

INSTITUTE OF SOCIOLOGY OF THE HUNGARIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

Address: 1014 Budapest, Úri u. 49.; 1250 Budapest, Pf. 20;

Phone: 1 224-0786; Fax: 1 224-0790

Email: tiborit@socio.mta.hu; Website: www.socio.mta.hu

SCIENTIFIC REPORT 2010

I. MAIN DUTIES OF THE RESEARCH UNIT IN 2010

The Institute's tasks include basic and public duties. The research targets laid down in the deed of foundation were in line with national and international trends which describe social processes focusing mainly on social structure, social policies and values, new technologies and knowledge, as well as on measuring environmental changes.

Researches of the Institute are centred on four themes. Investigations concerning equal opportunities endeavoured to reveal reasons of inequalities, especially the situation of women, Roma, people with disabilities, the elderly, and LGBT people. Additionally, regarding gender, studies dealt with the reconciliation of family and work, women's discrimination on the labour market, the level of domestic violence, its victims and care. The focus of research on knowledge and its society transforming role involves decision-making, competitiveness and sustainability, the Hungarian R&D system, as well as psycho-social risks at work. Value studies highlight the rearrangement of values, their impact on culture and behaviour, the cultural split in Hungarian society, the evaluation of narrative life-history interviews, the collection and categorisation of the legacy by national qualitative researchers, and also the increased role of intellectual production. Environmental and social sustainability investigations unravelled social conflicts due to natural and environmental disasters, examined social connections of global climate change, national opportunities of sustainable urban development, and finally, the consequences of territory consumption due to modern urban development.

The management of the European Social Survey's (EUTE/ESS) fifth data recording, the evaluation of the previous recording, and the further development of the sociology history archives (Voices of the 20th Century) set special tasks to researchers. The Institute lay big emphasis on the interdisciplinary nature of researches, which allowed the mapping of social phenomena and the description and interpretation of operating mechanisms. Similarly to previous years resources were only partially available, thus colleagues sought new application possibilities and conducted researches on their own initiative. Presenting scientific results to the general public as well as conducting social dialogues were priority tasks for the Institute.

II/ OUTSTANDING RESEARCH AND OTHER RESULTS IN 2010

a) OUTSTANDING RESEARCH AND OTHER RESULTS

Equal opportunities

Ethnic Differences in Education and Diversing Prospects for Urban Youth in an Enlarged Europe (EDUMIGROM) (EU FP7)

Preliminary international comparative analyses based on the research pointed out that – despite major differences in the welfare and educational systems – Europe’s ‘visible’ minorities had suffered severe disadvantages by the end of the first section in their educational career compared to ‘majority’ societies. School performance, education prospects and future career outlooks of second generation immigrant and Roma children are less favourable. The underlying reasons are of various types: historically and culturally established cohabitation circumstances diverge, rethinking the possibilities and limits of integration into schools is a major challenge, as well as the clarification of broad institutional and structural criteria that may in the long term facilitate the full involvement of Europe’s ‘differently treated’ social groups in the societies concerned. Results are based on the comparative analysis of surveys recorded with the participation of 5086 students in 287 classes in 105 schools of 9 countries and about 300 personal and 70 focus group interviews, and ethnographic observations. Although all participating countries seem to aim at supporting the social integration of minorities via education (also), political intentions often fail due to different institutional and personal practices of majority resistance, the everyday forms of exclusion and discrimination, not to mention public influence and the determinant ideologies.

Growth Rate of Legal Awareness Related to Equal Treatment – Focusing on Women, Roma, Disabled and LGBT People (Equal Treatment Authority)

The aim of this research is to measure and analyse legal awareness related to equal treatment as well as the respective changes as a result among the entire population and in groups with protected attributes. The first results of the two-wave research – which uses several types of sampling methods – show that more than one third of the whole population (both men and women), more than half of disabled people, three quarters of LGBT people, and four fifth of Roma respondents experienced discrimination at some point of their lives. Cumulative discrimination is typical of Hungary, affecting two third of the discriminated. Protected groups are even more affected, with increasing severity from disabled through LGBT people to Roma.

