

Volume XII • No.1 • Winter

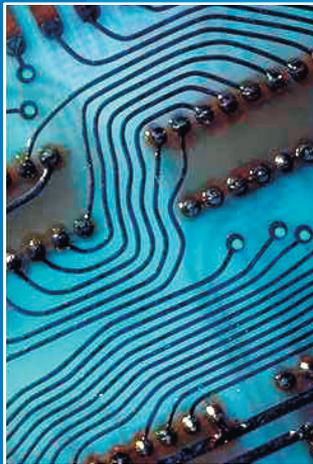
news 2005

Belarus as the Bordering Country with the EU: New Challenges for Local Finance Development

Yuri Krivorotko, Belarus State Economic University, Minsk, Belarus

With the entering of the Central and the Eastern European countries as well as the Baltic ones to the European Union the place of Belarus on a new border is changing. Now a nearest neighbour of the European Union becomes. Belarus. It makes Belarus closer to the western traditions, values, economy and finance.

Among the values of the European Union in the field of finance it is necessary to note rich traditions in the field of intergovernmental fiscal relations and local financial management. The development of fiscal decentralization concept, a rich financial legislation of the local government, advanced financial tools of local financial management represent today a huge interest both at the central level and the local one. Currently, under the influence of the European Union countries, the projects and programs such European organizations as the Tacis, the Ebert Fund (Germany), the Swedish Association of Local Au-



PA in CEE

Belarus as the Bordering Country
with the EU /1

National Health Policy in Georgia /5

Announcements

CEU Summer University Courses /8

European Master Programme /9

Workshop for Researchers
on the World Bank /10

PA on Internet

Interesting Web Sites /11

Review of Activities

Calendar of Events /12

Recent Publications /15

Visiting Professors /16

NISPAcee Announcements

Training Courses /17

Occasional Papers Series /18

Translations into CEE National Languages /18

13th NISPAcee Annual Conference /19

NISPAcee Membership /20

[continued on page 2] >

>[continued from page 1]

thorities (Sweden) and others are actively developed.

One of the steps to the European Charter of Local Self-Government implementation which performs the Republic of Belarus

by the macroeconomic level. The most common characteristic of the local budget expenditures can be the share of their expenditures in GDP (see table 1).

As shown in the table above, a ratio of Belarus local budget expenditures to GDP makes the size quite comparable for the countries

local budgets and some reduction of sources from the centre.

It should be noted that the centre has delegated some powers to local authorities in the field of finance administration. For example, local authorities have obtained rights to increase or decrease tax rates, to give separate payers

a preferences and privileges, to establish and change terms of payment for land tax, real estate tax, ecological tax on resources extracted from the natural environment. The rights have also been delegated for local authorities to give for separate payers a privilege

Table 1.

	1998	1999	2000	2001.	2002	2003.**
Expenditures of local budgets (percentage in GDP)*	15,7%	16,7%	15,41%	16,6%	19,4%	19,4%
Expenditures of Central (Republican) budget (percentage GDP)*	22,0%	22,8%	18,9%	19,2%	14,6%	13,4%
Expenditures of consolidated budget (local budgets + Central budget) (percentage in GDP)*	37,7%	39,5%	35,5%	35,6%	34,0%	32,8%

The local budgets expenditures and Central budget ones in GDP for 1998 - 2003 years¹

**) Including the targeted budgetary funds;*

****) The expected financial statement.*

Table 2.

Local budget revenues:	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Own and fixed taxes	52,4	51,0	57,0	54,9	60,7	56,6
Shared (regulated) taxes	27,5	29,7	27,5	28,4	25,5	25,6
Transfers (donations), subsidies, subventions from the Central (Republican) Budget	21,1	19,3	15,1	16,7	13,7	17,8

The structure of local budget revenues in Belarus for 1998 - 2003 (percentage to total local budget revenues).²

is introducing into practice a new concept of Local Government in Belarus. It provides new approaches to development and construction of the local finance: expansion of local taxing power in sphere of local financial management, conformity of expenditure assignment to own financial sources, fiscal equalization. In Belarus a certain "centre" of the local financial management reformation in direction to the fiscal decentralization concept are looked through now.

In Belarus, the local budgets as well as in other European countries serve to provide for communal services, public health, education and they are subjects to influence

in transition. It is possible to refer to some Central European and Baltic countries. For example in Hungary, for the period 1995 - 1998, the local budgets expenditures in GDP raised from 13,0 % up to 14,1 %, in Latvia - from 9,4 % up to 11,7 %, in Estonia the growth has been reached up to 11,9%.

In the latest years the certain tendency was outlined in reduction of donations (transfers), subventions and subsidies from the Center government and it is characterized by the data of the following table (see table 2).

The table vividly shows the certain stability of own tax base of

on personal income tax (PIT) and on uniform tax from individual businessmen and other individuals. The local authorities have the rights to regulate of real estate tax rates.

The local fees, taxes and duties are also included to the competence of local authorities. They can determine the local fees, taxes, duties and adjust the rates on them. In 2002 this measure has allowed to increase of revenue base of local budgets in a number of regions in Belarus. In particular, the local budgets of Gomel oblast has increased due to the introduction of local tax collections and the increasing of tax rates on local resources and real estate tax. In 2002 it allowed to involve in Gomel oblast'

¹ Own calculations on the data of the Ministry of Finance of Belarus

² Own calculations on the data of the Ministry of Finance of Belarus

local budgets 10 % from all local budgets revenues.

