Emergency Preparedness, where were funded only 3 projects. Romania submitted 6 projects and involved to the participation 19 partners.

Measure 4.1 Institutional cooperation, was the central point of ten (10) projects, of which only one had a leader Maramures County, and 2 projects had as partners Satu Mare (1) and Maramures (2) Counties.

Romania submitted 23 projects and has involved to the participation 52 partners.

As in the first Call under Measure 4.2 Small scale “People to people” cooperation, was funded by the largest number of projects - 15, of which 5 had leaders from Satu Mare, 1 project - from Maramures, and the role of partners Satu Mare had only in one project. Here, Romania submitted 10 projects and involved to the participation 30 partners.

After analyzing the chart, we can make the following conclusion - Maramures County takes greater part in the projects, than Satu Mare County, both as Project Managers, as well as partners.



Three Calls for Proposals took place within the Programme’s frameworks, by the analysis of which were signed grant contracts and projects were launched within the first two (HUSKROUA/0901 and HUSKROUA/1001) Calls.

Chart № 3. In first Call was contracted 46 projects, of which only 6 had leaders from Romania (3 from Maramures and 3 from Satu Mare), the majority from Project Managers were from Ukraine (16) and Hungary (13).

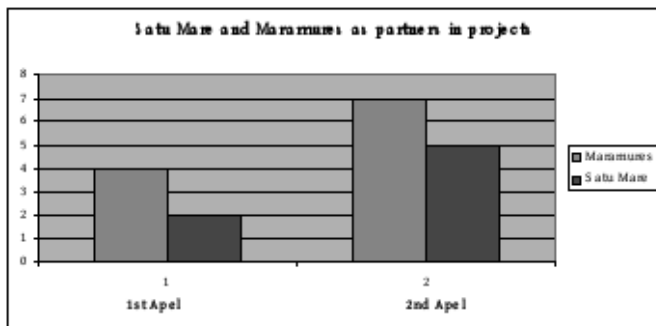


Chart № 4. Under the Second Call for proposals from 46 contracted projects in seven cases, the partnerships were led by one organization, institution from Maramures County and in 5 cases – by the leader from Satu Mare County, and the majority of the projects had Ukrainian leadership (12). Prevalence of project leader from Maramures compared with Satu Mare in the second Call can be explained by the fact that the institutions of this county were more interested.

In general, Satu Mare's participation in the won projects within the programme, is being nethermost. Except for leadership in the projects, it is involved as a partner in three projects, funded under the first Call for proposals and in five - in the second one.

Our view on this situation can be explained by the fact that the county Satu Mare is using another CBC programme Hungary-Romania, where the possibility of border crossing is much easier for the partners and much greater opportunities of communication between partners are available, without the language barrier.

For comparison, the number of project partners of Maramures in the first Call counts 3, and in the second - 7.

This can be explained by the fact, that Maramures county has only one cross-border programme, it is much larger in territorially and much more populated than the County of Satu Mare.

By the means of the analysis can be seen that the most interesting for applicants were the activities related to institutional cooperation, environmental protection, sustainable use and management of natural resources, harmonized development of tourism.

In 2009, within the first Call for proposals were submitted 148 projects from four countries, participating in the programme. Of these, 35 were leaders from Romania, but only 47 projects have been won, of which six (6) had Romanian Beneficiary (leader).

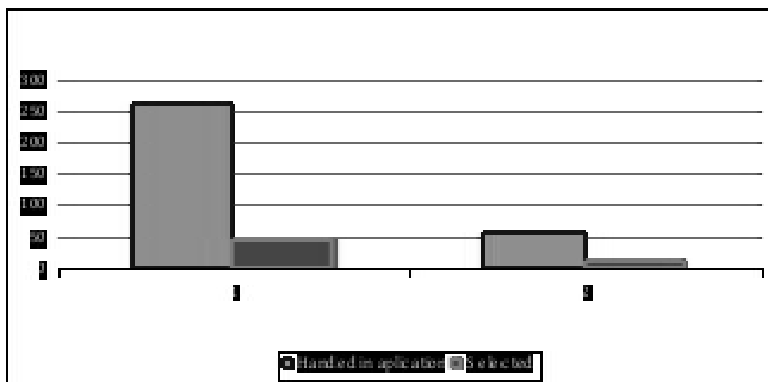


Chart № 5. In 2010, in the second Call were submitted 260 projects, of which 58 were led by the Romanian side. However, only 46 of these projects were won with 13 Romanian leaders.

On the basis of the second Call, presented funding that asked participating countries within the programme and how much received – a request of funding for countries that participated in the programme and allocation of funds.

Chart № 6. - Request of funding for the countries - second Call for Proposals

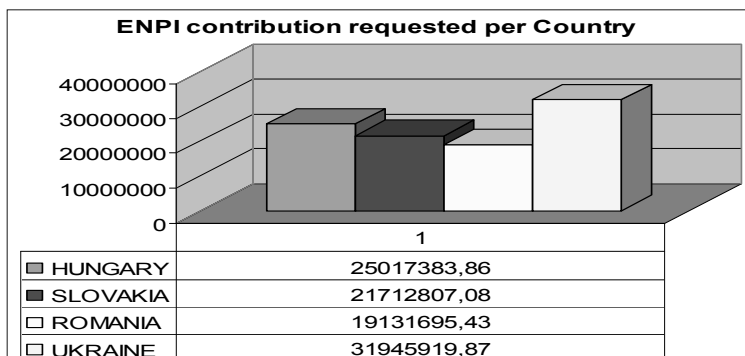
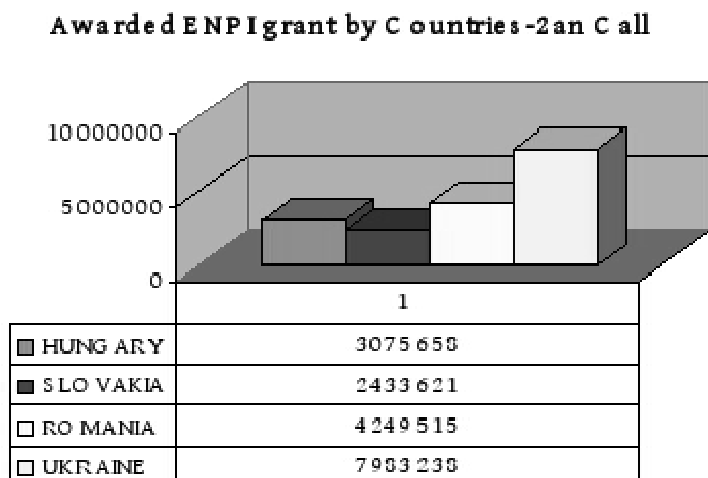


Chart № 7. Received amount after grants' winning for the countries - second Call for Proposals



Analyzing both charts is able to see interest and competition between the three EU Member States and Ukraine for the programme. The largest share of funding after the second Call of the three EU Member States gained Romania. Thus, it caught up with the gap in the first Call. The reason may be the fact that during this period there had been organizing regional offices and therefore it could not operate at maximum efficiency in the Call.

Conclusions

Cross-border cooperation between Ukraine and Romania has some results and deserves to be objectively analyzed. The analysis should call positive elements and disadvantages in coverage of certain sectors to improve future relations between the two countries. Border relations continue in being sporadic, superficial, connected with individual initiative rather than systematic and consistent character.

It is necessary to improve the conditions of border crossing and to simplify the process of obtaining visas for Ukrainian partners that impede cooperation initiative. A consensus on the powers of territorial administrations of the two countries should be reached, and the

methods of projects' audit verification should be improved, which are different between the three countries of the EU and Ukraine, which is being only the partner.

Local government agencies at the local mayors and the decentralized institutions levels of the two countries should participate more actively in supporting projects between the two countries.

Both Romania and Ukraine should learn to use the tools of resources mobilization at the borders of the EU, funds for the development of institutions, infrastructure and the usage of local advantages. Border actors must learn to treat certain issues as to priority ones, at the local level with an integrated perspective of efforts across Europe. Both countries have to build their policy of cooperation, including cross-border cooperation policy, in accordance with other European countries, and it is not because we are weak or less inspired, but because we have to put together with a common purpose of Europe's interests unification.

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METHODOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF THE STUDY OF CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION IN THE CONTEXT OF EU ENLARGEMENT

The paper discusses methodological principles of cross-border cooperation study in the context of EU enlargement. Approaches and methods of multi-level phenomena and the dynamics of cross-border cooperation are analysed and systemised. The need for the introduction of the cluster analysis for the simulation of specific border region is investigated.

Keywords: *cross-border cooperation, the methodological apparatus, limology, clusters, cluster analysis*

Statement of the problem. The current stage of development of the Ukrainian state is inseparably associated with globalization processes that become catalysts for inter-regional and cross-border cooperation between countries. Regions participating in cross-border cooperation certainly receive some advantages in the social and economic spheres.

These regions not only have the ability to solve common problems with territorial border regions of neighbouring countries, - to attract foreign capital, to stimulate the creation of new jobs, - but they can also use cross-border cooperation as a tool for aligning territorial imbalances that are present in all regions of Ukraine. The cross-border cooperation between countries considerably intensified financial, material and human flows, significantly weakened the barrier function of national borders, resulting in contribution to a network of formal and non-formal interaction of subjects of neighbouring border regions. Horizontal relationships form the basis for new forms of spatial integration - the European regions, development corridors, parks,

industrial clusters, thereby providing an opportunity to maximize resource efficiency both by matching the strategic directions of development of individual regions, and by creating a joint strategy. However, any process associated with socio-economic development that affects the functioning of the region, requires a methodological apparatus for the study, because quality and tested system of methods can analyze various aspects of cross-border cooperation more objectively and accurately.

Analysis of scrutiny of the topic. Western scholars and scientists of the CIS made great contribution to the development of theory and research methodology of CBC. The definitions of “cross-border region” and “cross-border regionalism” can be found in the writings of V.S. Bilchak [1, p. 29], N.M. Mezhevych, M. . . Shinkovsky, B. Van der Velde, D. Scott, J. Hackley. N.V. Kaledin, V.A. Kolosov, Y.A. Korzhy, L. LaRouche, M. Perkman and others researched the concept of “new spatial forms of international economic integration”. However, the works of Ukrainian scientists involved in the study of various aspects of cooperation between border regions of Ukraine, are of particular relevance. Mikula, O.S. Peredriy, Y.M. Pahomov, S.I. Ustych, I. Artiomov, N. Nosa, M.N. Tovt, M.A. Lendyel, P.Y. Studenyak, A.V. Balyan, V.Y. Vysochansky, E.V. Kish, I.I. Ustych and others have paid considerable attention to methodological apparatus study of cross-border cooperation.

For example, E.B. Kish, working on problems of limology, [4] proved that every process that occurs between neighbouring countries requires a broader methodological approaches and comprehensive analysis of all elements of an integrated system of cross-border cooperation. From the standpoint of methodology in this light, it is important to study the issue of dichotomy - dependence and autonomy of the various areas of life in the border areas in particular. I.I. Ustych also addressed the phenomenon of cross-border regionalization within the context of innovation [11, p. 303] from the standpoint of the concept of globalization and the associated concept of “transparent borders.” Historical and logical approaches proposed by the researcher can more objectively assess the current state of border areas of Western Ukraine.

The purpose of the article. Uncovering problems of methodological apparatus study of CBC in the context of the EU enlargement.

Presentation of the main content. Factors characterizing the status and potential of cross-border cooperation have a multilevel nature, and they are formed at three levels - regional, national and global. In order to objectively and thoroughly investigate the characteristics of cross-border cooperation, it is necessary to use a range of methods of scientific knowledge, in particular synergistic method, and system analysis with the use of policies and theories of factor analysis. The combination of these methods makes it possible to understand at a deep level hierarchy of events occurring in the regional environment, which in turn always interacts with systems of higher order, which also always determine the development prospects of the region [7, p. 44].

In order to understand the nature, role and place of cross-border cooperation at the regional level, we also propose to use logic synthesis and structural analysis, which enables the study of factors that shape the internal environment of the region. To study the general provisions of the development and functioning of cross-border cooperation, its categorial apparatus, sources of formation and development directions, we consider appropriate to use the dialectical method, method of causal relationships and retrospective analysis.

Implementation of any intergovernmental programmes, strategies of cooperation and joint projects require the use of statistical-analytical and mathematical-statistical methods, because they are necessary for the correct calculation of potential reserves, strengths and weaknesses, forecasting, development of recommendations and suggestions.

In order to deepen the methodological frameworks of cross-border cooperation research in a particular area, to ensure its institutional foundations for the formation of new conceptual provisions, grouping and classification processes and phenomena, we consider the most appropriate method of scientific abstraction. The above method also makes it possible to study regional phenomena in the context of overall national development, and to develop specific proposals to improve cross-border cooperation.

One can follow the approach of T. Tereshchenko [14, p. 9], who considers it appropriate to take into account the following principles of cross-border cooperation study: complexity, multilevel, target orientation and efficiency. However, if it is necessary to evaluate not only the results of cross-border cooperation, but also the dynamics and trends of its development, we agree with the idea of M.I. Mikhailova and A.M. Zamora, who offer to adhere to the following principles of cross-border cooperation study [10, p. 36 - 37]:

- Complexity and comprehensiveness. That is, cross-border cooperation is seen as a system that is connected to the internal and external factors of the environment. E.B. Kish has developed the concept of systems research of internal and external processes. She concluded that the study of cross-border cooperation is impossible without taking into account the complexity of the phenomena occurring in the border regions.

- Historical retrospective. The dynamics of cross-border cooperation is necessarily considered based on the circumstances and events of the past. I.I. Ustych [13, p. 234] also adheres to the same ideas in the study of features of cross-border cooperation in the Transcarpathian region. He believes that an objective assessment of the potential and trends of cross-border cooperation in neighbouring regions is not possible without taking into account the events of the past and historical background of socio-economic development of border areas.

- Balanced regional development based on the maximum of its potential. According to this principle, cross-border cooperation is investigated using all the resources, reserves, imbalances, and possibilities of their alignment to stabilize the socio-economic development of border areas.

- Compliance of development of the regional programmes with programme objectives of EU enlargement. Thus, according to this principle, it is necessary to analyze how the goals and actual achievements of CBC meet the goals and targets, set under various joint programmes and projects of the EU.

- Mandatory consideration of constant change. Since the border areas are characterized by specific dynamics of development, cross-

border cooperation is also not a sustainable system - it is constantly changing under the influence of economic, political and social factors, and therefore requires continuous monitoring of changes to promptly identify new opportunities or obstacles for such cooperation.

- Coherence of development. This principle includes compliance of CBC with national programmes and national development strategies.

In addition, in our own study, we adhere to the view that for creating a realistic assessment of regional scale and forecasting in the context of a given region, the most accepted is the practice of cluster analysis. We believe that this method allows for the widest identification of innovative potential of border areas to form a “portfolio” of the region. Cluster simulation allows creating a common information and economic space, which provides opportunities to create a high level of attractiveness of the region for investments, and opens new horizons for joint participation in EU projects. The method of cluster simulation allows implementing new forms of cross-border cooperation in real life.

If we consider the practical implementation of the cluster model for Ukraine, according to the Concept of cluster creation, we can highlight the following types of clusters:

- Industrial clusters;
- Innovative technology clusters;
- Tourist clusters;
- Transport and logistics clusters.

Creation of transport and logistics clusters was selected as a priority for Ukraine. Efficient formation of transport and logistics clusters takes place under conditions of favourable market initiatives and high-quality transport infrastructure.

Analysis of key elements on the formation of regional transport and logistics cluster of Transcarpathia allows highlighting the main components of regional transport and logistics cluster of Transcarpathian region:

- Logistics Centre and innovative technologies;
- International transport corridor;
- Regional authorities;
- Research and educational institutions.

It brings together regional trucking companies, licensed warehouses, local authorities, research institutions, and network of communications that enhance interaction and competitive advantages of transport corridor. Cross-border transport and logistics centres which use cluster management model in the Transcarpathian region become the unifying management bodies of intermodal transportation on the western border of Ukraine.

Conclusions. Thus, cross-border co-operation is a tiered and dynamic phenomenon that requires extensive methodological research apparatus. Development of cross-border cooperation in the border areas of Ukraine requires attention of scientists, and a wide range of scientific instruments of knowledge to maximize the incorporation of peculiarities of a particular region. Given the concepts and principles developed by scientists, we can distinguish general principles of study of cross-border cooperation, which would consider the conditions and dynamics of the internal and external environment of cooperation between neighbouring countries.

In addition, for objective evaluation and practical implementation of joint projects and programmes we offer the use of a cluster model for regional economy of border areas. For the implementation of real proposals, we have developed the basic concept of cluster modelling, under Concept of cluster creation in Ukraine.

