



CALL FOR PAPERS

ECONOMIC INTEGRATION AND INTERDEPENDENCE

Call for English language, country-specific papers to be published in a study volume. The volume will be edited and published by the Center for Strategic and Defense Studies (National University of Public Service, (NUPS) Budapest, Hungary). The volume reviews the processes and results of economic integration as well as patterns of interdependence in the case of 10 Central and Eastern European (CEE) countries between 1989 and 2016 from the perspective of the respective CEE countries: Austria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia and Ukraine.

The volume will contain 10 country-specific reports, each 40.000 characters long. Seeking best quality and most suitable form, the authors will be local experts of the CEE countries who ideally deal with the economic policy of their country and/or integration studies, selected through a competitive process. Each author is fully responsible for the content of his/her own chapter.

Interested potential authors need to submit a 500-word-long abstract via E-mail to the editor by December 1, 2017, outlining the key theses that he/she deems important to include in the paper in line with the proposed structure of the papers (see below). The editor will be a Hungarian expert of economic relations, Zoltán Felméry (CSDS), keeping contact and coordinating the work of the authors (felmery.zoltan@unike.hu). All applicants will be notified via E-mail by December 15, 2017 and selected contributors will also be informed about the due process of contracting.

Authors will receive a symbolic financial compensation: a gross amount of ca. 460-480 EUR (depending on the HUF/EUR exchange ratio), for which all related author's and copyrights are to be transferred to NUPS. The formal requirements of the single papers are listed below (Guidelines for authors). The volume will be published in English in 2019.

Important milestones / deadlines of the 1st & 2nd phase: Country-specific studies

September 1 – December 1, 2017:	Identifying and contacting prospective authors
December 15, 2017:	Contracting authors and coordinating writing
April 1, 2018:	Submission of manuscripts, 1 st review begins
May 15, 2018:	Manuscripts are returned to authors
June 15, 2018:	Submission of finalized papers
July 30, 2018:	2 nd review finished, manuscripts finalized

3rd phase: Comparative studies

Based on the country-specific chapters, comparative studies will be written, complementing the original country studies, i.e. on the experience of the Visegrád countries regarding economic integration. These will be published as part of the study volume.





Conceptual starting point:

The institutions of political integration in Europe have been founded upon the mutual benefits of economic cooperation and modernization, also inherently resulting in growing interdependencies. The success of economic cooperation is an essential pillar of sustained motives for integration – whether countries in the CEE region are already members of the institutions of Euro-Atlantic integration (primarily of the European Union), or are close partners pulled by its economic and political gravity. However, CEE countries have approached and entered economic integration from different starting points and positions: some were in more beneficial position, some in less beneficial. The openness, productivity, level of modernization, competitiveness of CEE economies – usually in a much weaker position in the 1990s than the Western European “economic core” – have also been moving on different paths of growth and modernization within the new frameworks of economic integration. Understanding the dynamics behind these processes and drawing the conclusions of the successes and failures of economic integration is key to steer national and regional economic policies on a convergent path, if the economic (and political) institutions of integration are to prevail among the various challenges of the 21st century.

Research question:

What is the experience of CEE countries regarding economic integration and interdependence in the period 1989-2016, what drivers have been effective and what fields can be identified as successful – and unsuccessful? To what extent have CEE countries benefitted from closer economic integration and interdependence, and have been the risks and costs related to these? Looking back on the past two decades, can your country deem to be on a path of economic growth, modernization and prosperity – and to what extent can it be attributed to membership in / cooperation with the European Union?

Proposed structure of papers:

1. **The conditions at the beginning of the integration process** *(please provide data)*
 - What kind of economic and social conditions had the country before the start of the economic integration (i.e. GDP, GPD/capita, Human Development Index)?
2. **Interdependence and economic penetration** *(please provide data, where available)*
 - How did the main fields and directions of economic activities and cooperation change since 1989? (i.e. Who have been the leading import / export, commercial partners? How did the import / export portfolio of you country change towards EU-members or other partners?)
 - How did foreign direct investment patterns change in your country? (i.e. Who are the main investors, are they EU member countries?)
 - Did the ownership structure in strategic sectors of the economy change as a result of closer cooperation / integration with the EU, and if so, in what ways? (i.e. banking, energy sector, infrastructure)
 - To what extent are foreign companies present in your country, what is their economic leverage (if you can estimate)?
 - When did your country join the Eurozone (if at all), what were its





effects in terms of interdependence, advantages, vulnerabilities? (i.e. reflecting upon the 2009 economic crisis)

- To what extent are funds and profits withdrawn from your country by foreign actors (investors, firms, multinational companies)?
- What are the most important economic advantages your country can offer to investors and companies? (i.e. favorable taxation, skilled and/or cheap labor force, good infrastructure, innovative environment)

3. The use of EU funds *(please provide data, where possible)*

- What structural and/or development funds has your country received from the EU since the 1990s?
- How have these funds been used (in which sectors, at what absorption ratio)?
- How transparent is the use of EU funds?

4. The socioeconomic effects of integration

- As a result of the free movement of the people, did your country experience an inflow/outflow of educated and skilled workforce (brain drain, skill drain)? If so, what have been the effects on your country?

5. Conclusion and outlook: Drawing the balance of the results of integration

- Was the integration successful / unsuccessful? What were the primary reasons of the success / failure?
- If the integration was not a total success, what was the reason that hindered people in the country to think about how to integrate economically successfully to the European Union?
- What is the reason that opinion leaders in the country only now start to think about actions that support them forming the integration in a way that better serves the implementation of national interests?
- What may be the next steps towards furthering economic integration and rebalancing interdependence, if desirable?

Specificities:

Keeping in mind that the 10 CEE countries included in the research do not form a homogenous set, there is certain flexibility of the proposed structure of the paper, considering country-based specificities. Particularly in case of Serbia and Ukraine which have taken different paths, timescales or frameworks of integration, resulting in various degrees of embeddedness, the papers should put more emphasis on the structures of regional economic cooperation, its partners and results, as well as the resulting interdependence. As a result, Chapter 3 should focus on the economic effects and results of the path leading to gaining full EU candidate status in case of



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Serbia and the effects of intensified economic cooperation resulting in the Ukraine – European Union Association Agreement and Ukraine joining the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area.

Submission deadline for abstracts: December 1, 2017 (felmery.zoltan@uni-nke.hu).

Please indicate your institutional affiliation and position, also providing E-mail and telephone contact together with the abstract.

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