In Belarus during 2002 – 2004 an experiment in local financial management in the Mogilev oblast happen to make decisions concerning a shared tax. According to experiment the region refuses from donations or transfers from the Central budget for purposes of covering non-productive sphere expenditures. Thus, in budget of the Mogilev oblast 100 % from profit tax (corporate income tax) collected on its territory and 100 % – the VAT are kept. It is typical, that 100 % from the profit tax collected and the VAT are accordingly kept for 2004 year, too. In other words, rates of shared taxes are planned so that to perform an expenditure assignment completely, i.e. to finance expenditures due to taxes and fees to be collected on their territory. The given experiment deserves attention from the position of the fiscal decentralization concept which is realized in the transition countries everywhere.

At the same time, the steps in the field of fiscal decentralization have not led to financial autonomy of local authorities and their budgets.

Now the local budgets in Belarus are not separated from the Central Budget. The local budgets are components of the central budget and both their revenue part and expenditure one are regulated by the Budget Laws on every fiscal year. Now the local budgets in Belarus are not separated from the Central budget. The local budgets are components of the Central budget and both their revenue part and expenditure one are regulated by the Budget Laws on every fiscal year. As a matter of fact, the system of local government financial regulation by means of the Budget Law has assigned to the Center a primary taxing power over the local budgetary process.

For example, in 2002 the share of own revenue base in local budgets has made 60,7 % and the share of shared taxes, donations, grants,

subventions and other transfers from the Central budget – 39,3 %. On another hand, a degree of taxing power of local governments was defined at a rate of 8%. It means that degree of independence of local authorities to levy taxes and tax collections in their territory in respect to all taxes in local budgets. Contrarily, a degree of taxing power of the Centre in respect to local budgets was defined at a rate of 92 %. It means that rights of the Centre to define the structure of taxes, to establish tax base, tax rates and regulation of taxes. So, there are obvious discrepancies between degrees of taxing power of the local governments and the centre in respect to financial sources of local budgets (see figure 1).

A significant part of revenue items and expenditure ones of local budgets, their size and structure continue to be an object of a rigid regulation from the centre. As a result, the local authorities have no an opportunity to provide an equation of their budgets. In such conditions there are no incentives to perform local budgetary policy, increase transparency and objectivity of budgeting, make quality of budgetary services and efficient expenditure control.

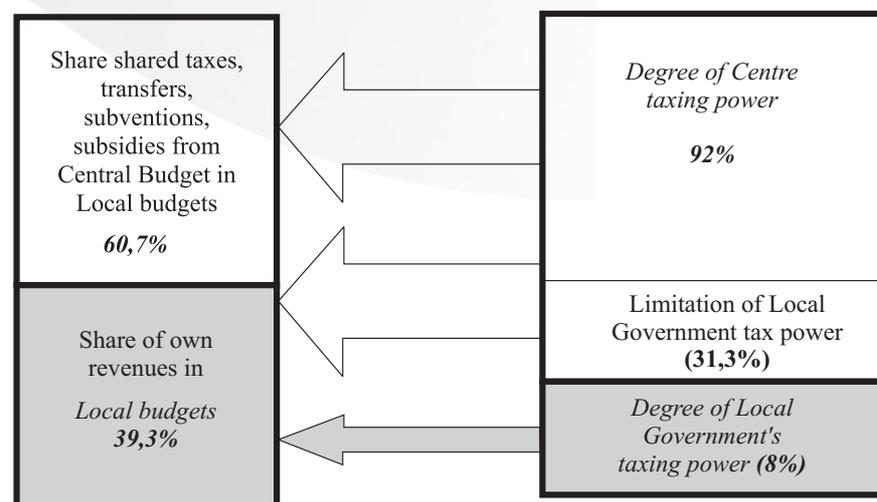
There are some deficiencies in Belarus' local budget process. The Budget Law plays dominating role in process of formation and adop-

tion of local budgets. Regulation of the local financial system by means of the Budget Law makes a dependency of local budget process from the Centre. Another words, local budget process goes by the scheme "from top to bottom". So, the process of local budgets adoption is performed only after the acceptance of the Budget Law by the Central Parliament. Therefore, adoption of local budgets is made after adoption of higher budgets – central budget and budgets of regions. For that reason the local budgets are adopting in January or February of fiscal year. The given position is a full contrast of local budget process in European countries and most countries in transition. Thus, the Budget Law strengthens assimilation of the budgetary process, administrative control and command system of over the local financial management. It does not promote fiscal decentralization and autonomy on the local level of management anyway.

The researches in the field of fiscal decentralization in Belarus allow a summarizing and the following conclusions:

1. The Belarus is far from rules implementation of financial decentralization. Despite the independence of local budgets proclaimed by the Belarus Constitution a budgetary system still unshared. In public consciousness the represen-

Figure 1.



Discrepancies in taxing power degree of local budgets (in 2002)

tation that local budgets are perceived as a components of the uniform State Budget has strongly taken roots. The revenue part and expenditure one of local budgets is regulated by the Budget Law of Belarus. Therefore, a degree of decentralized finance administration is lowest and it is expressed by a low level of taxing power, absence of local budgetary autonomy, performance of taxation in the centralized order.

2. Under the condition of interbudgetary fiscal relations and local finance management reformation in Belarus it is necessary to strengthen and develop its legislative base. First of all, it is necessary to reconsider the existing legislative base of local finance management. It is obvious, that it would be better to refuse from Budget Law as a regulator of interbudgetary fiscal relations and local financial management. The Budget Law, as a matter of fact, strengthens the uniform budgetary process and system of administration control over the regions and local governments. The further development of local financial legislation urgently demands new special laws for regulation of financial activity of local authorities are to be introduced in the legislative base of Belarus Local Government. In our opinion, the Laws on local finance, taxes, and budgets should be introduced. To improve the coordination between the Budget Law and Laws on local finance, taxes, and budgets it is necessary to pass the Law on conformity of local budgets to the State budget. Moreover, it is necessary to introduce in the budgetary code a concept "expenditure assignment" as rights and duties of bodies of public authority within the limits of their competence. In the budgetary code it is necessary to reflect rights and duties in field of legal regulation of local budget expenditures,

maintenance of their financial resources, realization of public services funding. Simultaneously, the general principles of taxing power distribution between authorities of different levels (central, regional, local) should be determined.

