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Population Health and Health Care Delivery as Health Policy System-creating Factors in the Republic of Armenia

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Abstract

The research has revealed a drastic deterioration of a number of indexes of the Republic's Population Health state conditioned, as a rule, by social-economic factors.

Trouble is caused by the revealed tendencies in the Health Care development in recent years, and also by the insufficiency of the legislative and methodical providing to the organizational transformations and changes in the Health Care System in the consequences of which one observes deterioration of universality and accessibility of medical aid to the population.

The work points out the necessity of improvement of Public Policy and Public Administration in the field of Population Health and Health Care in the RA in post soviet years.



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Introduction

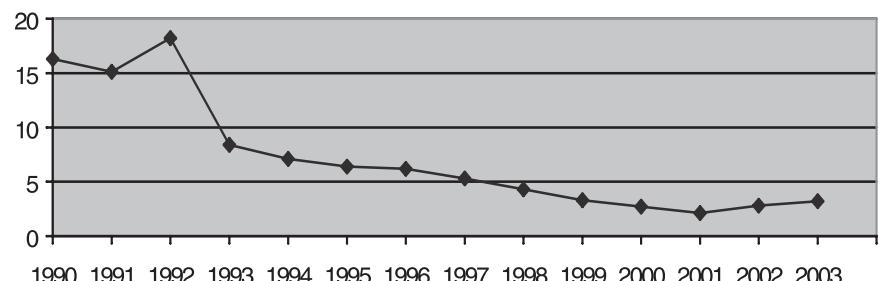
The transition of Central and Eastern European and CIS countries, in that count also of the Republic of Armenia, to market economy has essentially changed the image of economic system and created principally a new mechanism of Public Administration. At the same time many negative tendencies, such as, for instance, decline of life level for the overwhelming majority of the Republic's Population, have strengthened which couldn't help impacting on the social sphere, including also particularly on the state of the Population Health and Health Care.

The absence of formulated Public Policy in the sphere of the Population Health in the Republic up to nowadays continue to impact negatively on the state of the Population Health. Besides these, the following factors also engender trouble:

- Insufficient resort of system approach to the problems of the Population Health Care and little attention to more effective measures for the improvement of the Population Health;
- Observed commercialization tendency of the Health Care in the case of the very low solvency of the population's preponderant part under the emerged economic circumstances;
- Small portion of the economically effective base attendance compared with the expensive kinds of the medical aid;
- Decline of the population's apply to the Medical Establishments, which is accompanied by the increase of the ignored cases of diseases and their chronic effects.

Figure 1.

The Rate of Natural Growth of the Population in the RA in 1990 – 2003



The formulation of an adequate Public Health Policy in the country demands comprehensive Health information.

The goal of this research was to discover the main, most important tendencies in the dynamic of the Population Health state and the Health Care development in the last 15 years in the Republic of Armenia. The date of the official state statistics in 1990 – 2003 served as materials for the research.

Results

The most important tendencies in the dynamic of the Population Health state discovered in the research are as follows:

- Decline of the frequency and levels of the Birth Rate. Its index in 2003 constituted 11.15 per 1.000 Pop. (%) Against 22.5% in 1990. The Birth Rate lowest index per 1,000 population was observed in 2001 (8.44%).

The decline of the Rate of Natural Growth (figure 1) constituted 5.3 – 7.8 times in 2002–2003 compared with 1990 (let's note, that in the previous period – in 1975 – 1987 the Birth Rate in the Republic was stable at the level of 22.4 – 24.2%, and the Death Rate 5.3 – 5.8%).

The Birth's decline in the Republic can be considered as a reaction of the families to the essential decline of the level of life span and quality, and also as a result of the active migration

processes of the population of the Republic started in the last years.

- The growth of the Death Rate due to a series of diseases (figure 2) : diseases of Blood Circulatory System, in that count Hypertensive diseases; Acute Myocardial Infarction; Cerebrovascular diseases; Endocrine, Nutritional and Metabolic diseases; Neoplasms, mainly on account of Malignant Neoplasms).

The results of the Republic's Population Deaths analysis by age and sex, and also by structure according to DALY index (by years of life with correction on inability to work)² discover a high percent of the Population Deaths in the age capable to work. The changes in the Population Deaths obviously are conditioned by besides objective circumstances (population aging, change of structure of Death Rate causes with increase of those number, who are dead mainly in a younger age due to a series of diseases), also by the negative aftermaths of the Republic's social – economic situation.

- The growth of the number of the diseases, especially socially important ones, among which Active Tuberculosis (figure 3) and Diabetes (figure 4) take special place.

² World Development Report – 1993, P. 25.

Figure 2.

The Dynamic of the Death Rate due to a Series of Diseases (Per 100.000 Pop.)

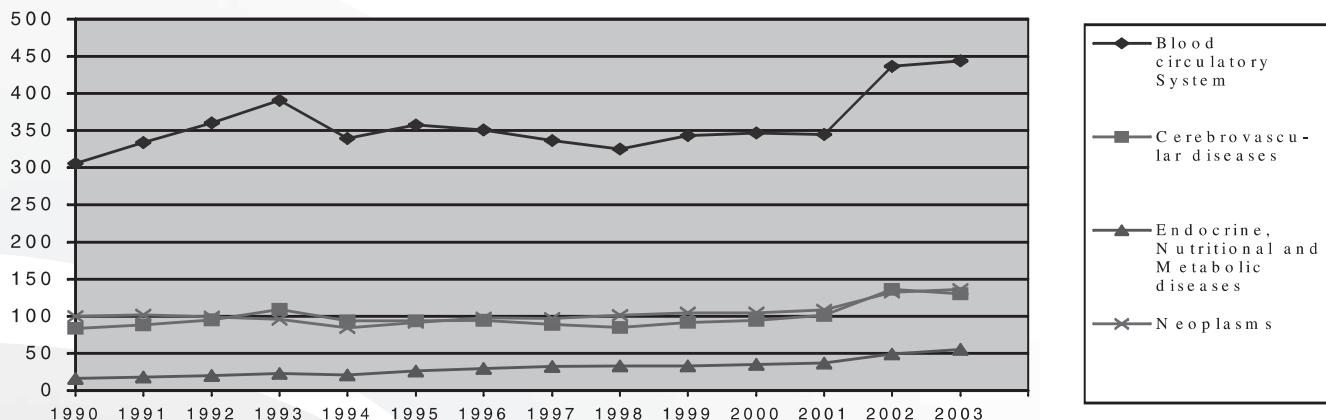


Figure 3.