Cluster simulation will allow calculating development of cross-border regions using innovative investment method, including prospects of the use of clusters.

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У статті розглядаються методологічні засади вивчення транскордонного співробітництва в умовах розширення ЄС. Аналізуються та систематизуються підходи і методи дослідження багаторівневих явищ і динаміки транскордонного співробітництва. Досліджується необхідність впровадження кластерного аналізу для моделювання процесів окремого прикордонного регіону.

Ключові слова: *транскордонне співробітництво, методологічний апарат, лімологія, кластери, кластерний аналіз.*

В статтє рассматриваются методологические основы изучения трансграничного сотрудничества в условиях расширения

ЕС. Анализируются и систематизируются подходы и методы исследования многоуровневых явлений и динамики трансграничного сотрудничества. Исследуется необходимость внедрения кластерного анализа для моделирования процессов отдельного приграничного региона.

Ключевые слова: *трансграничное сотрудничество, методологический аппарат, лимология, кластеры, кластерный анализ.*

The article considers the methodological foundations of the cross-border cooperation study in the context of EU enlargement. Approaches and methods of multi-level phenomena and the dynamics of cross-border cooperation are analysed and systemised. The need for the introduction of the cluster analysis for the simulation of a single border region is investigated.

Keywords: *cross-border cooperation, the methodological apparatus limology, clusters, cluster analysis*

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CURRENT PROBLEMS AND DEVELOPMENT PROSPECTS OF CROSS-BORDER TOURISM ON THE BORDER WITH THE EUROPEAN UNION

Транскордонне співробітництво відіграє велику роль у соціально-економічному розвитку Закарпатської області. Відкриття кордонів в результаті розпаду СРСР зробило можливим відродження міжрегіональних відносин, створення ініціатив, започаткованих на базі спільних інтересів. В результаті ведення політики Європейського Союзу, спрямованої на розвиток транскордонних відносин та побудови системи її інституційної і фінансової підтримки, була реалізована велика кількість проектів розвитку в досліджуваному регіоні. Важливим моментом розвитку транскордонного співробітництва стала поява програм добросусідства Європейського Союзу, зміст та виконання яких безпосередньо пов'язані із Закарпатською областю. Туризм та туристичне співробітництво завжди становили важливу частину транскордонних відносин. У зв'язку з тим, що розвиток туризму безпосередньо впливає на піднесення економіки, засоби сприяння його розвитку включалися в різні програми фінансування. Тому в більшості випадків було й понині доступне конкретне фінансування для здійснення транскордонних туристичних проектів, в результаті чого їх кількість постійно зростає.

Транскордонне туристичне співробітництво, Європейський союз, програми фінансування, регіональний розвиток

INTRODUCTION

On the basis of geographical location the development of cross-border cooperation plays an important role for Transcarpathian region. The region borders on four Member-States of the European Union (the

EU): Hungary (Sabolch-Satmar-Bereg region), Romania (Satu-Mare and Maramures counties), Slovakia (Kosice and Preshov regions) and Poland (Subcarpathian Voivodeship). In the early 1990s the cross-border relationships have begun to take off after the signing of cooperation agreements between neighboring countries in the region. The documents which simultaneously were an institutional basis of cross-border structures, have also determined the cross-border cooperation and the principles of local and regional governmental authorities. Moreover, the bilateral agreements of cooperation were concluded and they have been designed specifically to regulate the cross-border cooperation. These agreements were based on the principles of the European Outline Convention on Transfrontier Cooperation between Territorial Communities or Authorities (Madrid, May 21, 1980) which attempted to create a complex system to regulate the relations of cross-border cooperation, concretize them in recognition of the special conditions of contract countries.

The meetings of Intergovernmental Commission on cross-border cooperation are held, where the main goals are to solve problems and develop the concept of cooperation [1, p. 8-18]. Bilateral regional agreements of cooperation were concluded through the example of international agreements. As a result of interregional cooperation were realized specific measures and the measures, which are intended to support the development of tourism measures. The neighboring regions have organized international tourist exhibitions, where the free opportunity was provided to present tourism organizations of partners' regions, including: at the Tourist Exhibition "Kosice Tour" (February, Kosice), at the International Tourism Exhibition-Fair "Holidays" (March, Niredgaza), at the International Festival-Fair "Toueurocenter-Transcarpathia" (September, Uzhgorod), at the Tourist Exhibition «Holiday and Travel Expo» (October, Satu-Mare). These measures have become a meeting place for professionals in tourism, where within the framework of conferences have been discussed the future directions in international tourism cooperation. A number of cooperation initiatives at the district level is lower than a number of cross-border cooperation initiatives at the regional level.

The initiatives at the local government level play an important role and are mainly based on agreements among twinned settlements.

1. Cross Border Cooperation in Transcarpathian region

In the early 1990s the first Euroregions were established in the eastern part of Central Europe, which purpose was the development of cross-border relations in previously closed border areas [16, p. 15 - 164]. Consequently, the Carpathian Euroregion was established in Debrecen (Hungary) on the 14th of February, 1993. Its total area was 150,000 km² and population was about 15 million people. The main purpose of creation was the formation of good neighborly relations, social stability and promoting of economic progress in the border areas of Ukraine, Hungary, Romania, Poland and Slovakia [5]. In addition to the three regions of Ukraine, the member of this Euroregion is Transcarpathian region. Many people thought, that one of the most important and quickly solvable issue and task is to create more humane conditions of border crossing between the EU Member-States [4, p. 67]. The greatest achievement of the European region can be considered as growing of political trust, while economic cooperation has not provided an effective result [20]. From viewpoint of tourism, the results of the European region are the development of Tour itinerary “Carpathian Euroregion”, an organization of already traditional neighborhood days (Slovak-Ukrainian, Polish-Ukrainian, Hungarian-Ukrainian) as well as organization and holding of various national and art festivals.

There were attempts to create more efficient Euroregional formation. On the 6th of October, 2000 was initiated trilateral cooperation, which was called INTERREGION, where Sabolch-Satmar-Bereg region (Hungary), Satu-Mare (Romania) and Transcarpathian region (Ukraine) participated. Newly created formation initially was only a programmed region within a framework of the Carpathian Euroregion, which was designed to promote relationships among these areas. The main goal of INTERREGION was to build and develop the cross-border cooperation within the Carpathian Euroregion, development and implementing of specific projects of cross-border cooperation at the local government level. This constituent document reveals that this

initiative has served to facilitate the implementation of tasks envisaged by bilateral intergovernmental Ukrainian-Hungarian, Hungarian-Romanian, and Romanian-Ukrainian agreements. The main goal of this Euroregional formation is a comprehensive development of infrastructure, environmental protection, water conservation, education, economy and tourism, support of international relations and revival of common cultural values. Partners help each other in the implementation of the planned joint bilateral development projects, financing of which try to provide at their own expenses and other sources. The basis for cooperation is the relationship of sister cities Niredgaza-Uzhgorod-Satu-Mare [15]. Joint Hungarian-Ukrainian development concept was developed to implement the aforementioned objectives, the overall aim of which was to promote the economic development and social cohesion in the region, improving the life quality of local people, with maximal use of cross-border cooperation [17, p. 95-114]. **EuroClip Public Foundation** (in Niredgaza) and Hungarian-Ukrainian Regional Development Center (in Uzhgorod) were created to implement the objectives in concept. Unfortunately, in spite of the clear-cut identified principles and willingness of regional leaders to cooperate, INTERREGION did not exist for a long term. The introduction of visa regime in Ukraine and joining of its western neighbors to the Schengen zone has put back the development of cross-border cooperation between these regions.

The value of euroregional cooperation confirms its impact on the eastern policy of the European Union [14, p. 68-70]. The funding systems for this purpose, in particular TACIS CBC, PHARE CBC, INTERREG, ENPI were appointed to advance the development of areas that are located at the external borders of the EU. The development of tourism directly or indirectly related to the development of these areas. The conditions of Transcarpathian region participation constantly have been changing in these programmes dependence on the process of eastern enlargement and changes in funding policy. In prospect, we will try to analyze the development of participation of Transcarpathian region cooperation in tourism during the period before the eastern enlargement of the EU (2004) and after it.

1.1. Cross-border Cooperation in Tourism before the Eastern Enlargement of the European Union

Support of regional, cross-border, transnational cooperation and promoting of the backward boundary regions are the EU priorities within its borders and external boundary regions [21]. One of the major goals of joint project is to remove the political, historical, ethnic, social and economic tensions caused by national borders, improving and deepening of relations, economic development [18, p. 455-457].

TACIS CBC

TACIS CBC Programme has been established on the western borders of the former republics of Soviet Union. Only those regions which are directly bordering with the EU have the priority right to take part in the programme, but since 1999 the programme was also extended on borders with enlargement countries. There were projects related to the modernization of border infrastructure, border crossing points in focus of the programme. [19, p. 81-82]. Almost every large-scale project put into practice has influenced on the development of tourism industry:

- modernization of Passport Control Point «Tisa» (Chop - Zahon)
- budget EUR 2.8 million;
- support of local development projects and tourism in Transcarpathian region of Ukraine - budget 1.5 million euro;
- Carpathian development strategy of 2003-2011.

PHARE CBC

Within the frameworks of INTERREG there was implemented project «Pilot Small Project Fund PHARE CBC» with an independent budget in 2002-2003. As a result, Ukrainian-Hungarian cooperation within the frameworks of this programme were implemented several tourist projects (see Table 1). These projects could be brought only by Hungarian side, but the presence of Ukrainian partner was obligatory. The main problems on the Ukrainian side are the lack of funding for its further development and elaboration of specific proposals, as well as the incoordination of mechanisms for simultaneous co-financing of cross-border projects at the expense of EU programmes, national and

regional budget allocations and budget sources [3, p. 29-35]. In some extent the development of Ukrainian-Hungarian boundary region has hampered the fact that this programme was started only in 2002 on this territory and in accordance with EU regulations the large-scale projects could not be implemented.

TABLE 1.

Implemented Ukrainian-Hungarian tourism projects supported by PHARE CBC

Applicant	Title of the project	Sum(euro)
Association of Regional Development of Bereg	Developments of tourist programs in the boundary region	35.034
Union "Hungarian-Ukrainian club of water activities and nature-lovers"	Development of water activities in the Tisa region "Rakhiv - Rakamaz"	38.400
Institute of Niredgaza	Research of resource use in Transcarpathia	48.150
Development Institution in Sabolch-Satmar-Bereg region	Cross-border routes of architectural monuments and tourism	21.064
Chamber of Trade in Sabolch-Satmar-Bereg region	Cross-border opportunities for tourism development	28.160
Local Government of Sabolch-Satmar-Bereg region Niredgaza	Cooperation in Tourism between Niredgaza and Uzhgorod	28.000
Fund "For the health of inhabitants in Uytelep	Tourism development and preservation of health without borders	49.540

Source: <http://www.huskroua-cbc.net/>; Edit: J.J. Torpoi

Projects, which were financed from TACIS CBC and PHARE CBC programmes, mainly were used for exchanging experiences, conferences, festivals, preparation of various publications, concept development. PHARE CBC Programme has supported such projects which were aimed at spreading of democracy in the target countries.

These projects have promoted an active involvement of people in the process of projects implementation through making independent decisions in the life of different communities. This period was characterized by strengthening the public sphere in Transcarpathia, incorporation of young professionals, student councils, formation centers and regional development institutions into projects. There have been several studies on the exchange of experience, habituation with the European Union and its policy development and management of projects. Although the concrete amount of funding was insignificant (up to 50,000 euro per project) and the Ukrainian side did not have the right to receive funds, these projects contributed the revival and strengthening of public activity. The positive result can estimate as the process of human resources development, with which Transcarpathian experts appeared in development and management of projects. The negative is the implementation of specific projects in many cases was not based on a real partnership, casual and short-term contacts between partners were more characteristic.

1.2. Cross-border Cooperation in Tourism after the Eastern Enlargement of the European Union

In the interests of more effective coordination of EU funding and due to the changes of borders, the European Commission has decided to reform cooperation on its new borders. The real document of the EU neighborhood policy towards Ukraine was adopted in February of 2005 EU-Ukraine Plan of Action, which has opened a new page in the history of cross-border cooperation between Ukraine and the EU.

Interreg III A

Became known as Neighbourhood Programme has established an unified system of cross border cooperation in the period from 2004 to 2006. The programme was developed for 3 years term. Its main purpose was to promote the Ukraine's further integration into European economic and social structures. Implementation of projects has funded the EU programme INTERREG III A, in Ukraine - TACIS CBC programme accordingly. The main purpose of the Neighbourhood Programme "Hungary-Slovakia-Ukraine 2004-2006" was to improve situation on that moment in the region, elimination of peripheral

features by supporting of cross border economic cooperation and development of cross-border infrastructure. Table 2 contains data on tourist projects which have been implemented within this programme's frameworks.

Table 2.

Tourist Projects, which were Implemented by the Support of Neighbourhood Programme “Hungary-Slovakia-Ukraine 2004-2006”

Aplicant	Title of the project	Sum (euro)
Centre for Ukrainian-Hungarian Regional Development	Creation of regional tourist information center in Transcarpathian region	83.642
Zemplen Regional Tourism Association	Slovak-Ukrainian Boundary Cooperation in Tourism	91.636
Technical University of Kosice	Hungarian-Slovak-Ukrainian tourist competition with orientation	17.000
Velyki Selmenci	SUHRA - Slovak-Ukrainian border - strengthening of family relationships with building of cycle lane	220.000
Regional Development Agency in Sabolch-Satmar-Bereg region	Creation and development of cross-border tourist relationships in Sabolch-Satmar-Bereg region and Transcarpathia	16.000
Union of Rural Tourism in Sabolch-Satmar-Bereg region	Water activities and rural tourism without borders	70.000

Source: <http://www.huskroua-cbc.net/>; Edit: J.J. Torpoi

The peculiarity of INTERREG CBC projects was the fact that they were based on international cooperation of partners from different countries. Basis of partner and business relationships on which joint

projects were based on, was laid by PHARE CBC programme. The main purpose was the implementation of specific projects in this programming period. The amount of funding has been growing: at the beginning of the programme it was about 47 million euro, in 2006 already 100 million euro.

On the first contest 6 Transcarpathian and 308 Hungarian and Slovak applications were submitted. The ignorance of English and lack of personal finances have complicated the participation in the programme of Ukrainian organizations. According to the final provisions of the Law of Ukraine “On the cross-border cooperation” in the Government Budget of Ukraine for 2005 and the following years the Ukrainian side has defined finances and co-financing mechanism for selected projects. However, the state did not define the source and mechanism of support. The practice of state co-financing in Hungary and Slovakia has significantly stimulated the willingness of applicants to supply projects. Each applicant had to find himself a 10 percent share of its own, for example, in the project with a budget of 100 000 euro is often seemed impossible, as for sufficiently funded local authorities and for public organizations that did not receive any state support. It’s not surprising that the Ukrainian side in most cases is still as a partner, not the Beneficiary. Also the implementation of the Neighbourhood Programme was hindered by the fact that Ukraine has allowed to hold a competition on its territory when Slovak and Hungarian side have already worked its on closing. Although, after the end of funding cycle (2004-2006), as a result of INTERREG III A programme, the cross-border cooperation at the border between Ukraine and the EU was considerably intensified. Neighbourhood Programme of Romania-Ukraine (2004-2006) was financed from two sources: the Romanian side from PHARE CBC programme, and TACIS CBC programme from Ukrainian. Only 31 Ukrainian projects were supported in two Calls for proposals: 5 - from Ivano-Frankivsk, 8 - from Transcarpathia, 13 - from Chernivtsi, 5 - from Odessa. These projects have jointly received 5 million euro. The main directions of activity of the Programme were to promote sustainable local economic and social development, expansion and strengthening of tourism industry, development of cross-border transport and boundary

infrastructure, improving of cross-border environmental management, etc. [7]. The list of tourist oriented projects is in Table 3.

Table 3.