3. If Belarus will continue the reforms at local level, obviously, it is necessary to proceed with a stage-by-stage local financial experiment in the field of fiscal decentralization at 3rd and 4th levels of management. Originally it is necessary to involve a safe local governments in experiment, who covering their expenditures by the own and the shared taxes collected. At the second stage the local governments who have donations or transfers from the centre no more than 30% should be included in experiment. At the final stage of experiment it is necessary to include unsuccessful local governments, who constantly have donations or transfers from the center from 30 % and more. From the results of local financial experiment it is possible to draw conclusions so that finally correct the model of fiscal decentralization and put into practice the local financial autonomy in Belarus.

References

- Decentralization: Experiments and Reforms. Edited by Tomash M. Horvath., Volume 1., Local Government and Public Services Reform Initiative, Budapest, 2000;*
- Fiscal autonomy and efficiency. Reforms in the Former Soviet Union. Edited by the Kenneth Davey. Local Government and Public Services Reform Initiative, Budapest, 2002;*
- Dilemmas and compromises: Fiscal equalization in transition countries. Edited by Sergeij Slukhai. Local Government and Public Services Reform Initiative, Budapest, 2003;*
- Sorokina T.V. The budget process in the Republic of Belarus. Minsk, BSEU, 2000;*

Robert D. Ebel. Fiscal Decentralization and Intergovernmental Fiscal Relations, World Bank Institute., Distance Learning Modules, Budapest, 1999;

Sorokina T.V. Contemporary tendencies in economics and development of interbudgetary relations. Вестник БДАЭУ, 2000, № 4, p. 13-19;

Richard M. Bird, Robert D. Ebel, and Christine I. Wallich, eds., Decentralization of the Socialist State (Washington, D.C.: The World Bank, 1995;

Sorokina T.V. Budget policy and management of budget process of the Republic of Belarus. Вестник БДАЭУ, 2000, № 2, p. 13-18;

Sorokina T.V. Regional budgets: formation and utilization. The Belarus economic magazine. 2000, № 2, p. 65-72;

Stabilization of Local Governments. Edited by Emilia Kandeva., Volume 2., Local Government and Public Services Reform Initiative, Budapest, 2001;

Y. Krivorotko, V. Radkov. The development of financial tools in municipal management. Municipal economics magazine, Obninsk, 2001, № 3, p.28-34 (<http://rels.obninsk.com/Rels/Limited/Nsub/Me/0103/0103.htm>);

Y. Krivorotko. The Belarus model of Local Government: reality and criticism. Municipal economics magazine, Obninsk, 2002, № 1, p.12-25 (<http://rels.obninsk.com/Rels/Limited/Nsub/Me/0201/fb-2a.htm>);

Y. Krivorotko. The conception of fiscal decentralization: does Belarus go by the way of their realization? Municipal economics magazine, Obninsk, 2003, №2, p.12-25 (<http://rels.obninsk.com/Rels/Limited/Nsub/Me/0302/0302a.htm>);

Y. Krivorotko. The problems of shared taxation in Belarus Local Government. Paper to the Conference "Tax Policy in EU Candidate Countries on the Eve of Enlargement Riga, Latvia, September 12 - 14, 2003 (<http://www.eurofaculty.lv/taxconference>).



Mental Health – Key Component of National Health Policy

The Background of Georgia – Brief Overview

Tamara Makharadze, Tbilisi State University, Tbilisi, Georgia

Mental health is an important issue for all countries worldwide, due to the specific nature of the problem. Promotion of mental health and protection of the rights of people with mental problems and disorders have become the priority of many countries and international organizations.

Since the 1950s, there has been movement away from a segregated and custodial system of care in psychiatric hospitals and specialized facilities to a more balanced system of hospital and community care. This shift in the pattern of care means that most people with mental disorders are able to be cared for in the community and continue to participate in the life of community.

This new approach to mental healthcare has been accompanied with a growing national and international concern about the rights of persons with mental problems and mental disorders. The United Nations have ratified Resolution on the protection of rights of people with mental illness and many developed countries have adopted statement of rights and responsibilities. In this way countries have tried to join their efforts to overcome stigma and any discrimination experienced by these people. The new approach to mental healthcare has been reflected in National Mental Health Policy of many developed countries, where clear direction and strategies for further development of this sphere have been set up. However, this new approach has also raised substantial new questions: What mix of community mental health and inpatient psychiatric services should be provided by a given society? How should these services relate to the general health and

other service systems to ensure that housing, community support, employment and income support needs of the person are properly met? How to implement such an essential policy shift without disrupting the existing system, whatever imperfect, before the new approach takes root?

Despite all efforts made, people with mental illness worldwide still experience stigma and their rights remain to be restricted, they still have inadequately limited access to employment and education and community still remains largely uneducated about mental problems. This means that considerable work needs to be done in this direction. There is still a long way to go.

Implementation of the new approach to mental healthcare is much more difficult in developing countries, especially in the former Soviet countries, which are experiencing difficult conditions for making the necessary reforms. Unfortunately, Georgia is among those countries where lack of necessary resources, a destroyed economy and disrupted social services create serious obstacles on the way towards the new pattern of mental health care. Following the dramatic political, social and economic changes that took place during the last 15 years, with the ascent to power of new leadership in November 2003, the country has envisaged new opportunities for making decisive steps towards democracy and integration into Europe. The time of new values, new attitudes and reforms has come, and it is natural that changes and reforms are planned almost in all spheres, including healthcare.