The Morbidity and Death Rates due to Active Tuberculosis³ in the RA
(Per 100,000 Pop.) In 1990 – 2003

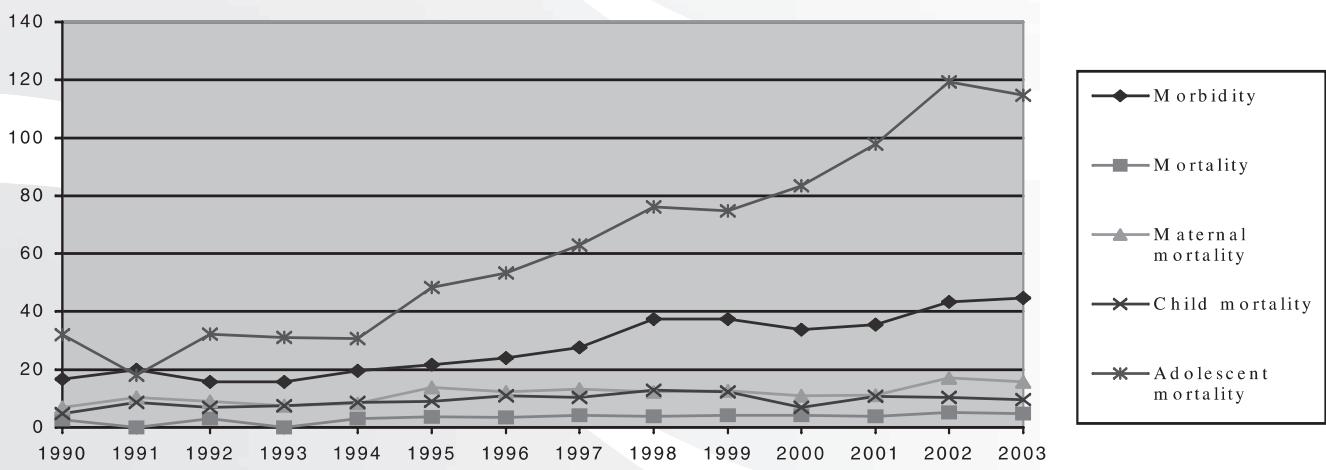
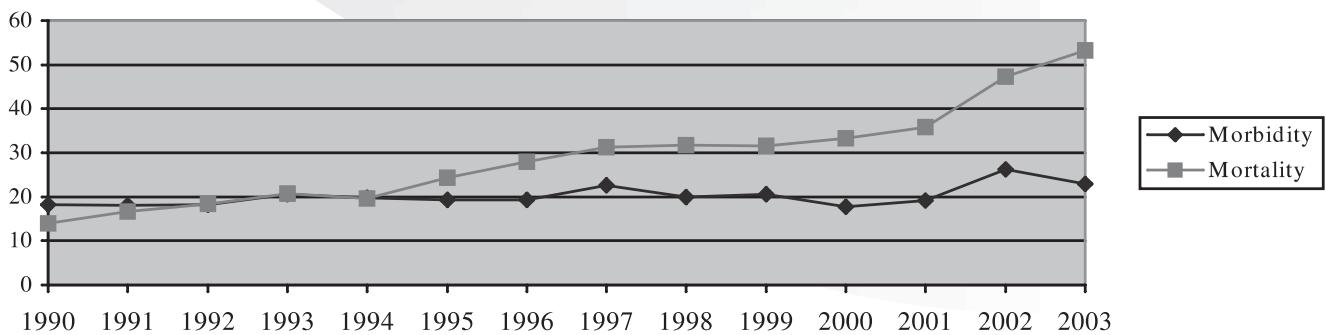


Figure 4.

The Morbidity and Death Rates due to Diabetes in the RA
(Per 100,000 Pop.) In 1990 – 2003.



As it is seen in figure 3, in 2003 we observed a growth of the number of the diseases people with Active Tuberculosis diagnosis

defined for the first time in their lives by 3.55 times compared with 1990. Besides, draws attention the growth of the number of the people diseased with Active Tuberculosis in 2002 – 2003. A growth of Death Rate due to Tuberculosis is observed also for females (by 2.3

- 2.5 times) and children (by 2.0 - 2.1 times).

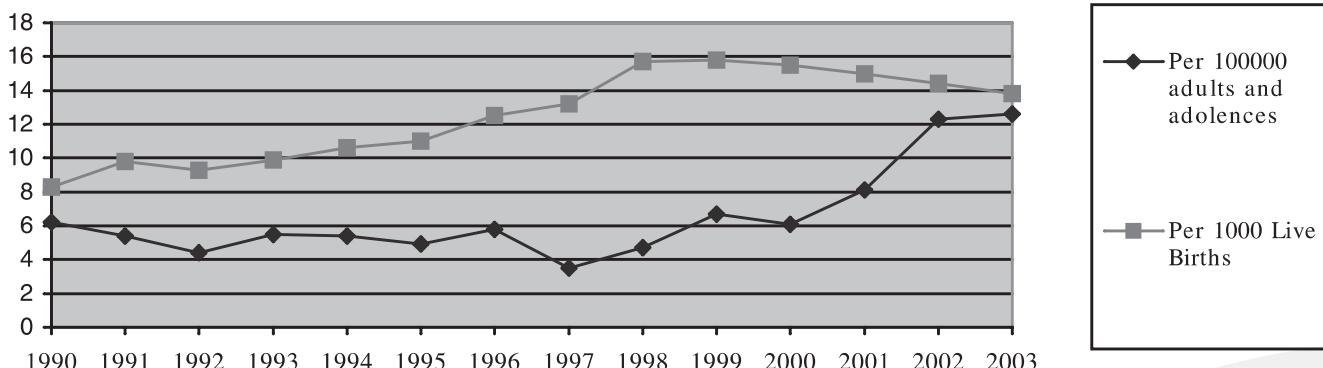
An analogical image is discovered also according to date of the Morbidity and Death Rate due to Diabetes (see figure 4). So, if in 1990 the Death Rate due to Diabe-

³ The number of the diseases people with Active Tuberculosis diagnoses defined for the first time in their life taken account by Tuberculosis establishments.