Opportunities and Possibilities for Social Integration for Young Adults Living with Disabilities in Hungary (NKTH, INNOTARS_08)

- Integration of the disabled seems to have been implemented in higher education, yet it must be noted that only those people can study further who have appropriate family, social and economic background. They are accepted by fellow student only as long as acceptance does not restrict their individual lives. In other cases individual interests overrule the community ones, disabled students get discriminated, particularly at certain universities.
- Mostly market and state operators employ a small number of disabled employees. This can be traced back on the one hand to the lack of social acceptance and involvement, negative workplace attitudes, and on the other, to the organisation’s activity, and the issue of accessibility of institutions. Selection on the labour market is extremely strict

depending on the type of the organisation, the employees hired, the manager, and the vision of the organisation. Hungarian employers are significantly prejudiced and discriminating. Chances for disabled youth to find employment are minimal, further weakening their social relationships and integration opportunities.

- Most Hungarian websites cannot or can just partly be used by such people.
- A long-term result of the research is the introduction of the course titled Equal Opportunities and Society at the University of Szeged and the Zsigmond Király College, supported also by a volume of studies. During the research several workshops and conferences were organised, and many publications appeared.

Citizens in Diversity (CiD) and Against Homophobia, European Local Administration Devices (AHEAD) (European Committee)

The ‘white-book’ written in the frame of the AHEAD programme contains recommendations and good practices about how to make steps to avoid and reduce discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity on local administration level. The result of the CiD research cooperation is a collection of good practices and legal advice that are efficiently used in other countries in the struggle against homophobia and for the evolvement of the basic human and citizen rights of gay and lesbian people.

Reconciling Work and Welfare in Europe (RECWOWE) (EU FP6)

The project conducted with the collaboration of 29 international research units evaluates the results of European researches on the topic of reconciling work and welfare.

- Subproject for guiding fertility, (women’s) labour-market participation and work-family reconciliation: analysing the balance of work and family gains particular significance in respect of childbearing propensity and realized fertility. The international comparative research about stress affecting employees with families promoted the improvement of people’s quality of life by analysing efficient reconciliation of work with privacy and family life. The report about Hungary directed attention to the underlying social reasons for extremely low fertility rates: to limited childbearing skills and capabilities, reflected mainly by the decreasing frequency of second and third childbirths and the growing number of childless adults.
- Subproject for job maintenance and recruitment decisions of employers: the research revealed that when recruiting low skill workers employers prefer informal recruiting channels and direct recruiting methods. Due to the use of fundamentally informal recruiting tools a significant part of job opportunities are not advertised. Consequently, disadvantaged groups having a smaller social network again face disadvantages in getting jobs.

The Gendered Construction of ‘Care’ after the Transition in Hungary (ERSTE Stiftung, Vienna)

The empiric research performed using a new theoretical basis (ethics of care) added new perspectives to gender studies, and made statements about the working conditions, values and attitudes of attendants. Furthermore, it formed a view of two further concepts of care formulated by workers in two different fields of care. It established different types of roles associated with genders, and pointed out that most attendants construct the scope of tasks for an attendant without gender specification. Interpretation of non-stereotypical responses opens new doors in gender studies.

Intimate Partner Violence against Elderly Women (EU DAPHNE III)

Based on research into intimate partner violence – including physical, sexual, emotional and material violence against women – valuable knowledge has been collected in Western European countries about the process of violence, the personality of the abuser and the forms of violence itself. In Hungary this issue receives less attention than needed. This is even more so with elderly women. The institutional system is not prepared for handling such special problems of elderly women, professionals are not qualified to settle the evolved situation and delegate problems. The representation of victims has not yet been solved either. Legislative, institution development and training actions are needed in order to improve the situation of elderly women suffering partner violence, concerning which the result of this study may bring a major turn.

Outside and Inside – Three times (OTKA)

This research is based on the complex analysis of borderline regions. It builds on the idea that certain social inequalities, including the regional inequalities due to economic and structural changes, inequalities of neighbouring EU and non-EU countries, and ethnical inequalities concentrated around certain border regions appear cumulatively in these particular ones. This threefold marginal situation is interpreted from four perspectives: proximity to the borderline (opportunities and limits), economic borders (the bounds of modern global capitalism and the orderly post-socialist economic formations), social boundaries (local level reproduction of social class statuses and cultural conformity), ethnical boundaries, ethnical networks, interethnic relations.

Migrants in Elder-care (OTKA)

The focus of this research was the elder-care provided by migrants present on the black labour market in Hungary. Results showed that the employment of hidden migrants by families is quite significant, highly relieving the need for formal care. This situation, however, will definitely change as the migration direction changes, prices of migrants' services go up, and the financial status of families declines. At the same time the resources for care in Hungary also show decrease, and due to the aging of historical EU member states there is a big demand for attendants both on the legal and the black labour market. The above trends indicate challenges that neither the formal elder-care, nor the healthcare system or the labour market or the families take into consideration. The demand for formal elder-care will dramatically rise along with its financial costs. After identifying the so-far invisible trends the proper management of social-political, economic and labour-market challenges will become feasible.