Because of the widespread poverty and severe living conditions in the country, people with

mental problems are especially vulnerable and require particular protection. There is no valid statistical data available on people with mental problems. According to the State Department of Statistics (SDS) 2000 data the total number of people with mental disabilities equalled 20, 000, out of which 4, 000 resided in capital city, Tbilisi. According to unofficial data provided by UNOCHA the estimated number of persons with mental problems in Georgia is 70, 000. However, mental issues have not yet been appropriately reflected in State policy and programmes. This area has low priority in the allocation of resources.

After achieving state independence in 1991, the reforms in the Georgia's healthcare system have been launched with the support of such international donors as the World Bank. Decentralization of the management of health system became the first step in this process, complicated by the fact that prior to independence all decisions were made in Moscow. The process of decentralization was also a key component of the 1995 healthcare reforms. Responsibilities have been shifted to the regional health administrations subordinated to regional governments. These Agencies have been responsible for identifying local health needs and developing strategies to meet them. The Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia has played key role in the implementation of the reform and nowadays continues to stay the lead agency for the healthcare system and in policy development.

First Georgian Healthcare Reform Package developed by the Ministry of Labour, Health and

Social Affairs of Georgia in co-operation with the World Bank and with the support of other external contributors was launched in 1995. After the first three years of the reform process the Georgian National Health Policy was elaborated and published in 1999. This document included a Mental Health Policy. However, by the assessments of specialists and experts it did not give any concrete strategies for moving to community based mental healthcare system and in general did not correspond to the existing situation in the country. Neither NGOs working on mental issues, nor consumers and their family members have not been included in the work group. As a result the document did not work out.

Up to date movement towards community based mental health service can not be considered as successful in Georgia. There is no formal community based mental health service in the country. Only a few community-oriented services have been established by NGOs, with the great help of foreign donors. It should be emphasised, that NGOs play central role in the development of this sphere. In most cases, services established by them correspond to high standards and are considered as model organisations by the state officials. However they have very limited support from the state; moreover, some legislative acts create serious obstacles on their way of development.

Despite all efforts of NGOs and foreign donors, people with mental illness continue to stay the most vulnerable group of population in Georgia. These people mostly live at home (only people with severe mental problems are institutionalised in specialised facilities) and do not receive almost any support services from the state. They are the concern of their families only. Bearing in the mind that the pension they received is 21 GEL (~ 11 USD) and almost 60% of population live in poverty it is easy to imagine the

awful conditions in which they live. In 1993 Georgia adopted the United Nations' Resolution on the protection of rights of people with mental illness; however, the reality has revealed that the Government has not yet found mechanisms for protecting those rights. Having this background it is obvious that the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities declared by UN in 1975 and adopted by Georgia in 1993 are failed as well. It is quite difficult seeking equal access to employment and education for mentally disabled, when they are fighting for the biological survival.

The situation is aggravated by the stigmatisation of community, which remains largely uneducated about the mental problems. A very limited number of related printed materials and or popular scientific literature are available. This issue has very poor media coverage – media is mostly focused on political events and is less concerned about mental health issues. However, some progress in this regard has been made in recent years. Mental health issues – community based alternative programmes, advocacy services, strategies for promoting social integration, etc – have been discussed in several TV and Radio broadcasts, and newspaper articles. Several public awareness companies have been arranged by NGOs with the help of foreign donors.

Such miserable information provision leads community to unhealthy, intolerant attitude towards people with mental problems. These people experience stigma and discrimination even by their family members, who try to hide them from society, as they are ashamed of them. As a result people with mental disorders are absolutely isolated from society. Researches concerning stigma, public opinion towards people with mental illness are considered to be essential, however mental health research has traditionally been given a low priority in gaining access to research resources.

In addition to the above there is a lack of professionals working in mental health provision. In recent years, in addition to the traditional specialists working in mental health system – psychiatrist, psychologists, neurologists, nurses – representatives of new professions – social workers, psychotherapists, social therapists, and occupational therapists have appeared. However, these professions are not yet registered in Georgia and not officially recognized by the Government. It should be mentioned that almost in all developed countries, on the contrary, these professionals play central role in mental health provision.

It is obvious – with the lack of appropriate National Mental Health Policy, funding focus, corresponding legal framework, sufficient number of high quality health staff, community's tolerant attitudes – progress in improvement of situation of people with mental problems can not be expected. Considerable work is needed in this direction. This work should envisage joint efforts of the Government, NGOs, consumers/ their family members, and community groups through consultations, round tables, and public discussions. The reality requires the new national approach to mental health services, which will be stated in National Mental Health Policy. Clear direction, concrete strategies for the improvement in the treatment, care and quality of life of people who suffer from mental problems should be developed in an identifiable, integrated mental health program. This programme should ensure:

- Improvement of quality of inpatient treatment of those people, whose disorder is severe, unremitting and requires long term clinical treatment. Inpatient psychiatric facilities will need to be upgraded to meet the standards and rights containing in the United Nations Resolution on the protection of the rights of people with mental illness. Inpatient treatment should be a

balanced system of hospital and community care.