Public Administration in CEE

Figure 5.

The Number of Registered Cases of Inborn Anomalies.



tes constituted 13.96 per 100, 000 pop. In 2003 it was 53.19.

- Growth of the morbidity of children until the age of 14 with diseases of Blood and Blood-forming Bodies by 1.7 times, and also “rejuvenation” of many diseases formerly contaminating overwhelmingly the old people (Cardiovascular System diseases, Neoplasms, Obesity etc.).
- “Chronic effects” of pathology connected with late appeal for medical aid and conditioned, as a rule, by social-economic factors.
- Growth of the number of Inborn Anomalies (figure 5) and Complication Cases at birth and in the period after birth, as, for instance, Vessel complications; Anaemias; Kidney diseases.

So, the evaluation of the Population Health state in the RA bears witness about the serious misfortune, which can lead to deterioration of the Republic's “Population Quality”.

The main tendencies in the Health Care development in the period of the economic reform in the Republic are as follows:

- Drastic decrease of budget assignment to the Health Care development (table 1). Thus, budget financing constituted 1.2 % in 2003 contrary to 1.85

Table 1.
Budget Financing to the Health Care for 1995 – 2004⁴

NN	Indexes	Years						Average for CEE and CIS 2000-2001*.
		1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	
1.	Of GDP (%)	1.9	2.1	1.9	1.6	1.2	1.3	5.7
	Plan In fact	1.4	1.4	0.9	1.2	1.1	1.2	
2.	Per one resident, US \$	8.9	8.4	6.1	9.4	9.3	11.3	14.3
3.	Of GB (%)	6.7	5.6	4.4	6.4	6.0	6.2	8.0

* It is calculated on the base of UNESCO data.

% of GDP in 1995 and 3.4% in 1990, which provided only 10% of the Health Care needs. The spending on one resident in 2000 constituted US\$ 6.1. And in 2003 it was US\$11.3.

- Uncontrollable growth of the costs for goods for medical consumption.
- Changes in Health Care system, particularly:
 1. Creation of territorial (marz) bodies of the Health Care management. They are called to introduce the Health Care National Policy at marz level;
 2. Creation of special structure – the State Health Agency. The incipient aim of the creation of this structure was seemingly the division of the functions of medical aid

implementation and the payment for that aid.

3. Adoption of a decision by the Government according to which the National Institute of Health (NIH) in the count of its basic functions of post graduate preparation of Health Care managers, physicians and nurses is called to work out various documents for Health Care development policy and strategy in the Republic together with Health Care Ministry;
4. Decentralization of management;
5. Measures for rationalization and optimization of the system of implementing medical services aimed at providing the population for proper medical aid, as for instance, for reorganization of Primary Health Care to the population, introduction of implementation of

⁴ Government of the RA. Ministry of Finances and Economy. National statistical service.

- medical aid to the population according to the principle of basic package of medical services etc.;
6. Reorganization of medical establishments into state medical enterprises in 1993, and in 1998 – into joint-stock companies of state form of ownership;
 7. Privatization of most of medical establishments (in the case of absence of compulsory medical assurance).

In the whole, the Health Care reform held by Health Care Ministry of the Republic implies a reorganization of the work of the branch, directed to Health Care quality improvement.

However, during the very reform some problems have emerged, which demand solutions:

- Providing universality and accessibility of medical aid;
- Restoration of preventive direction of Health Care raising efficiency of using resources in Health Care;
- Necessity of resource substantiation during constitution of aimed programmes about financing various kinds of medical aid;
- Creation of a system to provide for information to various levels of the management in respect to activity of medical establishments, their subdivisions and individual specialists;
- Legislative and methodical providing to organizational transformations and changes.

The existence of serious problems in the Republic's Health Care Administration and Management organization in confirmed by the results of the sociological researches held by us (Khachatriyan T. S., et al., 2000) for studying the population's opinion about implementation of medi-

cal aid in the capital of the RA – in Yerevan, where 66% of the Republic's population lives.

The date presented in table 2, bear witness about the respondents' dissatisfaction with the state of medical aid implementation in Yerevan (the respondents' quantity constituted almost 2000).

Table 3.
The Evaluation of the Health Care System in Yerevan by the Respondents
(Percent M±m)

Good	Satisfactory	Bad
6.2±2.2	44.2±1.7	49.6±1.6

As it's shown in table 3, the Health Care System evaluates, "good" only 6.2% of the respondents, bad evaluation gives 49.6% of the respondents. The researches revealed also a decline of medical aid accessibility. Thus, for instance, in the case of appearance of any symptoms of a disease only $39.9\pm3.0\%$ of the respondents applies to doctor. As a cause for such a low level of application to medical establishments, the respondents point out lack of financial means ($72.3\pm1.3\%$) or distrust to medical investigation ($27.7\pm2.1\%$).

The decline of medical aid accessibility in the RA is pointed out also in the researches of Mkrtchyan A.E. (2002); Kushkyan A.M. (2003).

Conclusion

Thus, the implemented researches bear witness about the RA Population Health state deterioration in recent years and also the insufficient productiveness of the Health Care reforms, which has entailed the decline of medical help accessibility.

The presented data once more confirm the fact, that Population Health state changes can be accounted as an integral index

of social-economic development of a country. For overcoming the critical situation especially are important the problems of working out and introducing accurate, scientifically reasonable Public Policy, which must be based on the results of researches of the Population Health state and Health Care quality as factors-creating system.