Implemented Tourist Projects under the Neighbourhood Programme “Romania-Ukraine 2004-2006”

Aplicant	Title of the project	Sum(euro)
Ecological Union	Partnership of development - promoting cross-border cooperation in boundary region of Verkhnya Tisa basin	430.531
Chamber of Trade of Satu-Mare district	Tourism without borders in Satu-Mare district and Transcarpathian region	78.560
Municipal Council of Baia Mare	Green tourism in border of Carpathians	161.310
Regional Council of Maramures district	Carpathian Network of Tourism to promote the development tourism in Maramures district, Transcarpathian and Ivano-Frankivsk regions	482.000
Regional Council of Myresh district	ECOTOUR – tourism in Transcarpathian region	550.000
Municipal Council of Sighet-Marmarosh district	Tourist bridge Sighet-Marmarosh district - Solotvyno	189.700

Source: <http://www.huskroua-cbc.net/>; Edit: J.J. Torpoi

During the past two decades, the European Union and Ukraine have concluded several treaties and agreements, its multi-dialogue is continuous and covers many issues (legal harmonization, trade, nuclear energy, transport, environment, etc.), but due to the lack of real interaction with the EU, Ukraine has not received significant financial support to solve such problems as infrastructure development, implementation of large-scale investment, development of environmental defense, nor in the early stages

of TACIS programme, neither in the framework of PHARE CBC programme. An announcement of the Neighbourhood Programme ENPI we were waiting for a long time.

Cross-border cooperation has received a new impulse within the frameworks of the ENPI CBC “Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine 2007-2013”. In the interests of sustainable development in the EU from the view point of economic and regional perspective and with the purpose to eliminate regional differences in the period from 2007 to 2013 the financial resources of Structural Funds and Cohesion Fund of European Sources can be used for implementation of four priorities:

1. Promote economic and social development.
2. Enhance environment quality.
3. Increase border efficiency.
4. Support people to people cooperation.



Figure 1. The Programme ENPI CBC “Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine 2007-2013”

Source: <http://www.huskroua-cbc.net/>; Edit: Torpoi JJ

The programme is carried out at the external borders of the EU Member-States and Ukraine. Feature of the programme is the fact that it is allowed the implementation of projects in which Ukrainian partner organizations are taking part. The programme area is located on the Slovak-Hungarian-Romanian-Ukrainian border and covers about six hundred kilometers of common border with Ukraine, which completely covers Slovak-Ukrainian (97.9 miles), Hungarian-Ukrainian (134.6 km) and partly Romanian-Ukrainian (366.4 km) line border (pict. 1).

Table 4.

**Acceptable Territorial Units of ENPI CBC
Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine
2007-2013**

Hungary:	Slovakia:	Romania:	Ukraine:
Sabolch-Satmar-Bereg and Borshod-Abauj-Zemplen regions (additional territory with full participation)	Kosice and Presov regions	Maramures, Satmar and Suceava cjunties (adjacent territory with limited participation)	Transcarpathian, Ivano-Frankivsk Chernivtsi regions (adjacent territory with limited participation)

“Adjacent territory with full participation” means any organization, which is located on it, can cooperate within the frameworks of application without any limitations. “Additional territory with limited participation” means any organization which is located on it, can cooperate within the framework of certain limitations.

Source: <http://www.huskroua-cbc.net>

The general objective is the intensification and deepening of cooperation between Transcarpathian, Ivano-Frankivsk and

Chernivtsi regions of Ukraine and acceptable and adjacent territory of Hungary, Romania and Slovakia in an environmentally, socially and economically sustainable ways. Much attention is focused on tourism, strengthening of tourist attractiveness on territory within the priority “Promoting economic and social development”. The programme was carried out in three parts. The assessment of applications, which were filed at the third Call for proposals, has been going on at the time of this writing.

Tourism projects that were implemented within the first two Calls are listed in Table 5. Center of Ukrainian-Hungarian Regional Development in partnership with the Association of Rural Tourism Region Sabolch-Satmar-Bereg region (Hungary) have implemented a project entitled as “Managing of cross- border destinations in Transcarpathian region and Sabolch-Satmar-Bereg region.” The general project objective was to create a competitive and self-sufficient tourist destination in boundary region of Ukraine and Hungary. This destination has to propose for tourists a complex of recreational activities. An unique initiative can be also considered the project “Integrated bicycle tourist routes along the Ukrainian-Hungarian border” within the Ukrainian-Hungarian border cooperation that is in progress now. Construction of cross-border cycle lanes (Luzhanka-Bereg (3856 m) and Vilok, Dyakovo (3150 m) will allow to strengthen the relationship among the border territories of these countries [30]. Due to the project implementation the new system will be established in the field of general management of cycling. Due to the infrastructural development of cycle lanes will begin the creation of joint cross-border cycling tour of the region, the development of tourism in rural areas, which offer tourist attractions in Hungarian and Ukrainian parts of the region.

New methods of joint planning and joint financing as well as success of the project will further strengthen cooperation among stakeholders in tourism. [6]

Table 5.

**Implemented Tourism Projects within the frameworks
of ENPI CBC Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine 2007-2013**

Aplicant	Title of the project	Partners	Sum (euro)
Center of Ukrainian-Hungarian Regional Development	Management of cross-border destinations in Transcarpathian region and Sabolch-Satmar-Bereg region	UA-HU	273.177
Agency for Regional Development and Cross-Border Cooperation «Transcarpathia»	Carpathian tourist route	SK- UA	480.177
City Council of Kosice	Carpathian region as an attractive tourist destination	HU-SK-RO-UA	197.729
Nonprofit Enterprise «Buk-Mac»	Development of joint tourism strategy between Transcarpathia and Borshod-Abauj-Zemplen region	HU-UA	408.902
Agency for Regional Development and Environmental Protection	Historical origins of common religious and cultural heritage of the peoples of the Carpathians and problems of its conservation	HU-UA	129.139
Ski Club named after Lisa Sabinova	The Chekhov mountains - Transcarpathian, cross-border cooperation in tourism development	SK-UA	449.990
City Council of Mukachevo	“Places of Fame Rakoci» - cross-border tourist route	UA-HU-SK	440.899

Center of Ukrainian-Hungarian Regional Development	Integrated system of bicycle tourist routes along the Ukrainian-Hungarian border	UA-HU	417.158
Public fund of preservation of environment and protection of cultural heritage of Sabolch-Satmar-Bereg region	Providing of preconditions for establishment of an international cross-border Natural Park of Satmar-Bereg region	HU-RO-UA	378.020
Agency for Regional Development and Cross-Border Cooperation “Transcarpathia”	Carpathian tourist route 2	SK-UA	408.754

Source: <http://www.huskroua-cbc.net/>; Edit: J.J. Torpoi

The environmental project “Ensuring of preconditions for establishment of an international cross-border Natural Park of Satmar-Bereg “, that has began in January 2011, also includes innovations because such a form of environmental objects as naturpark are currently not available to domestic environmental legislation. There is such object in Sabolch-Satmar-Bereg region (Hungary).

The main objective of the project - professional study of natural objects, historical and cultural values, on the one hand, need of protection, on the other, serve to the local socio-economic development, especially in field of tourism. The long-term goal is the creation of cross-border objects on the territory of three countries - Hungary, Romania and Ukraine. At the beginning of the project it was selected Berehove region [26]. The Naturparks differ from other objects by system of environmental protection (national parks, reserves, etc.) because its activity is supported by community based on organization and self-government. The symbiosis of state and local interests is working in these ways.

This approach can operate in Ukrainian conditions, because is based on the local cooperation, but is not imposed from the center.

At the same time this is also its weakness because the public and introduced for lower levels initiatives are not sufficiently strong.

Except the given above projects the implementation of several large-scale projects is still in progress. First of all, the projects, which are oriented on reconstruction of Passport Control checkpoints on the Ukrainian-Hungarian, Ukrainian-Slovak, and Ukrainian-Romanian borders. It is completed the project “Rehabilitation of existing and construction of new infrastructure customs checkpoint Uzhgorod” (passenger area) and “Reconstruction of the international automobile checkpoint” in Vylok. The project “Strengthening facilities for canoeists clearance at crossings” in Vylok will give the opportunity to make customs control and customs registration of citizens that are moving by water along the Tisa. On the border with Hungary is currently planned reconstruction. As a result of the project “Construction of an international automobile checkpoint” Dyakove “is expected to increase pass-through function to reduce the time of control procedures for improvement and unification [2, p. 8-9].

Transcarpathian region is also an acceptable territorial unit for ENPI CBC Programme “Poland-Belarus-Ukraine 2007-2013”. Agreement on cross-border cooperation between Transcarpathian Regional State Administration and Subcarpathian Voivodeship was signed relatively late on the 21th of June, 2002. The length of common border of these regions is only 33.4 km. In accordance with the Comprehensive building programme of state border of Ukraine for 1994-2000 years was provided the construction of tourist pedestrian crossing points “Lubnya-Volosate” on the border with Poland. At present it is decided to open these Passport Control checkpoints on the Ukrainian side with joint control of customs and border guard services of two countries. The construction project is passing a phase of technical and financial justification.

The intensity of cross-border cooperation on this border is less than on other border areas of the region. Pursuant the number of tourist cooperation is not great. There is the project “Partnership construction of common tourist area on the basis of new centers of tourism and recreation of youth” in progress, which total budget is 574,868 euro. Its partners are Krosnen district (Poland), Uzhgorod City Council

and Rural Council of Baranyntsi. [27] From view point of tourism an important project is “Yaroslav-Uzhgorod: a joint initiative to improve tourist attraction of historic sister cities”, which is currently in a position of signing the grant contract. Within the framework of joint Polish-Ukrainian initiative the restoration of wineries (of national importance XVIII century) will be implemented in the center of Uzhgorod, known as “Bogolvar” or “Owl’s nest”.

2. Compliance of Cross-border Cooperation to Development Strategies in Transcarpathia

The role of cross-border cooperation in socio-economic life of Transcarpathian region is claimed that:

- among the priorities of regional development until 2015, of defined for Transcarpathian region by National Regional Development Strategy for the period until 2015, the first place is occupied by development of cross-border cooperation [10];
- among the strategic objectives that are defined by Regional development strategy of Transcarpathian region in 2015 as well as is said about development of cross-border and Euroregional cooperation [11];
- on the basis of state programme [9] there was developed programme of cross-border cooperation of Transcarpathian region in 2011-2015 [12].

Legislative consolidation of concepts, objectives and forms and systems of cross-border cooperation was preceded the adoption of strategic documents. Since the adoption of the Law of Ukraine “On the cross-border cooperation” [8] the possibility, necessity and relevance of cross-border cooperation development have played an increasingly important role in the planning of socio-economic development of the regions involved in Ukraine, including the Carpathians, at least in the field of territorial development. But the actual required for of cross-border cooperation development funding is usually not affordable for local governments and government institutions. Therefore at the lack of financial and human resources, necessity for realization of specific projects an increasingly important role in the implementation of cross-

border cooperation has played a public sphere. But it has led to the implementation of random initiatives and development projects that did not always comply and comply with today current development strategies. In particular, when these strategies do not concern the cross-border cooperation. For example, envisaged in the current programme of tourism and resorts in Transcarpathian region in 2011-2015 measures are aimed at: the implementation of tourism policy, tourism optimization of management system, ensuring of optimal environment for sustainable development of tourism in Transcarpathia, innovative approach to the competitiveness of regional and national tourist product, educational activities and academic sustainable development of tourism and resorts activities, formation of tourist image of the region and promote the domestic and international tourism markets. [13] The programme does not provide the development of cross-border cooperation in tourism, development of tourism due to the European grants or coordination of such activities. Activities of programme development do not correspond to priorities of the Programme ENPI CBC “Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine 2007-2013” that from viewpoint of tourism are focused on the improving the tourist attractiveness of regions and joint coordination of tourist development. Development Programme of CBC in Transcarpathian region for 2011-2015 determines the strengthening of relationship among the participants of cross-border cooperation in the field of enterprise and tourism as one of the possible ways of implementing the programme. At the same time, there are no such measures in developed programme of tourist development in the same period (2011-2015). Therefore, we cannot talk about coherence of strategies because there is no political and administrative consolidation. Tourist projects, which are implemented by the EU support absolutely are not coordinated, the implementation of specific projects is conducted separately from each other, and concept of development or research projects is often remained on the “shelves”.

3. The future of cross-border cooperation

Certain forms of cross-border cooperation can contribute to strengthening the role of “bridge connection” among the border regions, economic restructuring, infrastructure and other features that

have stopped after the II World War and formation an unified macro-economic space of the Carpathian basin in a long term [22, p. 257 - 271].

Appropriate basis is the ENPI CBC: “Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine 2014-2020” and “Poland-Belarus-Ukraine 2014-2020”, which will be a financial basis for cooperation on the areas in future. I consider the primary need in the programme calls is to focus on specific infrastructure projects, due to which we can solve the problems of providing population with drinking water of good quality, development of sewerage, solid waste management, infrastructure development of highways and checkpoints, construction of flood control structures. There are examples of such character which have been implemented or are in process now in Transcarpathia. They are “Clean Water” (HU-SK-UA, 2004-2006 - 662,000 euro), and “Cross-border opportunities for development of transport logistics” (HU-SK-UA, 2004-2006 - 593,000 euro), “Complex Hungarian-Ukrainian program of flood mitigation and restoration of floodplain areas in the area between Verkhnya Tisa, Vyshkovo to Vasarosnameny” (HU-SK-RO-UA, 2007-2013 - 1,370 thousand euro), development project of the checkpoint Luzhanka-Berehshuran that is at the stage of signing the grant contract, as well as the construction of waste processing plant in Yanoshi of Berehove region.

Due to the funding of cross-border cooperation programmes (ENPI) these competitions can implement the opening of new checkpoints on the Ukrainian-Hungarian border - Dyyda - Berehdarots, Velyka Pallad-Kishpalad, Salovka-Eperteshke, Heten-Tysokerechen, the Ukrainian-Slovak - Zabrid-Ulich, at the Ukrainian-Polish - Lubnya-Volosate, the Ukrainian-romanian - Yablunivka Hust region and Dilove in Rakhiv region. As a result, according to the EU standards, it would be possible to cross the border of Ukraine and the European Union each 25 kilometers.

Similar development projects also affect on the development of tourism. They contribute to creation and development of general infrastructure which are also considered necessary for the development of tourism and preservation of natural values in the region. It is required

the cooperation at the international level, as well as between regions and relevant central government management to ensure the integrated use of existing potential of the tourism industry. Only in that rate is possible the further development on priority directives of regional cooperation: ensuring of rational implementation of local tourist resources and development of tourist clusters [29].

CONCLUSIONS

Development and consistent implementation of policy directed to support territories, which are bordered with external borders of the EU, have caused a lot of positive changes on the implicated areas on both sides. As a result, after the eastern enlargement of the EU (2004, 2007) Ukraine became a direct neighbor of the EU, including Transcarpathian region. Accordingly, the specific sources of funding have become available for the region. In just the past 20 years, the EU has allocated for development of tourism industry on the Ukrainian-Hungarian border over 2.2 million euro, on the Ukrainian-Romanian - 1.9 million euro, on the Ukrainian-Slovak - 2 million euro, on the Ukrainian-Polish - 1000000 euro. Thus, for the past 20 years, the EU has allocated more than 7 million euro for development of tourism industry in Carpathian Euroregion, including the territory of Transcarpathia.

At the same time cross-border cooperation and the opportunity to participate in the competitions of funding programmes give a powerful impetus to development of the tourism industry in Transcarpathia. It would be advisable to focus not on the development and implementation of so-called “soft projects”, but on the implementation of major infrastructure grants in the following competitions ENPI programme (2014-2020), in my opinion primary would be reconstruction of road network, solving the problems of solid waste management, development of sewerage systems and sewage treatment plants for waste water. Undeveloped public infrastructure besides that hinders the development of tourism also has a negative effect on the development and competitiveness of the regional economy as a whole.

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The cross-border cooperations plays important role in the social-economic development of the Transcarpathian region. The opened borders after the transition provided an opportunity to rebuilt relations and to create initiatives around common interests. The European Union's policy of supporting cross-border connections and the establishment of the relating device and institution system had resulted in a number of developments and successfully implemented projects in the given region. This process fulfilled itself at the appearance of the ENPI tenders, which implementation and development content is defined, in this case, to the Transcarpathian region. Tourism and the tourism co-operations have always been an important part of the cross-border relations. Building on their economic development nature they get place in different calls, thereby financial resources are available for their implementation, as a result their number and importance is growing.

Cross-border tourism cooperation, European Union, funding programmes, regional development.

Трансграничное сотрудничество занимает важное место в социально-экономическом развитии Закарпатской области. Открытие границ в результате распада СССР сделало возможным возрождение межрегиональных отношений, создание инициатив, основанных на базе общих интересов. В результате введения политики Европейского Союза, направленной на развитие трансграничных отношений, и построения системы её институциональной и финансовой поддержки, свершилось великое количество проектов развития в исследованном регионе. Важным моментом развития трансграничного сотрудничества стало появление программ добрососедства Европейского Союза, содержание и выполнение которых непосредственно связано с Закарпатской областью. Туризм и туристическое сотрудничество всегда составляли важную часть трансграничных отношений. В связи с тем, что развитие туризма непосредственно влияет на подъем экономики, средства содействия его развитию включались в различные программы финансирования. Поэтому в большинстве случаев было и поныне доступно конкретное фи-

нансирование для осуществления трансграничных туристических проектов, в результате чего их количество постоянно растет.