- Providing people with mental illness living at home with support services which include medical support – physician's consultation; psychological, neurological examination; pharmacotherapy; nurses, social workers visits to home. In addition to medical support people with mental illness should be given to opportunities encouraging their personal growth. People with mental disorders have the potential for personal growth and the right to opportunities which support this growth.
- Reducing the stigma attached to people with mental illness-develop programmes which educate the public on mental disorders. Special emphasis should be placed to the children and youth. Such programmes should include: dissemination information on the types and effects of mental disorders, prevalence in the community, treatment methods and prevention through popular scientific literature, TV and radio broadcasts, public awareness campaigns. As a result people with mental illness will be given more public and political attention, be better understood, less feared, less discriminated against and have better access to general community life. In addition to this, positive community attitudes to mental illness and people affected by it will encourage people with severe mental problems and disorders to seek help earlier and contribute to the improved treatment outcomes.
- An adequate supply of highly trained health workforce. Allied health staff (including social workers, clinical psychologists, social and occupational therapists) is a key component of specialised mental health services; continuing education for all mental health professionals should be encouraged.
- Improvement of information and data systems at the national

level. The data system should include valid statistical and demographic information on people with mental illness. Registration system, especially in rural areas needs to be improved.

- Support the development and expansion of non-government organisations working on mental issues through appropriate legal framework, opportunities to participate in mental health service decision-making and funding.

The above items are not a full list of priority areas for reform. It is important to emphasise that the role of the Government is fundamental to the achieving of positive changes in this direction. Government should ensure that mental health is of critical concern of Georgian health system and is a part of the mainstream health system with the priority in the allocation of resources.

Wide-range activities led by the Government, relying on the experience of other countries and views and recommendations of local and foreign experts can step by step move the Georgian mental health system to sufficient improvement and make it capable to meet demands of new approach to mental health – community oriented mental health care. Towards this pattern of mental health services all developed countries have been moved. The role of the Government is crucial in this process, as only the Government possesses all of necessary resources and has major responsibility for the lives and well – being of its citizens.

With the coming of new Government everyone in Georgia is in expectance of the reforms. Everyone believes that the time for positive changes has come.

References

1. *World Bank, Georgia: Poverty and Income Distribution: Volume I: Main report.1999*
2. *National Health Management Centre, Georgian Health System*

Reorientation: Major Directions. 1996, Ministry of Health, Tbilisi

3. *State Department for Statistics of Georgia, Medical Service in Georgia: Survey Report on Population's Healthcare Expenditures and Unrecorded Medical Service. 2000, State Department for statistics of Georgia: Tbilisi*
4. *Ministry of Health, Georgian National Health Policy. 1999, Ministry of Health of Georgia: Tbilisi*
5. *Healthcare – Georgia 2001, Statistical Guide, Tbilisi, 2002*
6. *UNOCHA, Human Situation and Strategy 2004, "Special Population", prepared by OCHA Georgia, November 2004*
7. *Sharashidze M., G. Naneishvili, T. Silagadze, A. Begiashvili, B. Sulaberidze, Z. Beria. Georgia Mental Health Country Profile. International Review of Psychiatry, Brunner-Routledge / Taylor & Francis Group. Vol. 16, Numbers 1-2, February – May 2004. pp.107-116*
8. *Gamkrelidze Amiran, Rifat Atun, George Gotsadze and Laura MacLehose (eds. Laura MacLehose and Martin McKee). Health Care Systems in Transition: 2002, Georgia. European Observatory on Health Care Systems, 2002*
9. *Telyukov A., Paterson M., Gotsadze G, Jugeli L. Situation Analysis for a New Strategy of Technical Assistance in the Health Care Sector of Georgia. A PHRplus Technical Report. Abt Associates, 2003*
10. *Telyukov Alexander, Mary Paterson. Strategizing Health Reforms and Donor Assistance in Georgia. USAID/Georgia, Tbilisi 2003*
11. *Venekamp Dineke. Development of a Regional Master Plan for the Primary Health Care System in Kakheti Region. European Commission Delegation in Georgia. Tbilisi, January 2004*

Joint European Master in Comparative Local Development for the Balkans and Areas in Transformation

The programme offers **18 months** (95 ECTS) of training for a post-graduate Master's degree. Its main objective is to provide participants with the necessary knowledge and skills for introducing, supporting and co-ordinating processes of change and transformation at the local level. The focus of the programme is local development, with the following characteristics: public, private and non governmental agents are involved; social stability and economic prosperity are strengthened, in agreement with the *acquis communautaire*/standards in European/EC law.

The general approach is comparative and interdisciplinary.

The Master's programme includes courses in economics, law, sociology and political sciences, project cycle management, workshops, skills training, internships, language courses, and distance learning. Most of the courses are taught at the University of Trento by professors of the University of Trento and partner Universities, and by international experts. Some courses are taught at one or more of the partner universities. Given the focus on local development, most of the internships and other activities will take place in

local organisations located in Italy and in the countries of partner universities.

Requirements

Attendance is limited to 25 participants. In order to qualify for the programme, candidates must comply with all of the following requirements:

1. An university degree in economics, law, political science, sociology, or an equivalent qualification; in case applicants uniformly meet such requirement, priority will be given to those holding a 3+2 or a four-year degree;
2. Fluent English and computer literacy.

The programme is targeted at participants from SEE, but is also open to a limited number of participants from other countries.

Scholarships

A limited number of grants is provided by the organisers. These scholarships are available for participants from the following SEE countries: Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Macedonia, Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro. Additional grants may be available from other donors and for participants from other countries in transformation.

HOW TO APPLY: <http://www.didatticaonline.unitn.it/insegnamenti/master/default.asp>

The **expression of interest form** must be SENT to the attention of Dr. Martina Cvajner either via e-mail (martina.cvajner@unitn.it) OR fax (+39-0461-882222) not later than **FEBRUARY 6, 2005**.