The results of the research have allowed making a series of suggestions, among which the mains are the necessity to work out legislative base for the Population Health stating maintenance in the Republic and mechanisms for its implementation in practice

References

1. Mkrtchyan A.Y. (2002). The Health Care Reforms in Armenia: Lessons and Perspectives. Ph.D. Dissertation. Yerevan.
2. Khachatriyan T.S., Matevosyan S., Budagova K., Aramyan V., Yeroyan T. (2000). Some Questions of Medical Attendance Management and Health State Self Evaluation (by socio-logical research data). In. J. "Arokhchapahutyun", N46, 17-19.
3. Kushkjan A.M. (2003). The Conception of Development of Nurse Art and Education in the RA. Ph.D. Dissertation. Yerevan.

Network of Associations of Local Authorities of South Eastern Europe – NALAS

What is NALAS and the importance of its members in the Balkan countries

NALAS short description

NALAS is a non-political and independent (from any national government, intergovernmental organization or international non-governmental organization) network of local authorities' associations in South Eastern Europe – SEE. NALAS promotes the process of decentralization in co-operation with respective central governments, considering local autonomy as a key issue in the current process of transition affecting the various SEE countries. NALAS became operational in 2001 and was created under the auspices of the Working Table I of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe, being permanently and totally supported by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities from Europe. It acted like an informal organization until the summer of 2005, when it was registered as a legal entity. During this period of time NALAS was financially supported by Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and Open Society Institute – Local Government Initiative Programme.

NALAS' mission is twofold:

- A. To build partnership between local authorities and their associations in SEE in order to contribute to stability and security in the region and henceforth contribute to the process of EU integration and enlargement;
- B. To initiate and carry out regional initiatives for its membership with a view on strengthening the associa-

tions of local authorities in SEE in becoming a viable representative of local authorities vis-à-vis central government and being better able to provide efficient services to local governments in SEE for the benefit of the citizens of the region.

The network has at this moment 12 – registered members and another two had expressed their interests to become members. The members are associations of local authorities from all the Balkan countries, representing the interests of over 4000 local authorities, directly elected by more than 60 million citizens.

Member associations:

1. Association of Albanian Municipalities www.aam-al.org
2. Associations of Municipalities and Cities of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina www.sogfbih.ba
3. Associations of Municipalities and Towns of the Republic of Srpska www.alvrs.org
4. National Association of Municipalities from the Republic of Bulgaria www.namrb.org
5. Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities from Serbia www.skgo.org
6. Union of Municipalities of Montenegro – www.uom.cg.yu
7. Association of Kosovo Municipalities www.komunat-ks.net
8. Association of Mayors and Local communities from Moldova <http://www.iatp.md/apclm>
9. National League of Associations of Mayors from Moldova
10. Romanian Federation of Local Authorities www.falr.ro
11. Associations of Municipalities and Towns of Slovenia www.skupnostobcin.si
12. Association of Units of Local-self government of the Republic of Macedonia www.zels.org.mk
13. Central Union of Greek Cities and Municipalities www.kedke.gr

The importance of the member associations in the Balkan countries

The Balkans is a region on continuous development. The countries considered as being part of the Balkans are, in this moment, situated on different stages of development. Some of them, Greece and Slovenia, are already members of European Union, others, Romania and Bulgaria, are in the process of becoming members and all the others are considering starting the process of becoming EU members. This integration process means a lot of changes into the public life and, in special, moving from a centralized system to a decentralized and democratic system.

Local authorities form one of the most affected categories by this process. They are receiving a lot of new attributions from the central authorities as part of the decentralization and lessening concentration process. The problem for this area and these states is that these attributions are not provided based on a consultation process, having as result an impossibility of the local authorities to provide good quality services to citizens.

The Associations of local authorities from the region have at least two fundamental roles to play. Firstly, they should provide services for their members with a view to developing their competences and capacities. Secondly, they should develop an efficient

co-operation with central government by representing and defending the interests of their members.

Even if the associations of local authorities were set up at the beginning of 90's and some of them are even older, many of them are trying to identify their place, their partners, their collaborators, and their role in the actual and future process of integration in European Union. The associations are becoming very important actors in the Balkan countries because most of them succeeded in being recognized by Central Governments as partners in discussing issues regarding local administration. Through NALAS it is easier to take advantage of the expertise of some associations and other organizations in certain domains and to implement successful activities.

During all the events and meetings organized by NALAS, the participants enhanced the necessity of developing the network and the benefits of its existence, but also, the needs that they have and can be solved by NALAS. Building NALAS into a knowledge centre, development of advocacy groups on different topics, implementing common projects and improving the communication through the members are the main objectives established by the associations' representatives on which the network staff will focus during the next period of time.

Further information on the Network and its member Associations are available on the NALAS web site: www.nalas-see.org.

Adrian Miroiu
NALAS Programme Manager
E-mail: nalas.see@gmail.com

International Master's Programme in CEE studies

The Institute of International Relations and Political Science at Vilnius University is launching its first international Master's programme in Eastern and Central European studies on 1 February 2006. The aim of this programme is to provide knowledge and develop skills necessary to analyse, compare and evaluate domestic and foreign policies of Eastern and Central European countries as well as international processes within the regions.

Applications are accepted starting from **November 1, 2005 until December 1, 2005**.

Contact person:

Ingrida Kelpsaite, phone: + 370 5 268 7183, ingrida.kelpsaite@cr.vu.lt, Office of International Programs and Relations, Vilnius University

About the Institute of International Relations and Political Science

The Institute of International Relations and Political Science at Vilnius University is a faculty-status holding core academic unit of Vilnius University where studies in political science are carried out on all three levels and scientific research is conducted. The goals of the Institute are: firstly, to develop academic knowledge and to train qualified specialists in political science and public administration. Secondly, to conduct fundamental research, promote its results by issuing publications in political science and international relations, as well as by organising conferences, seminars, round tables and discussions.

Over the last decades Eastern and Central Europe has undergone great changes. As the cooperation with this region becomes

more and more intensive there is a growing need for specialists in Eastern and Central European affairs. Therefore the Institute of International Relations and Political Science provides an opportunity to pursue Eastern and Central European master studies.

The MA programme is composed of six compulsory courses and four elective courses to be chosen from the list of nine proposed courses.

