

EDITORIAL

Welcome to another issue of DETUROPE that demonstrates the expanding breadth and depth of an interdisciplinary engagement with regional science. This special issue is a collection of articles presented at the 13th annual meeting of the Hungarian Regional Science Association entitled “*Regional Processes of Central and Eastern Europe, 1990–2015*” held on 19–20 November 2015 at *Eszterházy Károly College* in Eger. As the title of the conference suggests, the objective of the meeting was to discuss the spatial processes characterising the era between the regime change and the present with a focus on Central and Eastern European countries. A total number of 190 participants contributed to the realisation of this mission. The organising committee succeeded in inviting international and outstanding plenary speakers for the occasion:

- *Jouke van Dijk*, President of European Regional Science Association, Professor at the University of Groningen;
- *Daniela L. Constantin*, President of the Romanian Regional Science Association, Professor at the University of Economics in Bucharest;
- *Tomasz Komornicki*, Scientific Deputy Head of the Institute of Geography and Spatial Organisation of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Professor at the Maria Curie-Skłodowska University;
- *James W. Scott*, Professor at the University of Eastern Finland;
- *Zoltán Hajdú*, Scientific Advisor of the Institute for Regional Research of CERS HAS;
- *Éva G. Fekete*, Professor at the University of Miskolc;
- *Géza Tóth*, Leading Advisor of the Hungarian Central Statistical Office;
- *György Csomós*, Professor at the University of Debrecen;
- *Viktória Józsa*, Manager of Nord Consult Ltd.

After the plenary sessions, a total number of almost a hundred presentations were delivered in twelve thematic sections:

- Theoretical and Methodological Questions of Spatial Analysis;
- Regional Policy and Urban Development;
- Innovation and Regional Development;
- Regional Development Paths in Central and Eastern Europe;
- Agricultural, Environmental and Rural Development;
- Local Development in Rural and Border Regions;
- Social Change, Demography, Migration;
- Economic Development, Sectoral Development Trends;
- The Social, Economic and Cultural Role and Impacts of Tourism;
- The Socioeconomic Impacts of the Climate Change;
- Geopolitics, Europeanization, Border Politics;
- Development, Convergence and Regional Processes in Central and Eastern Europe (1990–2015) (in English).

In this issue of DETUROPE, we are pleased to introduce 17 authors with 14 articles who succeeded in meeting the requirements of the thematic issue. Their topics focus on a great diversity of theoretical, methodological as well as empirical issues, capturing how exciting and dynamic the field of regional science in Hungary became in the past few years.

Viktória Józsa gives an excellent overview of regional processes in Hungary, examines the regional characteristics along with ‘regionalization’ in the V4 countries, and sketches the main features of Hungarian regionalization phases between 1990 and 2015. Through the French case, *Ildikó Egyed* illustrates how the unified national territory became increasingly threatened by a „two-speed” development in the light of industrialisation, decentralisation and other circumstances. *Katalin Döbrönte* takes a close look at how Central European cities can join the global urban network by analysing high level business services, with special regard to the presence and strategy of consultancy companies. *Andrea Uszkai* examines the position of Vienna according to the different world and global city rankings, and demonstrates that the needs of local inhabitants, liveable and sustainable environment, culture and tourism play a dominant role in its “smart city” approach; however, its position is much weaker in dimensions, such as business and finances. *Tekla Sebestyén Szép* presents a strong study on the energy convergence of the European Union by applying the methodology of sigma and beta convergence, and concludes that the extent of differences in terms of the progressions decreased significantly between 2001 and 2012. *Tibor Kovács* outlines the spatial problems of demographic shrinkage through Hungarian and German examples, and suggests that each settlement has to find an original solution by mobilising their endogenous resources. *Dániel Kuttor* and *Zsolt Péter* revisit the national and international positions of University of Miskolc, Faculty of Economics in light of the Bologna process, with special focus on the catchment area and some demographic features. *Katalin Lipták* calls women’s labour-market participation in the Northern Hungarian region into question, and concludes that the women’s career in the research sector moves more slowly than the men’s promotion. *Márton Péti* and *Csilla Szalóky-Hoffmann* highlight that Hungarian organizations moderately utilised their networking potential among Hungarian communities in neighbouring countries in the programming period of 2007-2013; consequently, policies should be more intensively and strategically built upon strengthening networks among communities in the future. *Melinda Molnár* and *Tünde Bogárdi* analyse the spatial aspects of the Roma-Hungarian coexistence, as well as describe the characteristics of Roma segregations through ethnicity analysis and mental mapping. *Dorottya Szabó* illustrates relevant criteria for the site selection of farmer markets developed in the United States of America, and develops a toolkit that can help in

similar evaluations of existing and potential markets sites in Hungary. *Amelita Kata Gódor* examines the change in food consumption behaviour and habits as well as the patterns of quality food consumption in terms of different income levels between 2010 and 2013 in the case of Hungarian regions. *Martin Zsarnoczky* highlights the contradictions of health and medical tourism by seeking answer for the following questions: who is responsible for establishing a harmonised legal background, and how should health tourists be informed about different countries' regulations regarding health service institutions. Finally, *Zsófia Vida* investigates scientific collaborations by exploring relations between Economics and Physical Geography journals and countries based on the authors' affiliation data.

Taken together, it is a pleasure to position these articles in their broader intellectual environment of regional science. In our hopes, the publication of the special issue will constitute a milestone both for HRSA and DETUROPE. The Presidency of HRSA hereby expresses its gratitude to the Editorial Board of the journal.

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Guest Editor