- The complete **application form**;

Schedule

Publication of the call for applications	November 11, 2004
Deadline for submitting the expression of interest	February 6, 2005
Deadline for submitting the application documentation	March 6, 2005
Selection of participants	End of March 2005
Introductory course	September 23-25, 2005
Pre-programme (study of indicated material)	October – December 2005 (distance learning at home)
Lectures, laboratories, guest lectures, internships and language courses:	
- I bimester (9 weeks):	January 16 th 2006 March 11 th 2006 (Trento) March 13 th March 25 th 2006 (Regensburg) March 27 th 2006 April 9 th 2006 (distance learning at home)
- II bimester (9 weeks):	April 10 th 2006 June 10 th 2006 (6-week teaching in Trento + 3-week internship at the Partner Universities) June 12 th 2006 September 10 th 2006 (distance learning at home)
- III bimester (8 weeks):	September 11 th 2006 September 23 rd (courses in Regensburg) September 25 th November 4 th 2006 (internship)
Project Work completion:	November 6 th 2006 December 31 st 2006 (distance learning at home)
Deadline for mailing the Project Work	December 31 st 2006
Interactive evaluation of Project Work	January 1 st February 28 th 2006
Graduation Ceremony	Trento, March 23 rd , 2007

- The updated **CV form**;
- The **two (2) reference letters**: the former written and signed by an academic referee, the latter written and signed, when possible, by a professional referee. Each of the two reference letters must be sent directly by the referee in a sealed envelope. Moreover, each of the two envelopes must be signed on the back by the referee; **and**
- The **Project Work proposal form**.

must be SENT to the attention of Dr. Martina Cvajner BOTH via e-mail (martina.cvajner@unitn.it) AND via post (hard-copy version with signature) and not later than **MARCH 6, 2005** to:

Dr. Martina Cvajner
CoDe - Joint European Master in Comparative Local Development
Web site: <http://www.didatticaonline.unitn.it/insegnamenti/master/default.asp>
Dipartimento di Economia
Università degli Studi di Trento

Via V. Inama, 5 - 38100 Trento (TN), Italy
Tel. ++39 0461 883446
Mobile ++39 328 5424992
Fax. ++39 0461 882803
E-mail: martina.cvajner@unitn.it
<http://www.didatticaonline.unitn.it/master.asp>

Workshop for Researchers on the World Bank

Center for Policy Studies, Central European University and the Centre for the Study of Globalisation & Regionalisation, University of Warwick

Budapest, Hungary, Friday 1 to Saturday 2, April 2005

What is the workshop about?

Currently there are many graduate researchers conducting detailed research on the operations, policies and programmes of the World Bank. The workshop provides an opportunity to meet other doctoral and post doctoral students working in this field, and present papers on research. Papers and presentations at the workshop could address issues such as:

- The Comprehensive Development Framework
- The 'post-Washington Consensus'
- The 'Knowledge Bank'
- The Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers
- World Bank organisational restructuring
- The Millennium Development Goals
- World Bank - IMF relations
- Country studies of World Bank structural adjustment policies
- Academic/civil society outreach of the Bank

Other presentations will be to address the logistical issues of leveraging knowledge from, and about, the World Bank and its activities. There will also be discussion of the prospects for establishing an informal network for this group of researchers. The meeting will also be an opportunity to meet academics associated with the Research Alliance for Development (RAD), a network with support from World Bank External Affairs.

Who is it for?

The workshop will be for approximately twenty-five doctoral students in their second, third or fourth year of study. Participation is also open to completed doctoral students who have completed in the past three years. Applications from doctoral/post-doctoral students should be no more than two pages long and contain the following information.

1. Name, contact details, institutional affiliation
2. Title of dissertation/book project; supervisor (s); present stage of study
3. One page abstract of research project or dissertation.
4. Estimation of travel expenses

Please submit applications to Diane Stone by 1st February 2005. Send applications to: stone@ceu.hu with the subject line 'Workshop on the World Bank'.

A limited number of places are available for established researchers to join CEU, Warwick and other researchers associated with RAD and the World Bank.

This event is supported by the European Commission Framework 6 Marie Curie Chair funding, the Center for Policy Studies at the Central European University; the Centre for the Study of Globalisation and Regionalisation at the University of Warwick; and the European Vice Presidency of the World Bank.



CEU Summer University Courses

X. European Summer School in Local Government Studies

July 4 – 15, 2005

Leadership and Local Democracy: Does Leadership Make a Difference?

The course invites applications primarily from political science students, but it is also open for students of public administration, economics, sociology, and geography who are working on local government issues.

Application deadline: April 8, 2005.

Intergovernmental Fiscal Relations and Local Financial Management (with distance learning module)

July 4 – 15, 2005

This course offers an analytical framework for understanding and implementing fiscal decentralization: improving assignment of functions and responsibilities and the fiscal relations between the central, regional, and local governments.

The course will start with six distance learning modules introducing participants to the principles and legal framework of decentralization, expenditure and revenue assignment and intergovernmental transfer.

The two-week workshop style course will include an advanced discussion and analysis through exercises and case studies from the region, in the following areas: 1) worldwide trends in fiscal

decentralization and the concept and practice of the assignment of expenditure responsibilities and revenue authority; 2) the design of various forms of central to sub-national transfers and local own-source revenues; creditworthiness and the financial risks of local authorities; and 3) the emerging topic of budgeting and local public management.

Civil Society Organizations: Promoting Pro-Poor Policy and Social Inclusion

July 11 – 15, 2005

The course is designed to help CSOs make their engagement with policy processes and policy actors more effective and legitimate by cultivating improved understanding of policy entrepreneurship and policy making at local, national and international levels. The central objective is to improve the quality, and utilization, of policy research produced by experts in CSOs to help ensure that their analysis is provided to policymakers at the time important issues are under deliberation.