On completing the MA programme the students should have acquired:

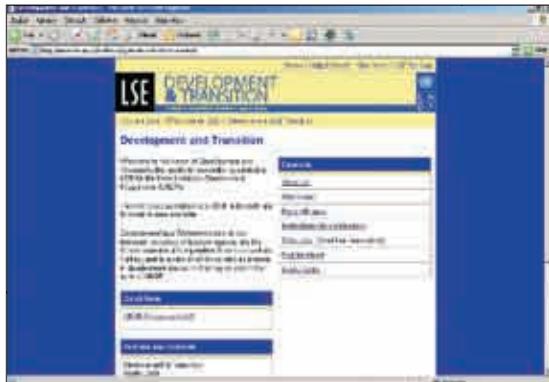
- Advanced knowledge of the concepts, theories and methods in contemporary political science, especially in the fields of International Relations and Comparative Politics.
- Deep understanding of the history and political systems of the states of Eastern and Central Europe, as well as political and economical transformation processes in the regions.
- Ability to discern the factors that influence the making of domestic and foreign policies in the states of Eastern and Central Europe.
- The skills to analyze the development of the regions in the context of contemporary international and regional co-operation.
- The methodological skills to undertake an independent research project and produce a report on it.

Applying to IIRPS

For specific admission information and online admission forms see the IIRPS website <http://www.tspmi.vu.lt/>



to Web Sites



<http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/developmentAndTransition/>

The first issue of newsletter on human development in the transition countries of Europe and Eurasia called “Development and Transition”. Bringing together academics and practitioners, the newsletter will be a forum for policy analysis and the discussion of innovative approaches in all the areas in which the UNDP is involved in this region.



http://archive.allacademic.com/publication/prol_index.php

Political Research Online (PROL) is a collaborative project led by the American Political Science Association and a consortium of political science and related associations. It offers free access to an electronic archive of pre-published research in political science featuring conference papers, working papers (preprints), and occasional center and research institute papers. All topics in politics, government and international relations are covered. Contributors include: a large number of American political science associations, the American Sociology Association and the International Studies Association.



http://www.apsanet.org/section_602.cfm

Third annual Conference on Teaching and Learning in Political Science on February 18 – 20, 2006. Using a working-group model, the conference is a forum to develop models on teaching and learning as well as to discuss broad themes and values affecting political science education.



<http://www.ut.ee>

The University of Tartu announces the competition for the Professorship and Chair of Public Management within the Department of Public Administration, Faculty of Social Sciences. The appointment is for five years, from February 1, 2006 to January 31, 2011. Application deadline is November 3, 2005. Regarding applications: <http://www.ut.ee/80018#46>, or <http://www.ut.ee/personnel/employment>. In case of specific questions: Prof. Wolfgang Drechsler, e-mail: wolfgang.drechsler@ut.ee, phone: +372 7 375 583

Calendar of Events

October 18, 2005, ORIPA Annual Scientific Conference “Contemporary Issues of Public Administration and Local Self-Government: Modern Situation and Perspectives of Regional Development”

Working languages: Ukrainian, Russian

Contact:

Valentyna Krvvtsova, Odessa Regional Institute of Public Administration, Ukraine,
phone: +380-482-681 462,
fax: +380-482-639 249,
e-mail: milpa@ukr.net

October 18 – 19, 2005, Conference “Local Development Agent at National Level”

Working language: Romanian

Contact:

Claudia Novac, Center for Rural Assistance, 6 Istria Square, Timisoara, phone: +40-256-221470, fax: +40-256-221469

October 27 – 29, 2005, 2nd International Conference, “Institutions and Policies for the New Europe”

Language: English

Contact:

e-mail: conference.imad@gov.si, website: <http://www.gov.si/umar/conference/2005/call.php>

November 3, 2005, International Seminar – round table session “Genesis and the Prospects of Social Economy and Social Enterprise”

Contact:

University of J. E. Purkyne, Usti nad Labem, Czech Republic, phone: +420-475-284 701, 284 703, 284 705, e-mail: mazancova@fse.ujep.cz, huncova@fse.ujep.cz

November 4 – 5, 2005, 2nd HEIRS Conference “The Making and Unmaking of the European Union: Fifty-five Years of Crabwalk?”

Language: English

Contact:

E-mail: heirs_portsmouth2005@yahoo.co.uk, website: <http://www.intstudies.cam.ac.uk/jmce/heirs.html>

November 10 – 12, 2005, Common University Conference “Gender Practices, Traditions and Innovations”

Working language: Russian

Contact:

Prof. V.A. Volkov, Pro-rector on Science, North-West Academy of Public Administration, Saint-Petersburg, Russian Federation, e-mail: nauka@szags.ru

December 5 – 7, 2005, 2nd National Conference “Quality in Public Administration”

Language: Czech, English

Contact:

Pavel Kajml, Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic, Prague, phone: +420 974 816 279, fax: +420 974 260, e-mail: kajml@mvcr.cz

February, 2006, Seminar “Managerial science and issues of teaching managers”

Contact:

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February 20 – 21, 2006, International Conference “Infinitely corrupt? Preventing and Fighting against Corruption in the Public Administration in Europe”

Working languages: English and German

Contact:

Ms. Christa Vissers, dbb akademie, Dreizehnmorgenweg 36, Bonn, Germany, phone: +49 228 81 93 111, fax: +49 228 81 93 106, e-mail: c.vissers@dbbakademie.de

Events of the Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic

January 31 – February 2, 2006, Conference “Roles and Problems of Public Sector in Modern Social State”

Working language: Czech, Slovak, English

Contact:

Ivan Maly, e-mail: ivan@econ.muni.cz

Winter semester 2005/2006, Course “Transformation of Public Sector”

Working language: English

Contact:

Robert Jahoda, e-mail: jahoda@econ.muni.cz

Winter semester 2005/2006, Course “Impacts of the Transformation on the Regional Development of the Czech Republic”

Working language: English

Contact:

Vladimir Zitek, e-mail: zitek@econ.muni.cz

Winter semester 2005/2006, Course “International Project Management”

Working language: English

Contact:

Robert Micallef, e-mail: rob_micallef@yahoo.com

Events of the Leon Kozminski Academy of Entrepreneurship and Management, Warsaw, Poland