Трансграничное туристическое сотрудничество, Европейский союз, программы финансирования, региональное развитие.

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PECULIARITIES OF RURAL AREAS IN THE CONTEXT OF CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION

This paper substantiates theoretical and applied principles for the development of rural areas of Ukraine in the context of cross-border cooperation. It outlines the basic directions of rural development policy and EU Common Agricultural Policy. It identifies promising directions for further research of socio-economic development of rural border areas in combination with the strategy of European integration.

Keywords: *sustainable development, cross-border cooperation, rural areas, environmental security, European integration.*

Intensive integration processes characterize contemporary international relations, among which an important role belongs to cross-border cooperation. Cross-border cooperation is a common action aimed at establishing and deepening economic, social, environmental, scientific, technical, cultural and other relations between local communities and authorities of Ukraine, and local communities and relevant authorities of other states within their competence defined by national law. Such cooperation determines priority direction of EU regional policy.

The desire to integrate Ukraine into the European Community requires the elaboration of measures and mechanisms for sustainable development of the economy as a whole, and individual territorial units of border areas. Rural areas play an important role in the CBC. Without overcoming negative tendencies in the development of rural border areas, our state cannot effectively compete with the economies of developed neighbouring countries. Low living standards of the rural population results in the outflow of its most active part, intensifies the external labour migration, which enhances the process of decline of Ukrainian rural areas.

Socio-economic and environmental development of rural areas is one of the priority strategies of most developed countries in the world and the European Union. Effective implementations of state programmes depend on the strategic development of the social and political circumstances of each country, the geographical and climatic conditions, and the current state of economic development and living standards.

For Ukraine, it is important to explore overseas skills of sustainable rural development, to analyze their patterns and trends. Especially useful for the domestic economy in the context of European integration should be the experience of the European Union.

The European Union pays great attention to rural development, as in 27 EU countries the share of rural population is 27.1% (according to the classification by population density), 20.1% of total population live in the predominantly rural areas (classification at the regional level), and the share of employment in agriculture ranges within 3-4% of the total number of employees [7]. Rural development policy in the EU is part of the structural policy and the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). Throughout its evolution, it gradually departed from the principles that were based on territorial division, and reoriented to approaches related to territorial coordination and convergence. Priorities for the EU rural development policy for 2007-2013 were competitiveness, environment and land management, multifunctional countryside and quality of life [1].

EU Common Agricultural Policy combines elements of market regulation, pricing, foreign trade and structural policies. Since in agricultural economics sectoral and regional factors are integrated into one, CAP aims gradually shifted from problems of agriculture to the challenges of rural development. Therefore, speaking about the current EU agricultural policy, one should understand that it was formed and operated on the foundation and framework of regional, primarily structural, policy. CAP EU in the broadest sense is the general direction of EU policy aimed at [4]:

- improvement of legal regulation of relations in the agricultural sector;
- improvement of administrative relations between institutions and business entities in agriculture;
- adoption of economically viable and effective regulations that enhance the competitiveness of EU agriculture and rural development;
- promotion of further liberalization of EU agriculture in line with WTO requirements.

For effective rural development of the European Union, great importance has the creation of specialized institutions. Since 1988, operates the European Study Group on Rural Development and Village Renewal (ARGE). To provide funding for rural development, there were created such important institutions as The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), European Social Fund (ESF), European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF), the Financial Instrument for Fisheries Guidance (FIFG) and others.

The European experience of regulation of agricultural development proves the high quality of regulatory policy, which manifests itself not only in lax taxation of business entities, but also in the developed and diversified system of grants, subsidies and reimbursements for insurance of agricultural activities. In particular, the programme AR & MR (Agency for Restructuring and Modernisation of Agriculture) pays out subsidies on agricultural land (basic subsidy per hectare is 125 euros per year, structural pension benefits (when a farmer reaches 55 years of age, and, for example,

if he owns 20 hectares of farmland, the payment equals 500 euros a month), subsidies on low marketable farms (1250 per year for each sector), etc. [6].

Developed countries actively subsidize agriculture also for reasons of food security and to minimize threat of excessive migration of rural population to the cities and abroad, etc. The amount of such subsidies in the EU is an average of 50% of the agricultural produce, in Switzerland - 82%. According to the existing estimates, nearly 75% of agricultural products sold in the domestic market of the EU, are subject to government support measures [3].

In some economically developed EU countries, including Norway and Austria, the share of public spending in support of national agricultural production is close or even exceed the share of agricultural production in GDP. Such a high level of public support for agricultural production in the EU is directly related to the provision of conditions for agricultural enterprises to withstand competitive pressure, to introduce innovative technologies, and engage in the cultivation of environmentally friendly products.

Developed network of specialized EU institutions for effective rural development, healthy competition among agricultural producers and focus on the environmental and socio-economic stability, ensure conditions for effective macroeconomic development and the real possibility of forecasting macro-level indicators and the indicators of agricultural market development.

In this aspect particularly interesting for Ukraine is the principle of predictability of pricing policy of the European Union. In particular, for sugar in 2015 was determined basic price per tonne of beet, provided compensations for the reduction of their production, and the payments mechanism for raising saccharinity of beets per tenth of one percent. All these parameters are communicated to each country - member of the EU, and to each farmer through the Agency AR & MR. Under the programme SAPARD (Special Accession Programme for Agriculture and Rural Development) for plant cultivation were financed measures to reduce sugar production [6].

Specialized system of agricultural credit and insurance also provides Stability for the EU agricultural sector. It is based on the activities of the specialized agencies lending to farmers, cooperatives, and land banks and other financial institutions. Quite common in European countries is the practice of public financing for the acquisition of means of production for agriculture. In addition, the system of compensation payments from the state budget insures farmers in case of unfavourable weather conditions, floods, epidemics, etc. There are also budgetary payments related to “regional support”, due to which farmers have the opportunity for agricultural production on an extended basis in areas with adverse weather conditions [2].

The important functions of government regulation in the EU include managing technical progress in agriculture through research institutions and educational institutions, vocational training, advanced training, providing advice to farmers, technical and commercial services through public procurement, public wholesale markets, veterinary care and credit. The state also provides control and accounting (product quality inspection, veterinary inspection, statistics, etc.). Some Western countries now undertake social reconstruction of countryside through the elimination of small production, training of persons driven out from agriculture to work in other industries, as well as the development and implementation of special programmes of rural development [5].

At the same time, exploring issues of public policy of rural development in the context of Ukraine’s European integration, we can not but mention the fact that in recent years in the EU itself have been taking place changes to the approach of prioritizing Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). Thus, the economic integration of Ukraine in the EU involves the objectives of bringing Ukrainian agricultural production to European standards. In this context it is important to take into account modern trends and proposals to reform the CAP, among which should be noted: a) the abolition of payments to farmers to support their income, but instead concentration of resources on intensive rural development and agricultural production compatible with natural conditions, and b) gradual reduction of

direct payments and market regulation instruments (in the future - complete abolition), c) redirection of funding from the budget, intended for direct payments, to rural development to promote quality agricultural produce and consumption of healthy foods in the EU and beyond it [4].

EU agricultural policy is changed and improved in favour of market-oriented reforms. The EU includes a number of countries for which agriculture does not have natural advantages. Ukraine's agriculture is characterized by significant natural resources potential and has the possibility of a gradual approach to the requirements of the EU CAP. This is not about the need for direct copying of the EU Agrarian Policy. But at the same time, due to the factors by which Western states could provide their populations with sufficient food at affordable prices and make the agricultural sector technically equipped and productive, Ukraine could create conditions for the development of efficient production, marketing, processing and distribution structures through appropriate legislation and policies, using European experience.

Consequently, the EU experience is appropriate in terms of improving agricultural market infrastructure and organization of trade flows, achieving parity prices in agriculture, in defining the role of government support for agricultural producers and others. After neighbouring countries joining the EU, Ukraine's membership in the EU has become a real priority prospect that can be accelerated by economic reforms and development of cross-border cooperation.

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In this article theoretical and applied principles of rural Ukraine in the context of cross-border cooperation, the basic directions of rural development policy and EU Common Agricultural Policy. Identified promising directions for further research of socio-economic development of rural border areas in combination with the strategy of European integration.

Keywords: *sustainable development, cross-border cooperation, rural areas, environmental security, European integration.*

В статті обосновані теоретичні та прикладні основи розвитку сільських територій України в контексті трансграничного співробітництва. Охарактеризовані основні напрямки політики розвитку сільських територій та Єдиної аграрної політики ЄС. Виявлені перспективні напрямки подальшого

исследований социально-экономического развития сел приграничных территорий Украины в сочетании со стратегией евроинтеграции.

Ключевые слова: *устойчивое развитие, трансграничное сотрудничество, сельские территории, экологическая безопасность, евроинтеграция.*

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CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION AS THE DIRECTION OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION PROCESSES IN UKRAINE

Annotation: the processes, trends and objectives of interregional cross-border cooperation are investigated, the development priorities of cross-border cooperation in European integration processes are determined.

Key words: *cross-border cooperation, globalization, Euroregion, border infrastructure, European integration.*

Cross-border cooperation as an element of state policy is rather important today, both in the system of priorities of socio-economic development, and in European integration of Ukraine. In modern conditions of expansion of globalization, the role of cross-border cooperation in the life of regions and communities increases, and new opportunities arise for enhancing economic activities in peripheral areas to improve their competitiveness.

Since the mid 90ies of last century, scientists demonstrated significant interest to the issue of cross-border cooperation. Much attention was paid to these issues by foreign scholars Herzog R., Mark J., Gabbe G., Myudrih G., Eberhardt K., Clip P., Stasiak A., Romanov S., Bilchak V., Vardomsky L., Zverev I., as well as domestic scholars: Amosha A., Belenky, P., Budkin V., Burakovskyy I. Evdokimenko V., Kozoriz M., Makogon Y., Malsky M., Melnik A., Miklovda V., Mokiy A., Pila V., PyrozHKov S., Romanova N., Chmyr O., Shevchuk, K., and others.

Cross-Border Cooperation means any concerted action designed to reinforce and deepen good-neighborly relations between territorial

communities or authorities, under the jurisdiction of two or more contracting parties. It is carried out within the framework of territorial communities or authorities, which are determined by national law, by entering into appropriate agreements or arrangements.

Today the main agenda of transborder cooperation policies is levelling impact of borders on the lives of citizens.

To address these issues at European level, such organizations as the Council of Europe, European Union, and European Association of Border Regions are facing these challenges. The main purpose of their work is the desire to pursue a common policy on cross-border cooperation as a policy satisfying European interests through establishment common rules included in the international instruments.

Despite the fact that Ukraine adopted the Law “On Cross-Border Cooperation” and periodically adopts State programmes of cross-border cooperation, the implementation of tasks and use of opportunities of cross-border cooperation requires new approaches and organizational forms. According to Article 5 of the Law of Ukraine “On the cross-border cooperation”, cross-border cooperation can be achieved by the following means: within the European region, through the conclusion of agreements on cross-border cooperation in specific areas, through the establishment and development of contacts between the subjects of CBC.

Cross-border cooperation can serve as an important instrument of economic modernization. For Ukraine, judging from the fact that its membership in the EU is one of the main priorities, the development of transborder cooperation is important because it can help strengthen economic cooperation in the West.

With the development of globalization and integration processes, it became necessary to include the region into international activities. The processes of expansion of the European Union, varying degrees of participation of Ukraine in them, the formation of new alliances, the development of general-purpose programmes, have made it necessary to find new ways to reform the economic relations of the regions, to attract new potential investors to economic processes in the region, and to contribute to the already running businesses.

International inter-regional cooperation between Ukraine and the European Union is one of the priorities of European integration of Ukraine. The European policy of decentralization of power with preservation of the unitary state system, along with increased economic competitiveness of regions is extremely interesting for Ukraine.

Ukraine has great potential to establish cross-border cooperation. Its immediate neighbours - Russia, Belarus, Moldova, Romania, Hungary, Slovakia, Bulgaria, and Turkey - constitute different, but generally favourable environment for mutually beneficial cooperation. In the unsettled international relations of Ukraine with a number of neighbouring countries, the role of border regions in establishing international cooperation is growing. In Ukraine, 2/3 of the regions are being border areas.

Priorities for cross-border cooperation programmes between Ukraine and the EU are directly related to the general objectives of the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument, namely improving the competitiveness of border areas, improving the environment, promoting cooperation in the format “from person to person” or “people to people.”

The formation of competitive border economy is the dominant trend in the development of cross-border cooperation between Ukraine and the EU, since the amount of its funding totalled 149 million euros, or 42% in the overall structure for the programming period of cooperation (the cross-border programme of 2007-2013). It is implemented through harmonized tourism development, creating better conditions for the small and medium enterprises [3, p. 5].

The direction of cross-border cooperation regarding environmental improvements, with total funding of 133.1 million euros, or 37% in the overall structure of cooperation development, is implemented in projects for sustainable use and management of natural resources, emergency preparedness.

Cooperation in the format “from person to person” ranks third among the areas of cross-border cooperation between Ukraine and EU, funding of which amounts in 76.8 million, or 21% in the overall structure funding. This priority of cooperation is expressed in a complex

of cultural and artistic projects aimed at preservation, restoration and promotion of folk traditions and customs [3, p. 6].

Currently, Ukraine signed documents on cross-border cooperation with European countries within the framework of the European Neighbourhood Policy. In particular, cross-border cooperation programme between Hungary, Slovakia, Romania and Ukraine for 2007-2013, the Hungarian-Slovak-Ukrainian and Romanian-Ukrainian Neighbourhood Programmes.

With the introduction of a new financial instrument by the European Union - the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI), which replaced TACIS programme in the border areas of CIS, Transcarpathian region had the opportunity to participate in the new programmes of cross-border cooperation (CBCP).

The main objective of the new financial instrument is to support and develop direct relations between neighbouring countries and promote mutual understanding between their citizens. The main directions of projects' implementation are institutional cooperation in education, culture, science, socio-economic sector, support of civil society and local communities.

Strengthening of cross-border cooperation opens up new possibilities for enhancing economic activities in peripheral areas and enhancing their competitiveness by mobilizing natural resources of neighbouring areas. This pooling of efforts to address common and identical issues is most effectively carried out through the implementation of cross-border projects in various areas of social life [1, p.21].

Analysis and evaluation of cross-border cooperation at the regional level requires an assessment of opportunities, priorities, and level of implementation of possibilities for cross-border cooperation.

In general, the study of statistical information on cross-border cooperation in Ukraine, reports of regional bodies of border regions - members of cross-border cooperation, scientific papers of local scientists, enable to identify common problems that exist in the border areas, including:

- Underdevelopment of border infrastructure;

- Low level of involvement of grassroots local communities to participation in cross-border cooperation, including the development and implementation of specific projects;

- Lack of financial resources, which casts doubt on the practical implementation of most measures to intensify cross-border cooperation.

Thus, we can conclude that the priorities of cross-border cooperation should be the protection of the environment, development of tourism, development of transportation, communication and cross-border infrastructure, creation of joint ventures to support the priority sectors of the economy and provide jobs, strengthening corporate interdependence' relations in knowledge-intensive industries, scientific cooperation towards the development of innovative technologies of mining, development of small and medium enterprises, improving the productivity of agricultural production.

Current processes and trends of interregional cross-border cooperation in the implementation of European integration strategy of Ukraine involve obstacles and problems that occur in asymmetry and disproportion of parameters of trade between the regions of Ukraine and neighbouring EU countries, low investment activity of regions and poor research intensity of regional programmes and projects.

Condition of cross-border relations, mutual interest in cooperation allow to define interregional and cross-border cooperation between Ukraine and the EU as a form of implementation of structural integration model based on deepening cooperation in the most promising sectors and industries of the region and aims to strengthen the competitiveness of the western regions of Ukraine.

To do this, first it is necessary to identify priority areas to intensify cooperation, improve institutional capacity and cooperation infrastructure, and change organizational credentials of local authorities in the field of interregional and cross-border cooperation.

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Аннотация: исследовано процессы, тенденции та задачи ин-террегіонального трансграничного сотрудничества, определено приоритетные направления развития трансграничного сотрудничества в условиях евроинтеграционных процессов.

Ключевые слова: трансграничное сотрудничество, глобализация, еврорегион, приграничная инфраструктура, евроинтеграция.

Annotation: the processes, trends and objectives of interregional cross-border cooperation are investigated, the development priorities of cross-border cooperation in European integration processes are determined.