Knowledge Economy

The Role of Knowledge in the Construction and Regulation of Health and Education Policy in Europe: Convergences and Specificities among Nations and Sectors (EU FP6)

In the frames of the research an empiric study was conducted about health policy. In 2010 results were synthesized in two research reports written in English in the topics of healthcare accountability and DRG-based (Diagnosis-related group) financing. Both studies aim at revealing mechanisms, which – as a result of (often contradictory) professional knowledge, healthcare practices, and concepts of government (and sometimes municipality) decision makers about health care – lead to certain healthcare policy decisions, or their absence.

Psycho-social Risks, Service Economy and Social Dialogue (EU)

In the year concerned several workshops were organized with the participation of researchers, trade unions and employers representing different fields and actors of the financial sector, as well as external experts specialized in the topic. A national and an international comparative research reports were also completed. Social partners involved in the project put work stress down to structural (organisation level) factors, but concerning its reduction were unable to break away from individual level initiatives such as psychological advice or employee training. The scope of future studies must focus on the perspective (cognitive) and institutional boundaries that obstruct the establishment of employee-manager-cooperation based initiatives.

European Cooperation and Success Indicators in the Hungarian R&D System – Measurement System Development and Empiric Recording (NKTH, INNOTARS08)

The project studies cooperation skills and experiences in the Hungarian R&D system gathered since the EU accession. The established indicators may be used in the future by research policy makers on national, sector specific, regional, and also institutional and academic levels. Results demonstrate the following:

- During the first years of EU membership the positions of Hungarian researchers slightly improved. Although the membership did not bring any intellectual breakthrough in the projects, it helped in learning about the new trends and acquiring some modern instruments. Due to the mainly applied nature of EU networks Hungarian participating institutions of the projects are shifting away from the basic research.
- Hungarian research management highly appreciates success related to EU projects, but by doing so it also makes the overview of positions inside the project difficult.
- Hungarian successes tend to end up in the ‘learned to apply’ or the possessing-the-necessary-personal-relations section of the network. More and more successful projects are shared among less and less research teams. Thus, national participation does not or just hardly increases even in case of projects with Hungarian collaboration.

Via the internal evaluation system of the National Development Agency, evaluation results contributed to the preparation of further aid projects.

Value and culture

European Social Survey (EUTE/ESS) (OTKA)

In 2010 the data recording of the ESS Round 5 was completed, as well as the assessment of the 2009 data (ESS Round 4). The result is the publication of the European Social Register 2010 in English language. Three chapters of the volume:

- summarize value changes taking place in European societies, where the value crisis indicator developed by the researchers reflects the symptoms of crisis in the Hungarian society;
- discuss reasons and consequences of confidence depletion taking place in European societies, with the help of confidence indicators. These indicators are linked to sensitivity to justice, willingness for tolerance and general satisfaction. Indicators of political and social activity are also quite telling, their absence of the aforementioned activities partly suggests the level of resignation;
- discuss the evolution of attitudes such as tolerance and acceptance in European societies, and concludes that economic stagnation and the crisis affect attitudes to integration negatively.

Voices of the 20th Century Archives and Research Group (OTKA)

The research endeavours to collect and digitalize the audio legacy of Hungarian sociology. The research database and the professional results gained so far are already accessible (see www.20szazadhangja.hu). Additionally, twenty professional-history interviews were made with outstanding figures of qualitative sociology. Via workshops and conferences a network of researchers and donators is being built. The professional acknowledgement and supplementary role of the research group is well demonstrated by the fact that within the course of a year nearly 80 sociologists registered on the research group's e-questionnaire surface, and uploaded data about more than 100 researches.

Intellectual Production Method

The results of the multiannual research interpret the increased role of intellectual production in the 20th century, which can be regarded as the internal tendency of capitalism and the possibility of an alternative formation at the same time. The monograph discusses the philosophical category of 'intellect' as the conceptual core of intellectual production, and the establishment of the sociological representations of intellectual production. The monograph also reinterprets the decades of eastern European socialism and highlights the mistakes of Marx's theory of formation. Research results offer useful tools for interpreting the current social structure, and provide a new aspect for the more differentiated analysis of the recent years as well as the consideration of future possibilities.