October 19, 2005, International Conference “Trends in Corporate Governance: American and Polish Perspective”

November 3 – 6, 2005, International Conference “Private Higher Education in Europe and Quality Assurance and Accreditation”

Review of Activities

tation from the Perspective of the Bologna Process Objectives”

December 5 – 6, 2005, International Conference “Corporate Responsibility and Competitiveness: Developing Human Capital for Sustainable Growth” – IV Annual Colloquium of the European Academy of Business in Society (EABIS)

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Events of the National School of Political Studies and Public Administration, Bucharest, Romania

October 21 – 22, 2005 International Conference “European Administration – Contemporary Concepts and Approaches”

December 5 – 6, 2005, International Seminar “Transparency and Participation: Making Governance more Citizen-friendly”, Working language: English, Romanian

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fax: +40213146507,
website: www.admpubl.snsipa.ro*

Events of the Institute of Public Administration, Bucharest, Romania

November 29 – 30, 2005, International Seminar “The management and implementation of the structural funds, a new challenge for Romania”

Language: English

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October 2005 – September 2006, The Training-of-Trainers Programme within the “Adapting the

Level of Public Administration from Romania to the EU Structures” Project

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Events of the European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA), Maastricht, The Netherlands

October 3 – 4, 2005, Seminar “Planning & Implementing Effective Communications Campaigns”

Contact:

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October 6 – 7, 2005, Seminar “Latest Developments in the Field of Intellectual Property”

Contact:

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fax: +352 426 237,
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October 10 – 11, 2005, Seminar “The Increasing Role of the European Union in Private International Law”

Contact:

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October 10 – 12, 2005, Seminar “Public-Private Partnerships – Making Best Use of Public Funds”

Contact:

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November 16 – 18, 2005, Seminar “The Internal Market – Free Movement of Goods and Free Movement of Professionals and Services and the Protection of Consumers of Services”

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November 17, 2005, The European Union as an International Actor – Conference on the EU Foreign Policy: Challenges and Options for the Future

Contact:

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website: http://www.igc-net.org/
TEPSA_JGC_Net_call_
foreign%20policy_final_
July05.pdf*

November 17 – 18, 2005, Seminar “Fashion or Necessity? Comparing experiences with EU Agencies”

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November 21 – 22, 2005, Seminar “EU Communication in a Regional and Local Context: Planning, Structuring & Implementing European Information and Campaigns”

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Recent Publications:



Anti-corruption Training Programmes in Central and Eastern Europe: Contributions to a joint project of NISPAcee and Council of Europe

Editor: Bryane Michael
Language: English

Resume:

Countries of central and eastern Europe have made progress in adjusting their legislation to meet European standards and in strengthening their capacities to investigate and prosecute corruption. However, special efforts are required in the field of prevention, in particular with regard to reducing risks of and opportunities for corruption within public administrations. Public administration training institutions could make an impact in this respect by including corruption prevention issues in their curricula. This publication represents the product of a number of discussions held by the Working Group on Preventing Corruption in Public Administration, created within the Network of Institutes and Schools of Public Administration in Central and Eastern Europe (NISPAcee) with the support of the Council of Europe. Case studies illustrate the experiences of the Czech Republic, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, the Russian Federation, Serbia and Ukraine.

Price: 13 EUR, 20 USD

*Electronic access:
To order: <http://book.coe.int/EN/>*

ficheouvrage.php?PAGEID=36&lang=EN&produit_aliasid=1957
Website: www.coe.int/economiccrime

Publications of the The Bialystok School of Public Administration

Regional Development Factors in the Northeastern Poland

Editor: Bogusław Plawgo
Language: Polish
Price: free of charge

Comprehensive publication (2 volumes) is composed of 7 parts: Regional and Local Policy; Institutional Environment; Entrepreneurship and Innovations; Human Resources; Economical Capacity; Structural Funds; Environmental Protection.

"Aim of this publication is to present a various analytical papers and expertise made by young academicians representing higher school institutions from the Podlaskie Region. All materials relate key factors in the context of regional development of the Region."

European Environmental Policy: the Administrative Challenge for the Member States

Authors: Ch. Demmke, M. Unfried
Language: Polish (translated from English EIPA book)
Price: Free of charge

Career in the EU institutions

Editor: Maciej Perkowski
Language: Polish
Price: 26,00 PLN

This book is addressed to young people interested in developing their careers and new challenges of employment in the EU institutions

Use of Civic Rights and Liberties in Poland

Editors: Patrycja Suwaj, Piotr Sitniewski, Robert Suwaj
Language: Polish
Price: 21,00 PLN

This textbook is a comprehensive approach to the administrative law. Case studies presented in this publication were prepared by students acting in the students legal advisory at the Bialystok School of Public Administration. This book is designed for 2nd year students who study Polish administrative law.

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All publications may be obtained or purchased at the following link
<http://www.sawsap.pl/cgi-bin/shop>*

Publications of the Institute for Economic Research, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Technology Foresight in Slovenia, Working Paper No. 27, 2005

Authors: Peter Stanovnik, Marko Kos

Competitiveness as a Source of Development, Working Paper No. 28, 2005

Author: Art Kovacic

An Analysis of the Slovenian Economy with a Quarterly Econometric Model, Working Paper No. 30, 2005

Author: Miroslav Verbic

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"How to Be a Better Policy Advisor in Public Administration Reforms in Selected Central Asia countries"

Training Course for Advisors, Almaty, Kazakhstan, June 26-29, 2005, written by Bolotbek Orokov

A training course was implemented by NISPacee in cooperation with the local partner Public Policy Research Center and organized with the support of SlovakAid within the project "HOW TO BE A BETTER POLICY ADVISOR in Public Administration Reforms in selected Balkan and Central Asia countries".

The training was led by an international team of NISPacee trainers - Bolotbek Orokov (The Academy of Management under the President of the Kyrgyz Republic, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan), Meruert Makhmutova (Public Policy Research Center, Almaty, Kazakhstan) and Zulfiya Tukhtakhodjaeva (Consulting Company "Imkon-Presta", Tashkent, Uzbekistan).