Key words: *cross-border cooperation, globalization, Euroregion, border infrastructure, European integration.*

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COMBINED RESEARCH METHODS OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS IN CARPATHIAN REGION

In the beginning of the 90-s a new political-economic situation has dictated the necessity in new approaches in the international relations and has actualized them to interregional and cross-border corporation. There were a few euroregions created on the border of Ukraine, some of which were created only after years of intensive cross-border relations. In 14th of February 1993 was created Carpathian region, which consolidates 19 boundary administrative-territorial units, which are inhabited by more than 16 million people of different nationalities. This requires a complex approach in research of social-economic and ethnonational problems of cross-border corporation. Namely the absence of systematic approach for organization and research of euroregional collaboration is one of the main obstacle, which prevents effective cross-border corporation.

In the late 80ies collaborators of department in Institute of World Economy and International Relations, and department of regional problems of complex social-economic development in Lviv branch of Institute of Economics (Uzhgorod) had begun to engage the research of social-economic problems on the boundary territories in Ukraine, and in the early 90ies the department of social problems in Carpathian Institute of Sociology of NAS of Ukraine (Uzhgorod) and Institute of Social Sciences of Slovak Academy of Sciences (Kosice) have begun to analyze these problems, too.

The researchers have laid methodological foundations of integration of economic and statistical methods with the methods of applied social research. For the first time results of expert analysis were reduced to a combination with quantitative assessment, which was used as a regional employment concentration factor (ECF) [2].

The further researches of cross-border market in Carpathian Euroregion have led to the necessity to develop and application of combined methods, which, in contrast to formalized and heuristic methods, reflect better the “contradictory nature of conjuncture of cross-border market”. That determines the simultaneous existence of differently directed trends in its development [3, p.133].

It means that the researches of conjuncture of cross-border market combine polling methods of intentions of consumers, marketing agents, expert evaluation methods, testing the market with economic-mathematical methods of calculations of economic indicators, correlation and regression analysis, index method, time series and extrapolation.

The purpose of the report is to substantiate the expediency of application the combined research methods of cross-border cooperation at the regional level. The purpose includes the following objectives: to determine the substance and peculiarities of using combined methods, prove the possibility of using combined methods in the research of social problems in Carpathian Euroregion.

In the first instance, the necessity of using combined research methods of cross-border cooperation is conditioning by multi-character cross-border relationships and limited level of information about partners. The cross-border interactions occur both at the level of national regulation and interregional cooperation. There are some aspects of cross-border relations, which are differently perceived at national and regional level. At the national level the cooperation is based on international agreements, and the regional cooperation develops quite spontaneous. Its driving force is personal contacts with neighbors, which are caused by economic needs, as well as cooperation in the field of culture [4].

In the very general terms, the combined methods are a combination of descriptive principles and quantitative parameters. They are intermediate between factual (formalized) and expert (intuitive).

The combined methods often appertain to collective expert estimation and various types of simulation, during which factual and expert information is used as input. The more complicated combined

methods of research are: management by objects (MBO- management by objects), testing, expert estimation “360 ° method”, simulation exercise, comprehensive assessment of work and others [5, p.237-238]. In Lviv researchers’ opinion, the estimate cross-border cooperation can not be determined by direct methods. Indicators of cross-border trade, mutual external trade and investment activity, amount of financial support from international funds and institutions, social effects of measures implementation and cross-border projects, etc. can be used as indirect methods of performance evaluation. [6, p. 210-211]. Indirect methods of assessment can not be solely based on statistical data because of insufficient information.

The indirect estimations are not only possible, using the combined methods, but also can improve the quality and representativeness of the research, which is lacking in the research using only methods of expert poll.

Commodity Flow Survey (or CFS) is factual. The object of logistical research is the intensity of physical, information, financial and other flows. However, an extrapolation of CFS onto the results on a scale of measuring social distance of Bogardus E.S , provides to researchers the opportunity to follow up the limits of interregional cooperation and perspectives of cross-border cooperation. In some instances CFS can be supplemented by Human Development Index (HDI). It’s an integral estimation of three components, which characterize longevity, educational attainment and incomes of the population in the world.

Combined analysis method of social-economic and ethnic indicators gives ground for determination of the factors that form the regions. According to the local contradictions of regional interests, the combined methods reveal the hidden unresolved global geopolitical issues, which are shown up in interregional conflicts. For example, some contradictions of Ukrainian-Romanian-Moldovan relations can be the result of unbalanced development of Northern and Southern Europe, which threatens the integrality and security of the whole EU. The presence of empiric indicators of global geopolitical processes provides an opportunity for more informed estimates of traditional cross-border relations and preliminary predictions for the future [7, p.173-174].

The researches at the national-level adjustment and interregional cooperation, which are solely held on the basis of factual methods, are impossible and complicated by the methods of expert interviews. Consequently, the adjustment process of international relations is easier to study through the use combined methods.

Hungary was the first country, from which bilateral diplomacy of Ukraine has begun. Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation between Ukraine and Hungary was signed on 6th of December in 1991 and entered into force on 16th of June in 1993. The solution to practical issues about providing such assistance was on Joint Committee [8, 9, and 10]. For this time, a significant number of intergovernmental commissions' protocols were accumulated. According to the results of content analysis, the reports of Joint government commissions indicate a significant increase of governments' attention to spread of the Hungarian language, question of education of Hungarian minorities and language issues in general. Along with the increase of decisions on promotion of initiatives for minorities, impact of joint government commissions is reducing on their legislative environment. The law matters, responsibility and religious discriminations, and safety of states, that were declared in the Declaration on Principles of Cooperation between the Ukrainian SSR and Hungary, were practically ignored by the Commission [11, p.183-184].

At the same time, interviews with experts revealed that the main problems of cross-border cooperation in Transcarpathian region are not concerned the crisis of linguistic and educational issues of ethnic groups, and are more practical: visa issues, border crossings and asymmetry of regional development [12, p.332]. So, multilevel nature of cross-border relations complicates use only of quantitative or qualitative research methods. Due to the fact, that cross-border cooperation takes place simultaneously at the national-level adjustment and at the level of interregional cooperation, the most expedient research methods of the whole complex of social-economic and ethnic problems are combined methods. Content analysis of intergovernmental treaties and agreements is the most optimal method analysis of cross-border cooperation at the national level. It combines qualitative sources information originally, with statistical means of its processing.

Use of combined methods opens new perspectives penetration of latent level of cross-border cooperation: latent xenophobia, illegal migration, contraband property and other forms of organized crime in the areas of cross-border cooperation.

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В докладі изложены возможности использования комбинированных методов исследования трансграничного сотрудничества Карпатского еврорегиона. Приводятся примеры комплексного применения методов экономико-статистического анализа базовых социально-экономических показателей региональных рынков, социологических и экспертных опросов, контент-анализа протоколов Смешанных межправительственных комиссий.

Ключевые слова: *комбинированные методы, экспертные опросы, контент-анализ, трансграничное сотрудничество.*

The report presents the possibility of using combined methods of cross-border cooperation study of Carpathian Euroregion. Examples of integrated application of economic and statistical analysis of basic socio-economic indicators of regional markets, sociological and expert interviews, content analysis protocols joint government commissions are set.

Keywords: *combined methods, expert interviews, content analysis, cross-border cooperation.*

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**CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THE LEGAL SUPPORT
FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE
CARPATHIAN EUROREGION**

In this article were analyzed the main international legal instruments, aimed at sustainable development of the Carpathian Euroregion.

Keywords: *cross-border cooperation, legal regulation, sustainable development, Carpathian Euroregion.*

The relations between Ukraine and European Union are strategic for both, which largely depends on mending of cross-border cooperation in Europe that is traditionally perceived as competence of regional and local authorities, and is reflected in the European Outline Convention on Transfrontier Cooperation between Territorial Communities or Authorities in 1980.

According to the Article 2 of the document, ‘cross-border cooperation’ means any mutual actions directed on strengthening and deepening good neighborly relations among territorial communities and authorities, that are under the jurisdiction of two or more Contracting Parties and on conclusion of any necessary treaties or arrangements. The cross-border cooperation is carried within the ambit of territorial communities and authorities defined by domestic legislation.

For these goals there are Euroregions in Europe, that function as a form of cross-border cooperation, which promote not only strengthening and deepening of good neighborly relations, but act as a kind of instrument for European integration of any country. This is especially important for Ukraine in due to recent extension of the EU.

The Euroregions can also be considered as a possible means of regulation territorial problems of the two countries, as they relieve

tension regarding possible territorial claims. In addition, this format of cooperation allows solving problems related to the position of national minorities, which is kind of proving ground for approbation of unified legislation of different countries and legal systems.

To increase the efficiency of cross-border cooperation primarily by optimizing management is designed indexing system and monitoring of cross-border cooperation in Europe (ISM) as a complex of theoretical, organizational and practical measures to ensure the correct analysis and comparison of common and distinguishing features as well as the development tendencies of cross-border cooperation in various regions of Europe. ISM is an universal model of analysis and optimization control of cross-border cooperation each of on the new eastern border in general, and in its individual segments.

Ukraine signed the European Outline Convention on Transfrontier Cooperation between Territorial Communities or Authorities and gradually is increasing the experience of functioning European regions in the country. In 1993 Ukraine began creation of the first Carpathian Euroregion, that consists of four regions of Ukraine (Transcarpathia, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk and Chernivtsi regions) and boundary regions of Poland, Hungary, Slovakia and Romania. From an economic point of view, it is precisely the Euroregion is the most perspective.

A series of projects of transboundary character were implemented during the existence of “Carpathian Euroregion”. There are four projects, which act within in the framework of the Neighborhood “Ukraine-Slovakia-Hungary” and are financed from Transcarpathian region on 2.75 million euro, namely: “Development of Beregovo transboundary polder system in Tisza river basin” - 0,72 million euro, “Clean Water” - 0.6 million euro, “Cross-border development opportunities of logistics” - 0.54 million, “Improving cross-border road traffic through the construction of a bypass road around Beregovo” - 0.9 million. Within this programme in region will be implemented 6 projects jointly with Hungarian partners.

As V. Hymynets notes, the most important for the Carpathian Euroregion is the cooperation with the European Union and usage of opportunities associated with this collaboration. The realization

of the concept of sustainable development, on his opinion, will promote the practical implementation of the basic principles of national environmental policy in the context of economic and social development of Ukraine and its integration into the European Union. The intense interest in the EU, he explains, appeared when the delegation from Euroregion Meuse-Rhine arrived on the territory of Carpathian region. It was for the first time when Western European and Eastern European Euroregions began to cooperate. Nowadays it's the most important Western European partner for the Carpathian Euroregion.

The cross-border cooperation programme on the external border of the EU in boundary line of Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine supports economic and social development, people to people cooperation and helps to build strong borders and solve common tasks (environmental defense, flood protection, protection from disasters, and fight against organized crime). These tasks lie in the base of sustainable development, which should be built due to proper legal maintenance of all elements of regional development - economic, social and environmental.

It should be noted that today the legal groundwork of development the Carpathian Euroregion are: the European Outline Convention on Transfrontier Cooperation between Territorial Communities or Authorities Declaration of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, Hungary, Poland, "Cooperation of peoples inhabiting the territory of the Carpathian Euroregion" Agreement about creation of the Interregional Association "Carpathian Euroregion", Charter of the Interregional Association "Carpathian Euroregion" and other instruments, that determine development perspectives of cross-border cooperation.

At the same time, it should be noted the presence of a series of international legal instruments, the direct object of which is the maintenance of sustainable development of the Carpathian Euroregion. In particular, on 26-28 October 2010 during the 19th session of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe, Resolution 315 (2010) about "Sustainable development of mountain regions and experience of the Carpathian Mountains" was adopted, which explains

that most of mountain regions in Europe are peripheral areas, where weather conditions are severe. This situation requires the elaboration of special, complex and comprehensive policy to guarantee the population the right to live and work in mountains for saving their habitat and living level abreast of rural and urban areas. In accordance, the elaboration of policy should include the basic elements of sustainable development: social, economic and environmental. At that, the social cohesion should be in centre of this policy because it will allow responding to the challenges relative to the necessity to maintain employment, the provision of basic services and for the record of demographic changes. Another focal point of this policy has also to become the protection and development of cultural and linguistic heritage of European mountain regions, ensuring respect and preservation of social and cultural identity and traditions.

Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe encourages by this document also local and regional authorities, in particular, local and regional authorities in the Carpathian Mountains to:

a. implement effective regional governance, emerging from an overall vision of the future of the massif mass, which extends beyond the administrative and geographical boundaries, observing the principle of subsidiarity;

b. encourage the participation of local in decision-making, particularly in relation to spatial planning, protection and utilization of natural resources of the mountains;

c. recognize that environmental sustainability and sustainable development of mountain regions can not be achieved in isolation but require enlargement and deepening of formal and informal cross-border and interregional cooperation. Regional authorities should encourage the cross-border cooperation and interaction, using the experience and the best practice in this field;

d. implement practical politics to combating against social isolation in these sparsely populated areas, taking into account the problems of migration, especially migration of young people and the necessity to maintain essential services;

e. stimulate the economy and improve the situation in the employment field due to encouraging and financial support of development of such activities, which ensures sustainable utilization of natural resources that are located in mountainous regions, as well as stable tourism and renewable energy;

f. to the full, usage the potential of Information and Communication Technologies for support of local services, including administrative, educational, medical and social services.

The particular attention in the Resolution is focused on Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians, which is an important basis for the future development of the region and includes obligations of the parties regarding a comprehensive policy and collaboration for the protection and sustainable development of the Carpathians the purpose of which is improving quality of life, strengthening of local economies and communities, and conservation of natural values and cultural heritage.

Thus, today the cohort of international legal acts generated on the European regional level, which in successful realization at national level in Ukraine should promote the development of effective policies for ensure sustainable development of the Carpathian Euroregion.

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V4 COUNTRIES ISSUES IN THE WORKS OF UKRAINIAN AND FOREIGN RESEARCHERS

The given article is devoted to the analysis of separate studies made by Ukrainian and Foreign researchers on formation and activity of the alliance known as Visegrad Countries. Particularly, the article is related to the brief review of the works devoted to the problem that is mentioned above.

Key words: *Visegrad Countries, Central and Eastern Europe, subregional integration, regional associations.*

Because of the historical development and contemporary international situation, it is relevant to address issues relating to the existence and activities of diverse organizations at both regional and international scale.

In particular, the prime example in this context is the association known as the “Visegrad Countries (Alliance of Four)”, which have been playing an important role in Central and Eastern Europe during the last decade of the twentieth century and early twenty-first century. Moreover, no less important is the fact that the alliance of the Visegrad Countries is the evident model for our country.

Therefore, it is appropriate to study the issue of “Visegrad Group”, which has not lost its relevance so far, since the time of its formation. This is evidenced by the interest in the topic among Ukrainian and foreign researchers.

Hence well-known is the fact that in the late 80ies communist Eastern Europe reached a turning point, which in turn was caused by changes in the policy of the Soviet Union, namely the reduction of military potential, the abandonment of “Brezhnev Doctrine,” which

was aimed at direct interference in the internal affairs of the satellite countries, and first attempts at democratization of the political system [8, p. 94].

The first Eastern European country where the communists lost the most votes in elections in July 1989 was Poland. Consequently, in other countries of Central and Eastern Europe have also been initiated irreversible processes that led to democratic revolutions and the fall of communist regimes. There took place development of young democracies, which embarked on the path of reforms aimed at transition of the socialist camp to political pluralism and market economy.

Because of velvet revolutions and the collapse of the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe formed a space devoid of Communist influence and with it the idea of reunification of all Europeans under one roof. These trends have encouraged closer cooperation between the countries of Central and Eastern Europe. In parallel with these processes, takes place adaptation of political, economic and legal environment of the outlined region to the standards of Western Europe. In the course of these changes, there has been some differentiation among the countries of Central and Eastern Europe. Depending on the success of the reforms, the leaders have become the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary and Poland, which on February 15, 1991 in Visegrad signed a “Declaration of Cooperation of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, the Republic of Poland and Hungary.” The purpose of the signing of this document was European integration, which entailed the formation of the so-called Visegrad Countries [8, p. 95].

Therefore, once again, it is obvious that the creation and activities of “Visegrad Four” and the European integration processes in Central and Eastern Europe attracted interest of both domestic and foreign researchers, in order to study and analyze these processes throughout the existence of the Visegrad Group.

