



Workshop

New Challenges of Decentralisation

Pécs, Hungary, 9-10 May 2019

International Geographical Union - Commission on Geography of Governance
HAS Centre for Economic and Regional Studies - Institute for Regional Studies

CALL FOR PAPERS

Decentralisation has been one of the buzzwords in the neoliberal good governance public policy literature in the last decades. After the main decentralisation trend in the western democracies, in the seventies, the developing and transition countries worldwide were advised to devolve most of the competences in public service delivery and in local economic development.

The main argument was the fact that the decentralised democratic, participative way of managing local affairs could improve both accessibility and quality of public services and provide at the same time more transparency and legitimacy. Many territorial reforms have been implemented under the umbrella of principle of subsidiarity and decentralisation, supported and sponsored by the EU (cohesion funds) and other international organisations (OECD, World Bank, UN), referring especially the regional competitiveness and the achievement of the Millennium Goals. Not only the financial crisis in 2008 but also many negative experiences and even failed reforms so far contributed to the scepticism concerning decentralisation and rescaling.

Thus, centralisation attempts emerged realizing that decentralisation has crucial preconditions and that for the overall governance, the political, economic, cultural-social and territorial contexts matter. The aim of the workshop is to discuss the experience of these recent territorial reforms. The workshop will include plenary and panel sessions. The organization plans to publish a selection of the papers presented.

Papers are especially welcome on the following topics or approaches:

- Longitudinal and/or international comparative analysis of territorial reforms, successes and failures;
- Explicit and hidden methods of centralisation;
- National case studies of how local and regional governments used or misused their competences at various policy fields;
- National patterns for consolidating the local- regional governments during the crisis;
- Theoretical papers on trends, advantages and disadvantages, legal and material preconditions of decentralisation.

Participation in the Workshop requires the presentation of a paper. All proposals (abstracts) will be reviewed by the Scientific Committee. The Workshop takes place in Pécs, Hungary, on 9-10 May 2019.

LOCAL ORGANIZATION COMMISSION

Ilona Pálné Kovács

Chair of the Local Organization Commission

E-mail: palne@rkk.hu

Katalin Sule

E-mail: sule@rkk.hu

Zoltán Pámer

E-mail: pamer@rkk.hu

HAS Centre for Economic and Regional Studies

Institute for Regional Studies

Papnövelde u. 22

H-7621 Pécs,

Hungary

Website: <http://www.rkk.hu/en/>

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Carlos Nunes Silva, Institute of Geography and Spatial Planning, University of Lisbon, Portugal

Ilona Pálné Kovács, HAS Centre for Economic and Regional Studies, Hungary

Jan Bucek, Department of Human Geography and Demography, Comenius University, Slovakia

Zoltán Pámer, HAS Centre for Economic and Regional Studies, Hungary

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION (2nd Call)

Submit the abstract, of no more than 250 words, until **15 February 2019**, to:

Ilona Pálné Kovács, *Chair of the Local Organization Commission*

E-mail: palne@rkk.hu

If necessary, contact us to discuss any ideas that you might have for a paper on the proposed themes and issues or on other related topics

Successful applicants will be informed by 20 February 2019 (2nd Call)

Download abstract in the Conference website

REGISTRATION & PAYMENT WORKSHOP FEE

- Registration period (for participants with paper selected by the Scientific Committee): **20 February - 15 March 2019** (2nd Call)
- Workshop registration fee: 100 Euros (covers participation in the Workshop, program and abstracts in digital format and coffee-breaks)
- Payment of the Workshop fee is made to **MTA Közgazdaság- és-Regionális Tudományi Kutatóközpont**
- Payment can be made by bank transfer.
- Detailed information about the payment procedure will be sent to each participant
- Receipts will be sent by email after validation of the Workshop fee payment
- No costs associated with the bank transfer can be charged to the organization
- Reimbursement of the registration fee is not possible
- Participants are responsible for their own travel and accommodation costs
- The Workshop fee does not include any provision for the insurance of participants (against personal injury, sickness, property damage, etc.). Participants are advised to arrange for any insurance they consider necessary.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Deadline for abstract submission: **15 February 2019** (2nd Call)
- Notification of acceptance: 20 February 2019
- Registration period: 20 February - 15 March 2019
- Workshop: 9 - 10 May 2019

WORKSHOP VENUE

HAS Centre for Economic and Regional Studies
Institute for Regional Studies
Papnövelde Street, 22
H-7621 Pécs,
Hungary