The main objective of the training course is to provide the academics with an opportunity to begin the development of their knowledge and skills on public policy advice design and channels for the delivery.

The training course was conducted for 20 participants from 4 targeted Central Asian countries - Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. Participants of the training course work as policy advisors or are interested in participation in policy advice delivery to their central and local governments, international organizations, and other clients and would like to upgrade their knowledge and skills. They are people of different ages and have different degrees starting from bachelor till the doctoral ones in various areas of expertise such as economics, law, political sciences, education, public policy and others. They hold different posts in their respective institutions: some

of them are just starting academic activity and some of them are rather experienced researchers and lecturers. The group was rather diverse; however, their current research and teaching activities are focusing on various aspects of public administration reforms in their countries. Their advising projects are also in various areas of public administration reforms such as civil service system, election system, strengthening national parliament, decentralization and developing local self-governance, support to the reform of fiscal system, border management and many others. In describing the reason for participation in the training course all of them stated that they would like to build or strengthen their advisory capacities and expected this training will provide this opportunity for them. In particular, they expected to develop analytical skills or skills of advising, to learn more about methods of problem analysis, public policy and its cycle.

After the implementation of the training course all participants pointed out that the course is re-

ally helpful, useful, and needed to them.

Having participated in this training all participants expressed the view that it should not be final activity. All of them felt the desperate need to work more on their personal advisory capacity strengthening. They believe NISPacee will certainly offer them new steps in implementing these hopes. It is important especially for the Central Asian region as far as all targeted countries are facing enormous challenges in the development of democratic societies and policy advisors can play here a very important role.

**Nodira Khusanova,
participant from Uzbekistan:**

I was satisfied of the teaching approaches used by our trainers and their high competence of the subject. Being a teacher with more than 20 years experience, I could learn from them different interactive teaching ideas that I'm going to use in my future practice.

Since I feel much mature as a public policy advisor now, I'd like





to propose short-term trainings for my colleagues in the International Business School, who is interested in providing consulting services for different clients. We also are going to launch new short-term seminars for government mid-career level officials (IBS has some experience in this), as well as non-governmental organizations specialists on Public Policy and Non-for-profit Management.

**Almagul Zhumabekova,
participant from Kazakhstan:**

Through the rich and diverse content I was able to know more about policy paper, knowledge which was helped me in my job as a lecturer. Similarly, I was able to share the experiences and lessons learned with my colleagues. The found it quite useful and are adapting some to their own job. Equally significant were the classes I derived from interacting with course mates from different job from mine. It really helped in broadening my vision and understanding of how to be a really good policy advisor.

So I feel it was a rare chance to participate in this training. What's more, we attained more information about worldwide government policy papers (Green and White), measures and successful experiences related in CIS. We'll continue to work actively and effectively to

develop, promote and implement policies advises, and look forward to assisting public officers and lecturers to fulfill their potential , so that they may look to the future with confidence and optimism.

**Askarbek Mambetaliev,
participant from Kyrgyzstan:**

I think that the training was the excellent opportunity to develop skills necessary for an effective policy advisor. Through well-organized workshops, interactive seminars and open discussions I got better idea of the nature of work in multicultural groups and learned how to do attention-grabbing presentations. The training also helped me to contemplate on the development process of public policy advising, especially on monitoring and evaluation strategies.

I believe that any project needs effective methods for monitoring and evaluation to perform better results on the next circle of the development. Therefore, the idea presented by NISPAcee training can be applied in many aspects of life. Would be great to continue such trainings in the region.

**Durbek Mukhamedov,
participant from Uzbekistan:**

I would like to establish course on Public Administration course in the

frame of the Institute of Management at the University of World Economy and Diplomacy. I will use materials which I received during the seminar in Almaty and some other materials for establishing this course. I am planning also use some materials from NISPA website.

**Jumagul Esenalieva,
participant from Kyrgyzstan:**

Using this opportunity I would like to thank you and all NISPAcee staff for organizing this training course for academic advisors.

I think that the best criteria for assessing any kind of work is its successful or unsuccessful implementation. This training resulted the following contributions to my professional activity: review all my previous professional background in the light of advisory capacity; re-identify my current working position; make some practical corrections in my ToR; conceive my personal advisory qualities and skills; adjust my current activity according to conceived advisory qualities and skills. This is only an initial stage. I hope that more significant outcomes are in a foreseeable future.

**Rustamjon Urinboev,
participant from Uzbekistan:**

I am sure that this training course changed me in many positive ways. It dealed with such important issues that current Central Asian states would consider. As for the training experience, I gained much experience regarding the skills of policy advisor in such spheres as policy analysis, policy paper and etc. I believe that I will realize NISPAcee training experience in relevant positions.

I am determined to assist my government in democratization processes and the knowledge and expertise obtained at the training course would be very useful in fulfilling my professional and academic objectives.

"Public Administration and Public Policy in Emerging Europe and Eurasia: For Professionalism, Impartiality and Transparency" **The 14th NISPacee Annual Conference**

May 11 – 13, 2006, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Organised in co-operation with the Faculty of Administration of the University of Ljubljana

Conference venue: Grant Hotel Union, Ljubljana

Invitation and Call for Papers

The Conference will be structured into opening and closing plenary sessions, general session, working sessions on the main conference theme, specialized panels and forums and meetings of NISPacee Working Groups running in parallel.

Papers are invited for the General Session, the Main Conference Theme or on the themes of the Working Groups announced for the conference.

General Session

Papers are not restricted by any topic or theme can be presented. The only criteria for acceptance are (a) scholar quality, (b) interest of topic and (c) "from or about the region", i.e. papers should come from Central and Eastern Europe, Central Asia, and the Caucasus, or be about that region.

Main Conference Theme

NISPacee is inviting all member institutions, associate and individual members, as well as others interested in the topics of public administration and public policy in Central and Eastern Europe for participation and discussion of the issues of building a professional, impartial and transparent public administration and public policy-making system at the 14th NISPacee annual conference.