Thus, G. Shmanko and E. Kish in their article referred to reasons for subregional integration of Eastern European countries. Authors highlighted the clear goals that have set itself “Visegrad Three” (later Four). Along the way, attention is drawn to the role of the Visegrad Countries in joining the North Atlantic Alliance and the European Union. [9]

Substantial in terms of the study of democratic processes in Eastern Europe is the work of N. Bokalo and S.Trochimchuk. The authors explore the social and economic relations of the countries of Central and Eastern European during post-communist period, present information about the state structure, etc. The study highlights the essence of the democratic process, with their emphasis on the Visegrad Group. [2]

The problems mentioned are thoroughly investigated in the digest of the international “round table”, “The experience of “Visegrad Four” on the road to the EU: Opportunities for Ukraine.” The digest is dedicated to challenging and promising aspects of Ukraine’s relations with the EU, in particular the countries of the Visegrad Group, and with it the strategy of Ukraine on the path to European integration. [5]

V.P. Gazin and S.A. Kopylov also consider certain moments of the abovementioned topics in their research. They determine the deepening of integration processes in Europe in the late 80’ies - early 90’ies of the twentieth century and analyze the processes associated with the emergence of the international community, etc. [4].

H. Zelenko in his research highlights the Visegrad Group as a variant of subregional integration. The author distinguishes the stages of existence of the Visegrad Group and highlights the reasons for the expansion of cooperation between Ukraine and the Visegrad Countries [6].

E. Kish in his monograph comprehensively examines the issue of international and regional cooperation. In particular, this issue is discussed in the light of the Visegrad Four. The author points out that the aim of this cooperation is to strengthen the states by means of attraction of their regions to the integration process. The paper also raised problems of cross-border cooperation and its role for Ukraine [7].

Analysis of the integration of the Visegrad association to the EU and NATO, the crisis of the Czech-Slovak and Hungarian-Slovak international relations and the impact of this crisis on the viability of the Visegrad Four examines in his work V.I. Andreyko [1].

An interesting viewpoint of “the Visegrad Four” as a model for cooperation between countries offers P.Vahner. The author notes

that regional cooperation requires clear concept, and draws parallels between the GUAM and the “Visegrad Four” [3].

I. Rendek devoted his research to the issue of transformation of the privatization process in a country through the prism of post-communism. The research offers the analogy that the economy of the region in the late 80-ies of XX century was in a crisis similar to the crisis of the 30’s of the twentieth century in the USA, but through a series of reforms, the introduction of a market economy, primarily through privatization, implementation of management, they have managed to overcome negative economic situation in the Visegrad Countries [13].

Researcher G .Mysezhnikov highlights the formation of the party system in the Visegrad Countries in 2005-2006. The author stresses that due to the reforms, these countries were able to overcome post-communist reverberation, and embarked on the path of democracy, the credit for which was their accession to the EU. In addition, the author points to major trends and ways of development of political systems of the Visegrad Group [12].

Work of S. Birch offers a similar study of the problem of the electoral and political system in the Visegrad Countries. The author in her article offers mainly statistical examination of the aforementioned problems, which is also very appropriate because the issue is viewed not from the traditional perspective, but using statistical methods [10].

Meaningful and interesting work that is devoted to the Visegrad Countries is the monograph of L. Lukashek. Analyzing the mentioned problem, the author gives assessment of the geopolitical situation in Central and Eastern European post-communist countries. He also sets the goal for Visegrad Four and its role in the region. Much attention he paid to the integration process and identified them as the main objectives of the “Visegrad Four” [11].

Thus, given the described works, we can conclude that the problem of the formation and activities of the “Visegrad Countries” remains relevant, as evidenced by the large number of specific studies, as well as a number of works of general character, although it is worth noting that the latter in the national historical science are not many.

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Данная статья посвящена анализу отдельных исследований украинских и зарубежных исследователей, которые затрагивают проблемы образования и деятельности объединения известного как «Вышеградская четверка». В частности, основной текст работы связан с кратким обзором трудов посвященных упомянутой проблеме.

Ключевые слова: *«Вышеградская четверка», Центрально-Восточная Европа, субрегиональная интеграция, региональные объединения.*

The given article is devoted to the analysis of separate studies made by the Ukrainian and foreign researchers on formation and activity of the alliance known as Visegrad Countries. Particularly, the article is related to the brief review of the works devoted to the problem that is mentioned above.

Key words: *Visegrad Countries, Central and Eastern Europe, subregional integration, regional associations.*

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EUROPEAN GROUPING OF TERRITORIAL COOPERATION AS A LEGAL TOOL TO PROMOTE THE EFFICIENCY OF CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION AMONG THE NEIGHBOURING REGIONS OF SLOVAKIA, UKRAINE, HUNGARY AND ROMANIA

Abstract: Presented paper basically tries to continue in developing ideas as presented during the former occasion.¹ It focuses on the analysis of the European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation – a legal instrument of the European Union which can promote the efficiency of cross-border cooperation among the neighbouring regions of Slovakia, Ukraine, Hungary and Romania.

Key words: *cross-border cooperation, instruments of EU Cohesion Policy, European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation, multi-level governance, principle of subsidiarity.*

The cross-border cooperation among the neighbouring regions of Slovakia, Ukraine, Hungary and Romania can be analysed from different perspectives. In the following lines we will try to outline few ideas on the cross-border cooperation from the legal point of view. During the history of science of law several doctrines trying to analyse or describe and systematized the world of law has emerged. One of them is the sociology of law (or legal sociology).

¹ See: BENKO, R.: Perspectives on the development of transborder cooperation among the neighbouring regions of Hungary, Slovakia, Romania and Ukraine within the cross-border regional policies of the European Union. In: Geopolitics of Ukraine: History and Modern Times. Special issue on Collection of scientific papers presented during the conference „Ways to improve efficiency for transborder cooperation on the new eastern border of EU held on the 18th – 19th of September 2012 in Stará Lesná. ISSN 2078-1431, No. 9 (2012), s. 250-273.

Sociology of law or legal sociology can be described not only as a branch of law, but as a branch of sociology in general as well.² We will not enter into the details of the characterisations of legal sociology of law or legal sociology. For the purposes of the paper it is enough to write that this branch of science of law aims to overcome “traditional” boundaries of looking at law by taking into consideration the role of society, its needs, its system of values and norms. Sociology of law has contributed positively to the critical analysis of specific legal issues of legal theory as well as of legal practice. We started to deal with the topic of the paper in such a broad context only to pointed out to the fact that in order to overcome the current problems of law governing the cross-border cooperation among the neighbouring regions of Slovakia, Ukraine, Hungary and Romania, the law in order the cooperation to be more effective has to reflect the societies of the regions, to take into account their needs, problems they faces which can be of a different kind – e.g. economic, environmental, cultural, criminal or religious. The cross-border cooperation functions within the framework of law. In order the cross-border cooperation to be effective (in the sense to reach the proclaimed aims) the law governing it has to be of a kind allowing the cooperation to be effective. In the lines which follow, we will pay attention to the European Union’s legal instrument designated as “European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation” (hereinafter also as “EGTC”) which has the potention to make the cross-border cooperation among the neighbouring regions of Slovakia, Ukraine, Hungary and Romania more effective.

In order to overcome the obstacles hindering territorial cooperation the Regulation on the European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation (hereinafter also only as “regulation”) was adopted by the European Parliament and the Council in 2006³. The regulation institutes a cooperation instrument at Community level (nowadays

² See, for example: CARBONNIER, J. *Sociologie juridique*. 2ième édition. Paris: Presses Universitaires de France. 1978, p. 13.

³ Regulation (EC) No. 1082/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 July 2006 on a European grouping of territorial cooperation (EGTC). OJ L 210, 31.7.2006, p. 19–24.

European Union level)⁴ for the creation of cooperative groupings in Community (EU) territory, invested with legal personality, called „European groupings of territorial cooperation“. EGTC has the capacity to act on behalf of its members, notably the regional and local authorities of which it is composed. An EGTC should be able to act, either for the purpose of implementing territorial cooperation programmes or projects co-financed by the EU or for the purpose of carrying out actions of territorial cooperation which are at the sole initiative of the Member States and their regional and local authorities. The tasks and competencies of an EGTC are to be set out in a Convention. An EGTC is to establish its statutes and equip itself with its own organs, as well as rules for its budget and for the exercise of its financial responsibility. An EGTC shall carry out the tasks given to it by its members. The tasks given to an EGTC should be limited to the facilitation and promotion of territorial cooperation, to strengthen economic and social cohesion and be determined by its members on the basis that they all fall within the competence of every member under its national law. The tasks should be limited primarily to the implementation of territorial cooperation programmes or projects co-financed by the EU through the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund and/or the Cohesion Fund⁵. An EGTC may carry out other specific actions of territorial cooperation between its members in pursuit of the objectives (to facilitate and promote cross-border cooperation, to strengthen economic and social cohesion) with or without a financial contribution from the EU.

The legal basis of the regulation on the European grouping of territorial cooperation was provided by the Article 159 of the

⁴ European Community is the legal predecessor of the current European Union. The European Union has been replaced and succeeded the European Community by the Lisbon Treaty which entered into force in 2009 (see, Article 1 of the current Treaty of the European Union).

⁵ See, e.g.: Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 of 11 July 2006 laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1260/1999. Published at: Official Journal of the European Union, L 210, 31.7.2006, p. 25–78.

Treaty establishing the European Community (now, Article 175 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, hereinafter also as “TFEU”)⁶ falling within the scope of Economic, Social and Territorial Cohesion Policy of the EU (hereinafter also as “Cohesion Policy”). The third subparagraph of the Article enables to adopt by the respective EU bodies the specific actions, outside the Funds and without prejudice to the measures decided upon within the framework of the other Union policies, if their adoption is proved to be necessary in order to the aims of EU Cohesion Policy to be reached (e.g. to in order to facilitate and promote cross-border cooperation). The provision does not allow the inclusion of entities from third countries (non EU member states) in legislation based on that provision. EGTC should not, however, exclude the possibility of entities from third countries to participate in an EGTC formed in accordance with the regulation where the legislation of a third country or agreements between member states and third countries so allow.

According to Study of the Committee of Regions on EGTC⁷, the adoption of the regulation was both a major change in the legal framework for territorial cooperation and an understandable evolution thereof. It was a major change because it is the first EU instrument with regulatory scope in the field⁸. It was also a change because it brought this cooperation between authorities located in different European states. The regulation allowed the possible involvement of states, alongside local and regional authorities and territorial cooperation entities with their own legal personality, in the cross-border cooperation. From the point of view of law on cross-border cooperation, EGTC is an entirely new prospect. It should help

⁶ Consolidated version of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. Published at the Official Journal of the EU, C 326, 26.10.2012, p. 47–390.

⁷ Study of the Committee of Regions on European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation. CdR 117/2007 (Study).

⁸ EU Cohesion Policy's instruments primary focus on the financial support.

to make possible the idea of multi-level governance⁹. Adoption of the regulation providing a legal framework for territorial cooperation was not self-evident, because the Treaty establishing the European Community (hereinafter also as “TEC”) did not provide an explicit legal basis for adoption of such an act. However, Article 159 TEC was used in the end. The EGTC regulation took inspirations from elements developed in previous legal frameworks. The Committee of Regions pointed out four distinct sources the EGTC regulation came out. Firstly, agreements between states aimed at resolving specific neighbourhood issues. Secondly, Council of Europe law, based on a 1980 framework convention¹⁰, to which additional protocols were added in 1995¹¹ and in 1998¹². Thirdly, bilateral framework agreements, which have facilitated a number of useful advances in

⁹ On the concept of multi-level governance, see, e.g.: HOOGHE, L. – MARKS, G. *Multi-level governance and European integration*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2001; HOOGHE, LIESBET (ed.) *Cohesion Policy and European Integration: Building Multi-level Governance*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1996; LEONARDI, R. *Cohesion Policy in the European Union: The Rebuilding of Europe*. Houndsmills, Hampshire: Palgrave, 2005; MARKS, G., - HOOGHE, L. – BLANK, K. *European integration from the 1980s: state-centric v. multi-level governance*. In: *Journal of Common Market Studies*, Vol. 34, No. 3, 1996, pp.341–78; BACHE, I. – FLINDERS, M. (eds.) *Multi-level Governance*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2004; PIATTONI, S. *Multi-level Governance: a Historical and Conceptual Analysis*. In: *European Integration*. Vol. 31, No. 2, 2009, pp. 163–180.

¹⁰ European Framework Convention for Cross-border co-operation of territorial communities or authorities (ETS No106) signed in Madrid on the 21st of May, 1980. It is the basic document adopted at the European level, within the Council of Europe, relating to the regional cooperation and supporting decentralization of the decision-making process within the power structures of the region.

¹¹ The first Protocol, adopted on the 9th of November, 1995, relates the legal effects of acts adopted within the cross-border cooperation and the legal status of the bodies performing the cross-border cooperation. The Protocol entered into force for the Slovak republic on the 2nd of May, 2000.

¹² The second Protocol, signed on the 5th of May, 1998, relates the legal framework for the cooperation between the non-adjacent territorial units or bodies. It entered into force on the 1st of February, 2001. Both Protocols has supported the regions to have more competence in foreign economic and political matters in order to facilitate both, international activation of the regions as well as positive discrimination of the provincial border territories.

legislation. And finally, EU law developing incentive and funding mechanisms for cross-border cooperation (INTERREG). However, the regulation on EGTC does not seek to standardise how territorial cooperation should be carried out in practice. Instead, it makes it possible to maintain the diversity of situations and achievements arising out of past experience as outlined above. The regulation enables public bodies in countries with a liberal approach to have more opportunities for establishing and providing the cross-border cooperation, while those in countries with a restrictive approach in this area can be expected to gain few if any additional rights from this regulation.

In March 2012 the European Commission has proposed to amend the regulation No 1082/2006 on a European grouping of territorial cooperation as regards the clarification, simplification and improvement of the establishment and implementation of such groupings¹³. The philosophy behind the suggested changes can be expressed in three keywords: continuity, clarity and flexibility. Continuity in the sense that the basic nature of an EGTC will not be changed and no existing EGTC should need to change its statutes or their ways of operating. Clarity because the regulation is suggested to be modified in order to take account of the Lisbon Treaty, to simplify and clarify certain aspects that have been shown to cause confusion and in order to ensure more visibility and communication on the formation and operation of EGTC. And flexibility because of opening up EGTCs to any aspect of territorial cooperation (and not ‘primarily’ the managing of ERDF-funded programmes and projects) and because of providing the legal bases for the participation of authorities and regions from third countries to participate as members. The proposed changes concern the membership, the content of the Convention and Statutes of an EGTC, its purpose, the process of approval by national authorities, applicable law for employment and for procurement, approach for EGTCs whose members have

¹³ Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 1082/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 July 2006 on a European grouping of territorial cooperation (EGTC) as regards the clarification, simplification and improvement of the establishment and implementation of such groupings. COM(2011) 610 final/2.

different liability for their actions and more transparent procedures for communication. As to the membership, proposed changes aim to permit regions and bodies from non-member states to become the members of an EGTC, under the condition that the other members are from one or many member states. The eligibility of membership of bodies under private law is also clarified. The Convention and Statutes of an EGTC are re-defined and the distinction in approval procedure underlined. The criteria for approval or rejection by national authorities are specified, and a limited time for examination proposed (this is the single most frequently heard complaint from existing and planned EGTCs). The proposal of the Commission suggests solutions, in line with the *acquis* of the Union, for tax and social security regimes for employees of an EGTC, who may be employed in any of the Member States whose territories comprise the EGTC. A similar approach is proposed for procurement rules. The liability of local or regional bodies is proposed to be regulated as well. Finally, member states are to be required to inform the Commission of any provisions adopted to implement the EGTC regulation, as amended, and each newly established EGTC should inform the Commission of its purpose and membership in order the information to be published in the Official Journal of the European Union.

The European grouping of territorial cooperation is an instrument that allows public entities from several member states (and also from the non EU member states as proposed by the Commission, in order to clarify the possibility of their participation in an EGTC) come together and create a structure which has legal personality under EU law. It is an important tool of “cross-border cooperation” which is part of the current Cohesion Policy of the EU. Since 2006, 26 EGTC have been created. If the new proposal of the Commission would be adopted by the EU legislators – European Parliament and the Council, the possibility of the regions and bodies from non-EU member states to become the members of an EGTC would be possible without any doubts. The discussion on the Commission’s proposal to set up a new framework for the EGTC instrument by the European Parliament and the Council is currently carried out within the negotiations for the new programming period 2014-2020. The Committee of the Regions (hereinafter also only as

“Committee”)¹⁴ published its latest opinion on the issue on February 2012. The Committee of the Regions, which is also responsible for keeping the register of EGTCs and running the EGTC Platform, welcomes the proposal from the Commission. Nevertheless, the Committee calls for more clarity regarding the criteria for approval of EGTCs. It also defends the speeding up of the inclusion of undertakings dealing with operations of services of general economic interest. Moreover, the Committee points to the fact that the idea of listing the national, regional and local laws that will apply to EGTC on a fixed Convention would be counter-productive. It also demands the application of the new provisions to existing EGTCs and not only to those created after the implementation of the revised regulation. The Committee called for rapid adoption of the text without awaiting the finalisation of discussions on the legislative package, since it has no real implications for the EU budget or the multi-annual financial framework. According to the Committee, the rapid adoption of the text would foster the creation of EGTCs which are waiting for the new legislation¹⁵.