Environmental and Social Sustainability

In this field the most important results show that the relationship once so harmonic between environment and society has deteriorated so seriously that the consequences threaten the operation of societies. The knowledge of this resulted in a paradigm shift in social sciences, and the new approach has already produced results in numerous Institute researches.

Sustainable Consumption, Production, Communication (Norwegian Financial Mechanism)

On the basis of a 1000 respondent representative empiric survey, 50 elite in-depth interviews and case studies carried out in the city of Budapest a synthesizing analytical study was completed. The city has a hierarchical social structure: due to the urban expansion dichotomies, unsustainable environmental, social and regional development type tensions between the centre and the surroundings increased, and cooperation between the city and its neighbourhood became quite difficult. Suburbanization trends modified due to the renewal of downtown quarters, although the current economic crisis (also) curtailed intensions of moving out of the city. The aforementioned processes indicate the reserved dynamism of urban expansion.

Development and Application of a Standardized Methodology for the Prospective Sustainability Assessment of Technologies (PROSUITE)

The first scientific result is a comprehensive professional summary about the development and application of social sustainability indicators, with particular regard to the social evaluation criteria of technologies, and the distribution of institutional stability, social welfare, justice, risks and benefits. The second result is an empiric research that analyses the expected social impact of modern technologies (e.g. info-communication technologies) in an aging society.

Civil Society for Sustainability (CSS) (EU FP7)

In 2010 the Institute conducted two pilot projects jointly with Energiaklub (Energy Club). The first one is the establishment of a local climate protection strategy in the town Gyöngyös, with the participation of the municipality, major local interest groups as well as citizens. Non-professional people have also become familiar with the prevention, damage reduction and adaptation possibilities concerning climate change. With the help of experts a proposal was made about what roles the citizens and other actors should undertake to be successful. The second was a joint decision conference for establishing an energy efficiency coalition.

b) RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SCIENCE AND SOCIETY

Numerous researches investigated the situation of people in education. At one case (EDUMIGROM) Hungarian research results were discussed with teachers of participating schools and municipality leaders at a half-day long field conference last year. The discussion – according to feedbacks – was a crucial guide to the redefinition of integration actions and the shaping of local educational policy. Health and education policy were the focus of another research (KNOWandPOL). Two research reports were compiled for decision makers in order to reveal mechanisms operating in certain fields, which influence the participants' way of thinking and the order of financing. The mapping of employment chances for disabled young adults provided opportunity to reveal labour market contradictions, as well as limits and possibilities of integration. Two higher education institutions started a new course called equal opportunities and society, greatly improving tolerance among students. In connection with this topic many Hungarian websites – mainly intended for informing disabled people – were critically reviewed; the remarks may contribute to easier accessibility. Significant results were obtained by researchers fighting against homophobia, as on behalf of the European Committee they collected good practices and prepared a collection of legal proposals that can be used efficiently in the struggle to avoid homophobia.

III. A PRESENTATION OF NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

- In the frame of the 'Fundamental Rights and Citizenship' programme of the European Committee participation in the work team for the struggle against homophobia.
- Establishment of an international team in the frame of the RESCAPE project, involving researchers from Karta (Warsaw), Dokumenta (Zagreb), Visual History Archive (Berlin) and Mauthausen Documentation Centre (Vienna), as well as the Social Science College of ELTE University, the HAVER Foundation and the Association of Hungarian History Teachers.
- In the programme 4CITIES UNICA Euromaster in Urban Studies cooperation with 6 universities of 4 European countries in the frame of teaching the module 'Urban Development and Planning in Eastern Europe'.
- In the frame of the collaboration of the HAS and CNRS a joint research with the Université de Paris 8 (Département de Géographie).
- Establishment of a climate protection strategy jointly with Energiaklub with citizen participation.
- Regular information via workshops about the research and work of the 'climate teams' in the programme 'Climate Friendly Municipalities'.

IV. BRIEF SUMMARY OF NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH PROPOSALS WON IN 2010

Education Analysis, Identifying Problems of the Info-communication Technologies Sector (NSZFI, 2010)

From the perspective of the ICT sector's development a key question is whether enterprises can find free and well-trained labour force. The research endeavours to find out reasons for the difference between supply and demand, and also the available tools for solving this problem.

Culture, Change, Society (NKA, 2010-2011)

Examining successful applications of Hungarian culture transmitting institutions supported by NKA, taking into consideration content as well as settlement structure.