Application deadline: February 14, 2005

Strategic Approach to Urban Challenges

July 4 – 15, 2005

The course will focus on the urban and city policy related processes (analysis, formulation, acceptance and implementation) and strategic planning and implementation methodologies. It will start from the review of the context where local governments operate and the available strategic planning approaches, after it will single out specific issues related to financial and sector policies, and in the closing block it will reconnect issues through the dis-

cussion of some integrated urban strategies.

The course will cover issues like decentralization, strategic planning methodology and practice and will have discussions on municipal finance and service delivery with special attention to local financial management and different partnership arrangements. The sectors like transportation, utilities, as well as programs and projects of urban rehabilitation, local economic development and urban development will be analyzed in detail.

Strategic Corruption Control and Organizational Integrity

July 4 – 15, 2005

The course will explore the myriad challenges of effectively implementing elements of a corruption control and organizational integrity strategy that is both effective and sustainable. This course is aimed at operational line managers, internal control specialists (e.g. investigators, compliance officers, inspectors, etc.) as well as external change agents (e.g. media, NGOs, think tanks, etc.). It will also be open to academics developing similar courses at their own universities.

Contact:

Eva Gedeon

Executive Director

Summer University, CEU

1051 Zrinyi u. 14, Budapest Hungary

Web: <http://www.ceu.hu/sun>,

Tel.: 36-1-327-3069

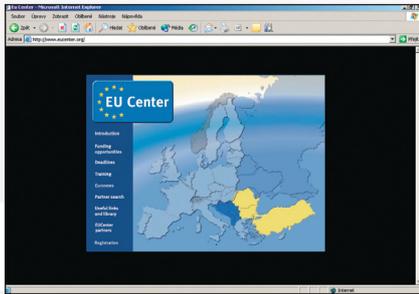
Fax: 36-1-327-3124

E-mail: gedeone@ceu.hu

Further information on the course (detailed course description, faculty CVs, etc.), on eligibility criteria and funding options available at <http://www.ceu.hu/sun>



PA on Internet



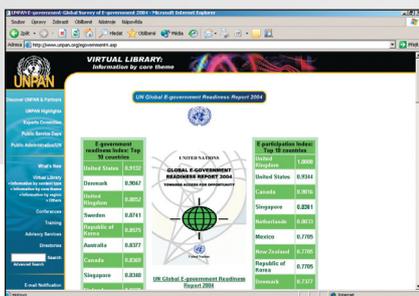
<http://www.eucenter.org>

EU CENTER is a non-profit initiative and it is maintained and managed by the Budapest based EUROPA MEDIA KHT. The primary aim of this website is to provide practical assistance to institutions of higher education, municipalities and small and medium-sized enterprises across Europe about EU funding opportunities.



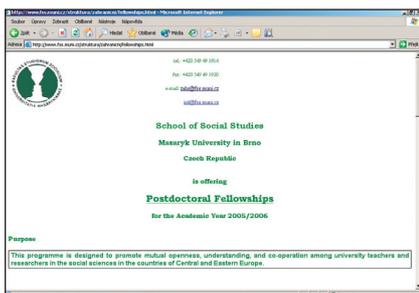
<http://www.ceu.hu/mpp/>

Center for Policy Studies, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary offers Master's Program in Public Policy. The program has both a taught and practical component. The program's core course address economic, political, legal and ethical aspects of public policy. In addition, through its fiscal decentralization and international policy practice streams the program allows for further specialization. Academic training is complemented by an internship program. Applications are now invited from candidates who have a humanities or social science background. Application materials should reach the CEU Admissions Office by January 6, 2005 to be considered for a fellowship. Full fee paying applicants may submit their applications till the end of June 2005. For further information please send an email to mpp@ceu.hu or download the flyer on <http://www.ceu.hu/mpp/flyer.pdf>.



<http://www.unpan.org/egovernment4.asp>

UN Global E-government Readiness Report 2004 – available online on UNPAN. The report comprises two parts. Part I presents the UN Global E-Government Readiness Survey 2004 while Part II presents a special focus on what constitutes disparity in access to ICT. It delves into the issues of what constitutes a lack of access-for-opportunity or the 'access – opportunity divide', what defines it, what governs it and where the countries of the world are placed in terms of their access to ICTs. The Report proposes taxonomy of countries according to their access opportunities. In doing so it posits the Access-for-Opportunity Framework: a structured re-thinking about accelerating 'real access' for all.



<http://www.fss.muni.cz/struktura/zahranicni/fellowships.html>

School of Social Studies in Brno is offering Postdoctoral Fellowships for the Academic Year 2005/2006. This programme is designed to promote mutual openness, understanding, and co-operation among university teachers and researchers in social sciences in the countries from Europe. Period covered is September 2004 to June 2005 (9 months). Applications have to be submitted by March 31 2004. Other

information on web or via e-mail address of Department for International Relations: zahr@fss.muni.cz

Calendar of Events

January 2005, Training Project “VUPA – The Virtual University of Public Administration – The European internet-based platform for professionalization of public administration”

This method of training will give public administration staff possibility to use cheap and permanently available instrument for their qualification improvement, providing easy access to professional knowledge and best experts as well as possibility to establish new cooperation within public administration units and other non-administration sector institutions. It will bring together distance learning methodologies (teaching on-line and/or via electronic mail) and activities of regular on-site training (especially individual e-consultancy provided by experts in selected disciplines holding position of a tutor). It is addressed to managerial staff – chief executives playing a crucial role in public administration units especially that this position requires specific skills, professional qualities and relevant work experience.