The cross-border cooperation among the neighbouring regions of Slovakia, Ukraine, Hungary and Romania if carried out by using the instrument of European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation can promote the efficiency of the cooperation. The creation of cooperative grouping with legal personality and the capacity to act on behalf of its members - the regional and local authorities of which it is composed, could be able to deal with the cross-borders problems of societies living on the neighbouring regions of Slovakia, Ukraine, Hungary and Romania in more effective way. The Convention of European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation among Slovakia, Ukraine, Hungary and Romania could establish the own organs of the cooperation unit with legislative, executive and controlling powers. Law-making body of the supra-regional cooperation unit should represent the will of citizens of the neighbouring regions, to seek cross-

¹⁴ According to the Article 175 Paragraph 3 of TFEU, serving as the legal basis for the adoption of rules on EGTC, the consultations with Committee of the Regions are obligatory within the legislative process.

¹⁵ For the details on the future of the European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation, see for example: <http://libraryeuroparl.wordpress.com/2012/06/06/future-of-the-european-grouping-of-territorial-cooperation/>

border solutions for cross-border problems in order to improve living conditions in the cooperating regions and to reduce disparities between the levels of development of the various regions. EGTC among Slovakia, Ukraine, Hungary and Romania could acquire or dispose of movable and immovable property and employ staff and could be a party to legal proceedings. It could facilitate the removal of obstacles and foster the elimination of divisive factors. It could reduce the importance of borders between Slovakia, Hungary and Romania as members of the EU, on the one side, and Ukraine, on the other side, to mere “administrative” boundaries. Of course that the reasons for which the high level protection of the eastern border of EU was established (e.g., fight against the organized criminality) has to be sustained. Realizing the cross-border cooperation among the neighbouring regions of Slovakia, Ukraine, Hungary and Romania by the EGTC instrument would be fully in conformity with one of the basic principle governing the functioning of the EU – the principle of subsidiarity¹⁶, which requires the decision making process to bring as close to the citizens as possible. The European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation represents a legal instrument which could serve in a more appropriate way to reach the aims of cross-border cooperation among the neighbouring regions of Slovakia, Ukraine, Hungary and Romania, as for example, to improve transport links, ecology, education, cross-border labour market (adequate knowledge of cross-border market possibilities, export opportunities), research and development programme, or tourism.

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¹⁶ According to the Article 5 Paragraph 3 of the Treaty on European Union, the Union shall act only if and in so far as the objectives of the proposed action cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States, either at central level or at regional and local level, but can rather, by reason of the scale or effects of the proposed action, be better achieved at Union level.

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SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF EASTERN SLOVAKIA AS A FACTOR OF CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION

The social structure of Eastern Slovakia in comparison with other regions constantly demonstrates some specific features. They are a reflection of the geographical and natural conditions, and especially political, demographic, economic and cultural development in the past and the present. Level of economic activity, sectoral and social structure of the population determines the level of life and opportunities for the region. These are important factors that also constantly affect the nature, extent and dynamics of contacts, relations and cooperation between actors from both sides of the border with Poland, Hungary and Ukraine. Therefore, this fact has to be constantly reflected in the methodological training, studies of cross-border cooperation in Eastern Slovakia and within the assessment of its prospects for the future.

Keywords: *Eastern Slovakia, cross-border cooperation, social structure, economic activity, sectoral stratification, social composition of the population.*

After overcoming so-called Caribbean crisis and reduction of international tension between the then superpowers, the USA and the USSR, at once have arisen some alleviation of tension within the so-called Eastern bloc - so they called the Soviet Union and its companions, or satellites in Europe and in Asia in the West. One of manifestations of this new trend was the creation of space for simpler, not only formal relations between countries with different forms and degrees of totalitarian regime under the Communist Party, which were under the direct tutelage of the Soviet Union. [1, p. 217.] Thus also began to develop formal relationships between them, which also included contacts between regions that are located near their common border [2, p. 100].

Although the special relationships, that were called friendly, ones, existed even earlier within the “socialist camp” - in the second half of the fifties of the last century, - most of them actually existed only “at a distance”, were highly formalized and were recommended as a means of ideological influence by the “top”subject [3, p. 120]. But that does not mean they did not exist or there weren’t actual sister relations between them, especially considering the fact that often they were the only possible direct contacts with neighboring countries. Initially, especially in the second half of the fifties and early sixties, main proponents of these relations were primarily regions, counties or individual cities in the USSR and Czechoslovakia. Although usually central, more or less just mechanically defined, in the early years they did not bring many ideological, cultural or political benefits, not to mention their marginal, usually almost zero economic impact. [4, p. 95-96.] A special place in this respect belonged to the eastern region, which was formed on the basis of administrative reform of 1960, more or less through formal association of former Kosice and Presov regions. From the beginning it formed a perfect space for the development of “twinning cooperation” - it was the then term for cross-border cooperation. A particular advantage of the county, which then had no other of ten counties of the then Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, was the fact that it geographically bordered with three socialist states, namely the Soviet Union, Poland and Hungary.

In addition, basically it were the cross-border regions, between which in the past were no borders or which had only internal borders - administrative in nature that became the state borders only in 1918, or in the case of Transcarpathia, even in 1939. [5, p. 92-93.]

A major advantage for cross-border contacts was considered the fact that the regions on both sides of the border in a sense constituted single socio-economic environment, which was characterized by compatible economic base with multiple identical elements, and similar social and demographic characteristics, which was considered a prerequisite not only for mutual understanding, but also the possibility to solve similar problems in this way. However, it seems that common features of

border regions, especially Eastern Slovakia and Transcarpathia were probably only a relative advantage in times of socialism, and now, as predicted by the researchers, Schengen border between the two countries is holding them back [6].

The fact is that these border regions were, and still are, lagging, mostly relatively marginal areas with certain imbalances, possible cooperation of which had a small synergistic effect. In other words, the integration of less developed regions only extends these regions, but, in fact, does not help them. On the other hand, although it sounds quite paradoxically, cooperation of more developed regions with less developed ones gives them some examples, momentum and impetus for the development while making more efficient production and innovative processes, and leads to progress in the more developed regions as well, unless there are some barriers [7, p. 65].

True that, the relative comparison also creates favorable conditions for cross-border cooperation. This applies, for example, to similar multinational environment in Eastern Slovakia and the Transcarpathian region of Ukraine, which is a reflection of the historical development and which yielded essentially conflict-free coexistence of Slovak, Ruthenian, Ukrainian, Hungarian and Jewish population. The same roots have religious tolerance, which allows the coexistence and mutual respect of the believers, regardless of their affiliation to the Roman Catholic, Orthodox, Greek Catholic, Lutheran, Calvinist, or Jewish denomination [8, p. 5-7].

At the official level were less discussed certain attributes of Eastern Slovak region, which objectively contributed to the development of cross-border cooperation. This includes primarily its rural character, which cannot objectively greatly encourage it. The bearer of this type of relationship is primarily urban population with high levels of education, who embrace the trends of modernization. Problems in this area enhance the large number of small villages, this it leads to life problems, and therefore, naturally, also to negligence of the outside superstructural phenomena. The obvious disadvantage in this area is the fact that until the end of the sixties of the twentieth century, 34% of the economically active population of the region had to commute daily

to work outside their locality, and thus social limits of working hours were quite extended [9, p. 64].

In the analysis of cross-border cooperation of counties, organizations, businesses or institutions of Eastern Slovakia with partners from neighbouring regions abroad, including, obviously, the most developed sister relations with comparable entities of current Transcarpathian region of Ukraine, not common is the factor of social structure.

Although it is also a clear reflection of geographical and natural conditions, but primarily it is about political, demographic, economic and cultural development of the region's past and present. For this reason, the social structure of the population of Eastern Slovakia, compared to other regions, always demonstrated some specific features that can not but affect the development of certain social phenomena.

The level of economic activity, sectoral structure and social structure of the population define quality of life and opportunities for the region. These are important factors that also constantly affect the nature, extent and dynamics of contacts, relations and cooperation between actors on both sides of the border with Poland, Hungary and Ukraine. This fact should in any case be reflected, on the one hand, in the methodological training, studies of cross-border cooperation in the east of Slovakia, but also within the evaluation of its prospects or opportunities in the present. The share of economically active persons in the total population steadily increased substantially evenly since 1961 both on the Slovak general scale, and in Eastern Slovakia, namely from 41.7% to 51.1% or from 40.3% to 49.9% in 2001, while in the East it fluctuated at a lower level around 1.5 - 2%. A parallel increase in the number of economically inactive people with their own source of income in this period (from 9% to 20% or from 11.7% to 18.4%) clearly indicates the overall aging of the population and the relatively higher birth rate in Eastern Slovakia. This trend confirms a declining share of dependent persons, which, due to part of child population in the East is 3% higher.

Development of the main indicators of the economically active population in this period shows us a Table No 1 [9, p. 52-54, 10, p. 489, 11, p. 164-165]. And Table No 2 [12, p. 21-23, 13, p. 17, 161, 295].

Table № 1

**Economically active population in the eastern region of Slovakia
in 1961-1980 in %**

Year of Census	1961	1970	1980			
Region	ESR	Slovakia	ESR	Slovakia	ESR	Slovakia
<i>Economically active population</i>	40,3	41,7	41,9	44,1	48,0	49,8
<i>Economically inactive with their own source of income</i>	11,7	9,0	16,1	13,8	13,4	14,0
<i>Dependent persons</i>	48,0	49,3	42,0	42,1	38,6	36,2
Total No	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0

Table № 2

**Economically active population in the eastern region of Slovakia
in 1991-2001 in %**

Year of census	1991	2001		
Region	ESR	Slovakia	ESR	Slovakia
<i>Economically active population</i>	48,3	49,6	49,9	51,1
Including maternity leave	6,2	5,9	5,1	4,9
unemployed	4,9	4,1	25,8	20,4
working pensioners	2,7	2,9	3,2	2,5
<i>Economically inactive with own source of income</i>	16,7	17,6	18,4	20,0
Including non-working pensioners	99,9	99,9	94,3	94,3
others	0,1	0,1	5,7	5,7
<i>Dependent persons</i>	35,0.	32,7	31,7	28,9
Of them children under 15 y.o	75,7	74,4	73,9	71,3
Total No	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0

While the differences in the intensity of economic activity in the eastern provinces of Slovakia actually could directly affect the twinning and cross-border relations, the same cannot be stated in the case of branch structure of the economically active population.

The fact is that it has a direct impact on the region's economic performance and living standards, and the internal and external economic relations. Therefore, the development of cross-border cooperation could be somewhat slowed down due to the large share of agriculture in the economic structure of the region, although the latter has also quite rapidly decreased. The share of employees in industry in the East was compared with the total Slovak lowest parameters, the difference ranged from 2.8% (2001) to 5.5% (1961). Usually the region showed better results compared to the national average only in the construction and transport, this was due to less-developed material and technical base of the region and thus further development of its infrastructure or its significant size and consolidation of the railway network, as well as road network.

It is no accident that it was precisely the Eastern Slovakian construction companies that had the greatest success in business in the Transcarpathian region since the nineties.

The share of persons employed in trade and services over the study period was always lower, which was, apparently, due to urbanization and the general level of development of individual regions.

Conversely, faster growth and increase of the number of people who work in the non-production sphere, in Eastern Slovakia clearly reflect the need to strengthen the social improvement of the region, especially through the creation and spread of educational, medical and cultural institutions. This fact has had a very positive impact on the development of friendly relations, which in the eighties increasingly manifested also in production, in the form of exchange of experience, use of advanced technology and direct industrial cooperation.

Development of structural stratification of the economically active population during the test period shows us a Table № 3 [9, p. 52, 123, 10, p. 491, 11, p. 166-167, 13, p.19, 163, 297, 14].

Table № 3

Sectoral structure of the economically active population in the eastern region of Slovakia in the years 1961-2001 in %

Year of census	1961	1970	1980	1991	2001					
Region	ESR	Slovakia	ESR	Slovakia	ESR	Slovakia	ESR	Slovakia	ESR	Slovakia
<i>Agriculture</i>	37,3	33,8	21,5	20,4	16,8	16,2	15,2	13,9	5,8	5,4
<i>Industry</i>	22,9	28,4	29,7	33,8	32,4	35,9	31,1	33,1	29,6	32,4
<i>Construction</i>	13,0	11,2	12,6	10,9	13,1	13,5	9,7	9,3	5,4	5,0
<i>Transport</i>	7,2	6,5	8,5	7,3	7,3	7,2	7,2	6,3	5,5	5,2
<i>Trade and crafts</i>	7,4	6,3	7,8	8,2	11,2	7,2	12,0	12,2	6,9	8,0
<i>Non-production sphere</i>	12,2	13,8	19,9	19,4	18,3	19,0	20,0	20,7	22,2	24,4
<i>Not stated and not specified</i>	—	—	—	—	0,9	1,0	4,8	4,5	24,6	22,6
Total No	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0

With regard to the the social base, cross-border cooperation relies mainly on the category of employees who constantly have been living in Eastern Slovakia, from 1961 till the last census, and represented a lower share of the economically active population stratification than the average across the country. The difference in 1970 was 6%, but in 2001 only 3.4%. Second, in our opinion, fairly negative factor was the large proportion of cooperative farmers and groups of individual farmers, which in 1961 accounted for 6.6% of the economically active population. [15, p. 108.]

Further development of changes in the social composition of the population of Eastern Slovakia shows a Table № 4. [9, p. 122, 11, p. 169-170, 13, p. 19, 163, 297.]

Table № 4

**The social composition of the population of Eastern Slovakia
in the years 1991-2001 in %**

Year of census	1970	1980	2001			
Region	ESR	Slova- kia	ESR	Slova- kia	ESR	Slova- kia
<i>Workers</i>	60,5	56,3	60,3	59,1	45,8	45,4
<i>Officials</i>	22,8	28,8	26,7	31,5	24,6	28,0
<i>Cooperative farm- ers and artisans</i>	12,0	11,2	10,1	8,4	—	—
<i>Individual farmers</i>	4,6	2,0	1,1	0,1	—	—
<i>Self-employed per- sons</i>	—	—	—	—	3,9	7,7
<i>Other categories</i>	0,1	1,7	1,8	0,9	25,7	18,9
TOTAL No	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0

Compared with the general Slovak indicators, in Eastern Slovakia blue-collar workers were fewer. In general, the proportion of workers also increased until 1980, since then it has decreased. The proportion of traders and entrepreneurs in Eastern Slovakia has been remaining very low. This will no doubt have a negative impact on economic activity of the region abroad. At the same time, trade and industry chambers on both sides of the border had been working well in the early nineties and still remaining very active in this area. However, much depends on the phased implementation of certain integration ambitions of Ukraine regarding European Union [16, p. 23-25].

In general, people in Eastern Slovakia still support, show interest and see the benefits of cross-border relations and cooperation for their life and further development. To some extent in this will also play a role long tradition of cross-border contacts, and although they have gone through various vicissitudes, they always have had mainly

positive feedback. At the beginning of their development, it was rather a matter of desire and vision, because there were no real economic and social conditions for their implementation. After creating, expanding and improving the material base of production, human resources, and culture, different legal and administrative barriers have become obstacles that could not offset even substantial political and ideological support for cross-border relations and cooperation. On the other hand, the theory and practice confirm that the cross-border relationship is always a positive influence on the development of economic and social structures in these border regions [17, p. 34-38].

In the early nineties of the twentieth century, despite the very difficult problems connected with the transformation of post-socialist and post-communist countries, cross-border cooperation could acquire broader and firmer contours. This did not happen because on the side of representative offices of Slovakia and Ukraine then started to manifest negative excess sensitivity with respect to indicators of state sovereignty, also associated with some allusions to specific events and actions of the distant and recent past. This situation has affected the process of formation, the specific shape and functioning of the Carpathian Euroregion, although initially it was just a very interesting, ambitious and promising project supported by the European authorities and the public [18, p. 38-44]. In subsequent years, the entire segment of cooperation with the Transcarpathian region of Ukraine adversely affected the integration ambitions of Slovakia, which ultimately meant the introduction of the Schengen visa regime and border, and had further complications resulting from the accession of the Slovak Republic to the European Union, NATO and the Eurozone. Cross-border relations and wider cooperation of Eastern Slovakia with neighbouring counties in Hungary in vain has penetrated various political hostility from the centres, exacerbated by deliberate provocations and opening of historically closed minorities' and regional issues. These problems are extremely difficult to overcome, and although cross-border relations have achieved obvious success, the whole field continues to be too dependent on changes in the political structure in the two countries.