Growth Rate of Legal Awareness Related to Equal Treatment – Focusing on Women, Roma, Disabled and LGBT People (Equal Treatment Authority) 2010-2013)

The basic question is to learn about the level and structure of tolerance, legal awareness, eligibility sensitivity of society, and the efficiency of the institutional system for promoting ethnic protection, anti-discrimination, an equal opportunities.

Labour Service Memories Narrated (OTKA, 2010-2013)

Systematic evaluation of 300 narrative life-course interviews.

Return and Escape. Forced Migration Between 1938-1956 (Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA), 2010-2011)

The RESCAPE project is conducted in the frame of the programme EU Europe for Citizens, Active European Remembrance. During the one-year project the Voices of the 20th Century research group assess two volumes of interviews: RETURN (audio interviews with survivors of concentration camps) and ESCAPE (video interviews with Hungarian immigrants). The assessment includes not only the systematic evaluation of interviews, but also the collection of background materials and the preparation of learning kit as wells.

Citizens in Diversity (CiD): A Four-Nation Study on Homophobia and Fundamental Rights (European Committee, 2010-2011)

Review of the spreading mechanisms of cultural stereotypes connected to homosexuality, and mapping legislation regarding the spread of homophobia.

Against Homophobia. European Local Administration Devices (AHEAD). (European Committee, 2010-2011)

Recommendations and good practices for municipalities to avoid and reduce discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

New Urban Development Model? Transition and Globalization in Hungarian 'New towns' and Their Surroundings (OTKA 2010-2011)

The main aim of the research is to identify characteristics of regional social processes evolving in Hungarian (post socialist) 'new towns' and their surroundings from the second half of the 1990s, according to the post socialist urban development historical attributes and the dominant mechanisms of modernization and globalization.

V. LIST OF IMPORTANT PUBLICATIONS IN 2010

Csanádi G, Csizmady A, Kocsis J, Kőszeghy L, Tomay K
Város-Tervező-Társadalom
Sík Kiadó, Budapest, pp. 550 (2010)

Dupcsik Cs
Mentalitások és kutatások
Esély, 21(2): 73-82 (2010)

Füstös L, Antalóczy T, Hankiss E
Ördögháromszög – Ördögsekér. Magyarország kulturális térképe
In: Jelentés a magyar kultúra állapotáról. MTA SZKI, Budapest, 2010/1. pp. 7-54 (2010)

Gárdos J
Az előítéletkutatások előfeltevései
Anblokk, 4: 21 (2010)

Iwasaki I, Szanyi M, Csizmadia P, Illéssy M, Makó Cs
Privatization, Foreign Acquisition, and Firm Performance: A New Empirical Methodologies
and its Application to Hungary
The European Journal of Comparative Economics (EJCE), 7:2 (2010)

Kovács É, Melegh A, Gödri I
"Azt hittem célt tévesztettem" A bevándorló nők élettörténeti perspektívái, integrációja és a
bevándorlókkal kapcsolatos attitűdök nyolc európai országban
KSH NKI, Budapest, pp. 220 (2010)

Szirmai V, Baranyai N, Kovács Sz, Schuchmann J, Váradai Zs
Sustainability consumption issues of the urban sprawl in Central European metropolitan areas,
especially in Budapest region. Society and Economy
Akadémiai Kiadó, Budapest, pp. 220 (2010)

Takács J
Hungary
In: Chuck Stewart (ed) The Greenwood Encyclopedia of LGBT Issues Worldwide. Volume 2.
Greenwood Press: Santa Barbara, CA – Oxford, England, pp 219-233 (2010)

Tardos K
Társadalmi befogadás és felelősségvállalás a vállalati szférában
Kultúra és közösség, 2: 85-98 (2010)

Tibori T
Nem-et mondás? Igaz-mondás. Emlékezés Gábor Kálmánra
Educatio, 10(2): 191-202 (2010)

Szalai J, Messing V, Neményi M
Ethnic and Social Differences in Education in a Comparative Perspective
Central European University, Center for Policy Studies, Budapest, pp. 190 (2010)

Szalma I
Attitűdök a házasságról és a gyermekvállalásról
Demográfia, 8(1): pp 38-67 (2010)

Szalai J
Elfojtott félelmek béklyójában
Holmi, 22(11): 1478-1486 (2010)

Szirmai V
Regionális folyamatok – társadalmi hatások
In: Barta Gy. et al (szerk.): A területi kutatások csomópontjai. MTA RKK, Pécs, pp. 359-377
(2010)

Vári A
Nyugdíjasok új utakon: Tanulás, alkotás, technológiák
MTA SZKI, Budapest, pp. 500 (2010)