NISPacee Working Groups

NISPacee Working Group is a group of researchers and/or professionals associated with NISPacee who are investigating a particular public administration or public policy topic. Currently, there are nine NISPacee Working Groups which intend to schedule their meetings during the 14th NISPacee Annual Conference in Ljubljana.

- I. Working Group on Politico-Administrative Relations
- II. Working Group on Public Sector Quality
- III. Working Group on Strategic Leadership in Central Government
- IV. Working Group on Democratic Governance of Multiethnic Communities
- V. Working Group on Public Sector Finance and Accounting
- VI. Working Group on E-Government
- VII. Working Group on Capacity Building of a Civil Servants' Training System according to EU Requirements
- VIII. Working Group on Degree Programs of Public Administration / Public Policy Education in CEE Countries
- IX. Working Group on Ethics in Governance

Panel Sessions and Forums

Several panel sessions and forums are planned to be included in the conference programme.

The overall objective is the presentation of different projects and relevant activities as well as to enable and facilitate the exchange of views, experiences and good practices among participants, institutions and countries. Proposals with the identified topic and presentations are welcome and will be considered by the Conference Committee.

Applicants should complete an application form on the NISPacee web (all in English) and input an abstract of a paper that is relevant to the main conference theme or Working Group themes (maximum two pages - 3600 characters and attach the CV file (maximum 2MB).

Deadline for applications with papers and proposals for panels and forums: October 15, 2005

Registration and Hotel Reservations:

On-line registration and information about hotel reservations will be available from November 2005.

Deadline for registration: March 31, 2006

Support:

NISPacee will not provide grants for participation in the conference. All applicants are therefore requested to find their own resources, either from their schools or institutions or by applying for individual grants through domes-

tic or international sponsor organisations which provide grants for conference participation. Please contact the NISPAcee Secretariat immediately if you need any assistance in this matter (e.g. invitation letter). NISPAcee, in co-operation with the working groups' coordinators, has been developing projects for seeking funding to support Working Groups activities, including travel and lodging for a limited number of participants during the meetings. However, this funding is not guaranteed and prospective participants are advised to look elsewhere for funds to cover their expenses.

Work plan and papers

The authors whose drafts will have been **accepted** will be informed **by the end of November 2005**.

The final version of the completed paper should be prepared according to NISPAcee MANUSCRIPT GUIDELINES (in PDF) and submitted via the NISPAcee website by April 10, 2006 at the latest.

The publication of speeches or papers presented at the Conference requires the authorisation of NISPAcee. This means that the authors should contact the President of the Association, or the Executive Director, prior to giving their agreement for publication of their paper by some source other than NISPAcee. Information on all conference logistics is available on the Internet: NISPAcee homepage <http://www.nispa.sk>

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NISPAcee Occasional Papers

CALL FOR PAPERS

We invite colleagues to submit their research papers in English for review.

Papers should be written on relevant public administration and public policy issues based on empirical investigation carried out in central and eastern European countries. The papers should not exceed 40 pages in length.

If a paper is written in a native language, a three-page long English language summary could be submitted with the bibliography of the referred literature, and with information about the length of the whole paper.

Each author can propose two reviewers for their submitted

paper, but the final decision to select the reviewers remains at the discretion of the Editor.

Those authors whose papers are selected for publication will receive a modest honorarium.

Contributors are invited to send their papers in an electronic format to the Deputy Editor – Mr. Juraj Sklenar, e-mail: sklenar@nispa.sk.

Manuscripts should be sent in electronic form at whatever time. Further information for contributors are included in each issue.

Translation of Selected Publications into CEE National Languages

Goal of this project is to translate SIGMA and other relevant publications from English to CEE national languages based on requests and needs of governmental institutions or NISPAcee member institutions from CEE countries.

HOW TO APPLY

Eligibility is limited to members of NISPAcee and other institutions with professional interest in public administration in Central and Eastern Europe; Applicants will have to prove the utility of the translated publications in their respective countries, the distribution policy, quality of translation, and an ability to cover the distribution costs; Priority will be given to institutions, which will distribute the publication at their own expense; Applicants should determine clear overall calculation of costs

of translation (checking/editing) and publishing (priority will be given to reasonable price quotes for translation and publishing).

NISPAcee make a general agreement with the EIPA (European Institute of Public Administration, Maastricht, The Netherlands) for the translation of EIPA publications within this project. All institutions interested in translation of the EIPA publications are invited to apply for the translation grants to NISPAcee. Information about the publication you can find at the homepage of EIPA <http://www.eipa.nl>

Please send letters of inquiry and applications to NISPAcee Secretariat.

The deadline:

– November 30, 2005

NISPAcee MEMBERSHIP

Presently, the NISPAcee enlists 131 Institutional members (from 25 countries), 32 Associate members (from 20 countries), and 232 Observers (from 35 countries).

New Institutional members of the NISPAcee

Academy of Public Administration under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Baku Azerbaijan

Szazadveg Foundation, Budapest, Hungary

Accounting and Financial College, Riga, Latvia

Dept. of PA, South East European University, Tetovo, Macedonia

Institute of Training of Civil Servants of Tajikistan, Dushanbe, Tajikistan

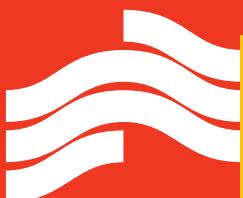
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- The Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative Open Society Institute, Budapest, Hungary – SIGMA/OECD, Paris, France (SIGMA-Support for Improvement in Governance and Management in Central and Eastern European Countries is a joint initiative of OECD/CCET and EU/PHARE mainly financed by EU/PHARE) – USAID, New York, USA – NASPAA (National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration), Washington, USA – UNDP RBEC (United Nations Development Programme, Regional Bureau for Europe & the Commonwealth of Independent States), Regional Support Center, Bratislava, Slovakia – UNDESA (United Nations Division of Public Economics and Public Administration) New York, USA – World Bank, Waschington, D.C., USA – Open Society Institute, New York, USA

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NISPAcee News is published quarterly. We invite individuals as well as organisations to contribute to the second issue of volume XII. NISPAcee reserves the right to edit submissions for clarity, style, grammar and space.

The deadline for the next issue is November 30, 2005.



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