Finally, we allow ourselves to assume that not only cooperation, but also even some form of integration, which was initially a dream, then political propaganda, still later attempts of a few enthusiasts and smart entrepreneurs and firms, eventually would become an economic and social necessity. Economic and social development in Europe and the world more and more evidently demands it.

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The social structure of Eastern Slovakia in comparison with other regions constantly has some specific features. Reflect geographical and natural conditions, but also traits of political, demographic, economic and cultural development in the past and present. Economic activity rate, branch structure and social composition of the population determine the standard of living and opportunities to develop the area. This is an important factor, but which permanently affect the nature, extent and dynamics of contacts, relations and cooperation between players on both sides of the border with Poland, Hungary and Ukraine. This should reflect in methodological training, in research of cross-border co-operation in Eastern Slovakia, and the assessment of its prospects for the future.

Keywords: *Eastern Slovakia, cross-border cooperation, social structure, economic activity, sectoral stratification, social composition of the population.*

Социальная структура восточной Словакии в сравнении с другими регионами государства постоянно обладает некоторыми специфическими особенностями. Они являются отражением не только географических и природных условий жизни населения, но и важных явлений экономического, политического и культурного развития общества в прошлом и настоящем. Степень экономической деятельности, а также отраслевая структура и социальный состав населения определяют возможности для развития области и уровень жизни людей. Это важные факторы, которые постоянно влияют на характер, масштабы и динамику контактов, отношений и сотрудничества между предприятиями-

ми и учреждениями по обе стороны от границы с Польшей, Венгрией и Украиной. Это должно по-прежнему отражать вовремя методологической подготовки всех проектов, в течении научных исследований и в рамках оценки их перспектив на будущее.

Ключевые слова: *восточная Словакия, приграничное сотрудничество, социальная структура, экономическая активность, отраслевая стратификация, социальный состав населения.*

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IMPROVEMENT OF RESEARCH INSTRUMENTS FOR OPERATION PRACTICES OF EUROREGION IN UKRAINE

This paper substantiates the theoretical and practical framework for the process of integration of national economies in the global economic space. It outlines the main directions of development policy of Euroregions of Ukraine, identifies individual ways to overcome the existing problems in the Carpathian Euroregion. It also identifies promising areas for further research on socio-economic development of the border areas in conjunction with the strategy of European integration.

Keywords: *integration processes, innovative development, cross-border cooperation, Euroregion, European integration.*

In the scientific and economic literature has already been formed point of view about inevitable transition to a new, more progressive model of development based on the economic use of resources to meet mostly not the material needs of people (creative expression, leisure, mastery of knowledge and culture, etc.), but mainly on scientific innovation [1, p.67].

Multilateral factors of economic growth reflect extremely complex nature of the economy of open type, multi-level and multi-sectional

character of its components. Any economic system with the formed structure of domestic market and the external sector is determined by their terms, both the short and the long term. However, as evidences domestic and international experience, the process of integration of national economies into the global economic environment is sufficiently controversial, able to influence both the state of macroeconomic stability and the state of the regional economy, including the problems of attracting the region to modern progressive forms of international economic relations.

In the 90-ies of XX century took place Ukraine's foreign policy orientation towards integration into the European community. The European choice has opened up new prospects for Ukraine's cooperation with developed countries-competitors, for economic development, social and intellectual progress, strengthening the position of the state in the international system of coordinates [2, p. 607].

For Ukraine, European integration is the way to modernize the economy, attract foreign investment and new technologies, and improve the competitiveness of domestic producers' ability to access the unified EU internal market.

The consequence of EU expansion through inclusion of Central and Eastern European countries is not only introduction of fundamental changes in the economic map of Europe, which is becoming a traditional regional public association. Significant role in this process is played by Euroregions, which currently operate among countries within EU, as well as at its external borders with countries that are not EU members.

The purpose of this publication is an attempt to explore the practices of functioning of European regions in Ukraine and to analyze the impact of innovations to improve the mechanism of their functioning.

In the current scientific literature, there are many publications on innovation. This issue explored domestic scholars V. Geets, J. Kinzersky, A. Salinova, A. Fedulova, M. Jakubowski et al. Their works highlighted outcomes of the fundamental problem of Ukraine's integration into the global economy and increased competitiveness in the international market. However, the impact of innovations to improve the mechanism of functioning of Euroregions remains overlooked.

Ukraine includes a number of such European regions: Booh, the Carpathian Euroregion, Lower Danube, Upper Prut, Dnieper, Sloboda, Yaroslavna and Donbass. The total length of the Ukrainian border is 6992.982 km. Carpathian Euroregion covers Poland, Slovakia, Hungary and Romania, as well as the four regions of Ukraine: Lviv, Transcarpathia, Ivano-Frankivsk and Chernivtsi, - a total area of 660 m².

The most recent large-scale expansion of the European Union to include 10 new members, including neighbours of Ukraine, fundamentally changed the function of the western border of Ukraine, which since then has become the external border of the EU. During this period, neighbouring Ukraine countries - Hungary, Slovakia and Poland - have taken important first steps towards their full integration into European structures. The result of these steps was the accession of these countries to the Schengen zone in December 22, 2007, which means the abolition of internal borders between them and other members of the Schengen, extending guaranteed freedom and free movement of people, goods, services and capital. It also means that the external EU border (western border of Ukraine) became the external border of the Schengen area. Implementing the strategy of announced earlier Euro-Atlantic integration, Ukraine, unlike other countries, positively perceived spreading the regime of free movement in all EU countries.

It is reasonable to emphasize positive effects of the creation of interregional association "Carpathian Euroregion". Since its independence, Transcarpathia established partnerships with Szabolcs-Szatmar-Bereg region of Hungary and Kosice and Presov self-governing regions of Slovakia, Maramures and Satmar counties of Romania, Subcarpathian Voivodeship of Poland, and from recently with a number of regions of the Czech Republic and Germany. This cooperation brings real results in economic and social spheres. In the volume of FDI that came to Transcarpathia economy, Hungary is ranked fourth (242 Ukrainian-Hungarian firms), amount of investments - U.S. \$ 30.2 million (9.8% of total direct foreign investments for the entire period of activity).

Poland ranks sixth (24 Ukrainian-Polish enterprises), investments - U.S. \$ 27.1 million. (8.8% of the total). Slovakia ranks eighth (109 Ukrainian-Slovak enterprises, investments - U.S. \$ 13.0 million. (4.2% of the total amount). These countries account for almost 23.0% of total FDI of Carpathian Euroregion. In comparison, foreign direct investment in Ternopil region in 2007 was U.S. \$ 51 million, including investments from Poland - 13.4%, i.e. U.S. \$ 0.7 million.

Certainly, it should be noted that during the existence of the Carpathian Euroregion, within it took place a number of cross-border projects. As part of the Neighbourhood programmes “Ukraine-Slovakia-Hungary” four projects were funded by the Transcarpathian region with a total of 2.75 million euros, such as: “The development of cross-border Beregovo polder system in the Tisza River Basin” - 0,72 million euros, “Clean Water” - 0,6 million euros, “Cross-border opportunities for development of transport logistics” - 0,54 million euros, “Improving cross-border traffic in the construction of a bypass road around Beregovo” - 0.9 million euros. As part of the last-mentioned programme, in cooperation with Hungarian partners were implemented six projects, including:

- Establishment of a tourist centre in Beregovo and Uzhgorod;
- Development and implementation of cross-border programmes of medical and social rehabilitation based on regional children’s hospital;
- Development of the Ukrainian-Hungarian integrated approach to common flood prevention activities;
- Investigation of the use of biomass in the border region [4].

However, apart from the positive aspects of participation of Ukraine in the Carpathian Euroregion, there are also a number of problems, including the following:

1. Imperfection and irrelevance of the statute association that does not consider who is a national party, causing additional coordination within the European region, agreement of proposals at the national level.

2. Inconsistency of competencies of national parties, which is caused by different forms of administrative-territorial structures in five countries [9].

3. The low level of funding, including the share of Ukraine in them. Thus, within the cross-border EU programmes for 2004-2006 (programme “Poland-Ukraine-Belarus”, “Hungary-Slovakia-Ukraine”, “Romania-Ukraine”) amount of funds allocated annually ranged within 0,5-5,5 million. However, the indicative allocations for 2007-2013 provide much greater funds than in 2004-2006 (Table 1).

Table 1

**Indicative allocation of EU Cross-Border Cooperation
Programme 2007-2013, million euros**

Cross-border Programme	2007-2010	2010-2013	Total for 2007-2013
Poland-Belarus-Ukraine	97,107	89,094	186,201
Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine	35,796	32,842	68,638
Romania-Moldova-Ukraine	66,086	60,632	126,718
Black Sea	9,025	8,281	17,306

4. Inadequate economic component of implemented cross-border projects that have primarily social or cultural orientation. In particular, an indicative financial envelope for Ukraine under the National Indicative Programme 2007-2010 is 494 million euros. This programme funded three priority areas: 1) support of democratic development and good governance, 2) regulatory reform and administrative capacities, and 3) development of infrastructure.

It should also be emphasized that until now the EU did not consider the Carpathian region as an integrated ecological, economic and humanitarian system. In the Ukrainian Carpathians in the 2007-2013 are implemented three separate programmes. This shows the lack of a systematic approach to the interpretation of the Carpathians as a common European heritage. In this regard, there is an urgent

need for working out a common position of member countries of the International Association “Carpathian Euroregion” on the necessity of the financial perspective for common EU Operational Programme for the region of the Carpathians for 2014-2020, and the submission to the European Commission proposals on the specific institutional and financial solutions to this issue by the governments of Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Hungary and Ukraine. And this is why society “Carpathian Euroregion - Poland” in conjunction with the Association of Local Self-Government “Carpathian Euroregion - Ukraine” took on development of a separate “Carpathian Programme” to be financed by the European Union [5].

When investigating individual solutions to existing problems in the Carpathian Euroregion, we should point to the measures implemented by the parties or initiated by them as a priority in the near future. The lack of direct communication between the Transcarpathian region and Subcarpathian Voivodeship makes it impossible to develop sustainable and effective partnerships between authorities and self-government, and other interested in the development of cooperation parties on both sides of the border, which can be corrected by opening the crossings “Lubnah-Volosaty” under ENPI Programme Poland-Belarus-Ukraine 2007-2013 [6].

It is also possible to increase the inflow of foreign direct investment from EU countries. Fulfilment of this condition will facilitate the project EAST-INVEST, which also includes the strengthening of cooperation in business, technology transfer and simplification of customs procedures. Participation in this project is profitable prospect for Ukraine. [3] Ukraine should continue to develop agreements with members of the association, which would facilitate the establishment of relations, including border crossings. One of the first countries that introduced the local border traffic regime with Ukraine was Hungary, and the format of the agreement is probably the best, as the number of traffic participants crossing the Ukrainian-Hungarian border, is being the largest [7].

When the development of cross-border cooperation was activated, the bodies of Transcarpathian regional and local authorities also

conducted a series of measures, including a number of international conferences, seminars and roundtables.

Based on framework agreements with regional authorities of frontier regions of neighbouring countries - Poland, Slovakia, Hungary and Romania, there were defined the main goals and objectives of the CBC, as well as framework of the activities programme of the Carpathian Euroregion. However, the possibility of cross-border economic cooperation for economic development of the region is far from exhausted. The experience gained over a certain period gives grounds to define the following causes of slow cross-border cooperation:

1) low level of involvement of non-state enterprises, institutions, and NGOs to implement activities under cross-border cooperation;

2) lack of an integrated approach to the organization of cross-border cooperation, including highly-qualified skilled personnel that can provide the necessary preparation of cross-border cooperation projects and contacts with representatives of communities of foreign countries, considering the relevant professional standards and language skills;

3) lack of autonomy of local authorities and local governments in making decisions about the implementation of joint cross-border cooperation with the subjects of foreign states;

4) the slow pace of development of the infrastructure and simplification of customs control prevents the fast transit of goods and their movement;

5) inability of co-financing of cross-border cooperation projects in science, education, culture, communications, health care and tourism.

There is a responsible task standing before the Transcarpathian border region - to work in the new format of cooperation with the foreign partners. Given the focus on integration policy of the Government of Ukraine, it is necessary to use efficiently the experience of neighbouring countries and international donor organizations interested in the development of Transcarpathia as “outer region” of the European Union. In our understanding, the European border regions serve an important function of bridges of cooperation between states and their

regions and offer opportunities and ways for further development of cross-border cooperation.

To fulfil the goal of activation of cross-border cooperation in Transcarpathia, there must take place a number of measures:

1. Taking into account that in the last decade was drafted a large number of documents- concepts, joint programs of cross-border cooperation for short-and long-term, specific projects on a wide range of cross-border cooperation, there is a need make a “revision” in terms of their level, completeness and performance of the entire system of environmental economic cooperation.

2. It is necessary to guide the state advantage and internal capabilities of the region to overcome the containment of cross-border economic relations, ensuring active involvement in the processes of small and medium businesses, also paying special attention to the development of joint businesses, and industrial cooperation.

3. It is necessary to develop and improve regulatory legislation of CBC based on methodological criteria of the European Union. It is also necessary to make a legislative initiative on the adoption of the law “On the cross-border cooperation”, as the Law of Ukraine “On Cross-Border Cooperation” (2004) in many respects does not meet the characteristics and nature of foreign trade at the regional level, such as the border level. It is necessary to work out and improve the regulatory framework, functional duties, rights and responsibilities created by executive agencies in state administrations of the regions. At present time, the existing structures in the field of executive authorities are largely focussed on the development of border infrastructure, attracting foreign investment, exports and imports of goods and services, issuing permits for foreign operations, which, of course, is very important. At the same time, some highly effective forms of cross-border cooperation remain out of sight.

4. The new Comprehensive programme of development of cross-border cooperation of the region must consider:

- Rational use of natural resources of the region and the development of economic cooperation;

- Development of flood protection measures in the Tisza River basin, as well as joint environmental programmes;
- The need for further development of the border infrastructure, especially transport;
- Educational and cultural cooperation.

One of the important directions in the future deployment of cross-border economic relations is comprehensive study, as well as borrowings and implementation of best foreign work experience in virtually all areas of science, technology and production. Past years' experience and practice shows that this form of cross-border cooperation was one of the main and most effective, and was under particularly close control of government.

Registered migration exchange between Ukraine and other countries of the world is about 100 thousand people per year [8]. Ukraine is a country that has very significant scientific and technical human resources, which has a significant impact on its socio-economic development. According to these figures, our country is ahead of Slovenia, Slovakia, Hungary, and Poland. However, the number of scientific personnel in Ukraine, unlike most European countries, decreases, leading to deterioration of the prerequisites for successful implementation of European integration aspirations of the state [9].

We can give recommendations that the basis of making any managerial decisions on the operation and development of multi-faceted cross-border cooperation, including on the issue of permits, should be the economic soundness, appropriateness. In each case must be made calculations of cost-effectiveness of various forms of cooperation, individual operations, and activities. Currently, such calculations are not always carried out for different reasons. Trainees and researchers should jointly develop appropriate methodology for calculating the efficiency of cross-border economic relations with regard to the specific conditions of Transcarpathia, and prepare recommendations on the application of methods of calculation efficiency in different directions of foreign economic activity at the regional cross-border level.

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In this article theoretical and applied principles of the process of integrating the national economy into the global economy. The basic policies of European regions of Ukraine. Outlined individual ways of dealing with the problems that are in the Carpathian Euroregion. Identified promising directions for further research of socio-economic development of the border areas in combination with the strategy of European integration.

Keywords: *integration processes, innovative development, cross-border cooperation, the euroregion, European integration.*

В статье обоснованы теоретические и прикладные основы процесса интеграции национальной экономики в глобальное экономическое пространство. Охарактеризованы основные направления политики развития еврорегионов Украины. Определены индивидуальные способы преодоления существующих проблем, имеющих в Карпатском еврорегионе. Выявлены перспективные направления дальнейших исследований социально-экономического развития приграничных территорий в сочетании со стратегией евроинтеграции.

Ключевые слова: *интеграционные процессы, инновационное развитие, трансграничное сотрудничество, еврорегион, евроинтеграция.*

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