Contact:

*Malgorzata Zak, School of Public Administration, Lodz, Poland,
phone: +48 426162592,
fax: +48 426162582,
e-mail: m.zak@wsap.pl, wsap@lodz.pl*

January 20, 2005, Conference “Inner policy: sense, principles, methodology”

Working language: Ukrainian, Russian, Polish, English

Contact:

*Oleksandr Chornobyl, Lviv Regional Institute of Public Administration, Ukraine phone/fax. +380-322 593463,
e-mail: lvivacademy@mail.lviv.ua*

January 20 – 21, 2005, First Regional Conference on innovative solutions in HRM “Leadership for Change”

Contact:

*Milena Rajkovic or Vladimir Momčilovic,
phone: +381 11 334 66 25,*

*mobile: +381 637 501 000,
phone/fax: + 381 (0) 11 334 66 31,
e-mail: office@hrm-belgrade.org,
web: www.hrm-belgrade.org*

January 20 – 24, 2005, Conference – “New Perspectives of Georgian Health”

Working language: Georgian, Russian, English

Contact:

*Tbilisi State Medical University,
Tbilisi, Georgia,
phone/fax: +995 32 311495,
e-mail: p_conference@yahoo.com*

January 27 – 28, 2005, Conference “Private Sector and Competition”

Working language: Czech, Slovak

Contact:

*Josef Mech, Masaryk University,
Brno, Czech Republic,
e-mail: mech@econ.muni.cz*

January 27 – 29, 2005, Intensive Training on EC Project Development for Project Managers

Contact:

*Geonardo Ltd., Training Division,
Budapest, Hungary,
phone: +36 1 250 6703,
fax: +36 1 436 9038,
e-mail: training@geonardo.hu,
web: www.eucenter.org*

February 2005, Round table “Role of local government in European integration processes”

Working language: Serbian, English

Contact:

*Mrs. Maja Kovacevic, PALGO, Belgrade, Serbia & Montenegro,
phone: +381 11 3976 481,
fax: +381 11 2497 176,
e-mail: maja.kovacevic@palgo.org*

March 2005, Conference “Decentralization in Regional Public Health”

Working language: Serbian, English

Contact:

*PALGO, Belgrade, Serbia & Montenegro, Mr. Dejan Pavlovic,
phone: +381 11 3976 481,*

*fax: +381 11 2497 176,
e-mail: dejan.pavlovic@palgo.org*

*Mrs. Marija Caric,
phone: +381 11 3976 481,
fax: +381 11 2497 176,
e-mail: marija.caric@palgo.org*

March 19 – 20, 2005, Conference “Political Culture and Political Process in the World”

Working language: Russian

Contact:

*Helen Grunt, Ural State University, Political Science and Sociology Department, Ekaterinburg, Russia,
phone: +73433507378,
+73433505926,
fax: +73433507381
e-mail: Helengrunt2002@yandex.ru*

April 2005, Information Seminar & Workshop “Improving EU’s Visibility in the New Member and Candidate Countries. Presentation and Preparation for Acceding the Structural Funds”

Working language: English

Contact:

*Alexandru Tanase, BSUF Branch, Bucharest, Romania,
phone: +40-21-337.28.04,
fax: +40-21-340.0285,
mail: bseau@xnet.ro*

April 7 – 8, 2005, Conference “Information policy, media and management in local government”

Working language: Polish

Contact:

*Department of Local Government and Politics, Political Science Faculty, M. Curie-Skłodowska University, Lublin, Poland, Ms. Katarzyna Mieczkowska-Czerniak,
e-mail: mieczk_1@poczta.onet.pl
Ms. Katarzyna Radzik,
e-mail: katarzyna_radzik@yahoo.com*

April 28, 2005, First International Conference “EU Enlargement from a Business Perspective”

Contact:

*Europa Media, Budapest, Hungary,
phone: +36 1 453-3801,*

fax: +36 1 436 9038,
e-mail: conference@eucenter.org,
web: www.eucenter.org

May 2005, Conference “New Model of Public Service Delivery – the cooperation between public administration and third sector in the field of public service delivery”

Working language: English

Contact:
Malgorzata Zak, School of Public Administration, Lodz, Poland,
phone: +48 426162592,
fax: +48 426162582,
e-mail: m.zak@wsap.pl, wsap@lodz.pl

May 2005, Conference “European Financial Services”

Working language: English, Bulgarian

Contact:
Spartak Keremidchiev, Club “Economika 2000”, Sofia, Bulgaria,
phone: +359 2 981 67 90,
fax: +359 2 981 87 93,
e-mail: office@club2000.org,
web: www.club2000.org

June 1 – 2, 2005, Conference “Local Development and Governance in Central, East and South-East Countries”

Contact:
Ms. Andrea Hofer, OECD LEED Trento Centre, Trento, Italy,
e-mail: andrea-rosalinde.hofer@oecd.org
phone: +39-461 277 616,
fax: +39-461 277 650

June 23 – 25, 2005, The 7th Global Leadership Forum “Leadership and Democratic Governance”

Contact:
Ms. Hulya Yurtsever,
phone: +90-212-259 83 31,
fax: +90-212-236 23 72,
mobile: +90-532 345 57 37,
e-mail: glf@bahcesehir.edu.tr
or sgl@bahcesehir.edu.tr

June 23 – 25, 2005, VII. International Colloquium on Regional Sciences

Working language: Czech, Slovak, English

Contact:
Viktorie Klimova, Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic,
e-mail: viki.k@email.cz

Events of the Academy of Public Administration, Minsk, Belarus

Working language: Russian

February 15 – 16, 2005, International conference “Professional Growth of Public Servants: Psychology of Effective Management”

March, 2005, International young scientists’ conference “Basics of Public Administration”.

Contact:
phone/fax: +375 17 222 82 05,
e-mail: interbiz@pacademy.edu.by

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

February 17 – 18, 2005, Seminar: Developing the Project Pipeline for Structural Funds Operations

Contact:
Lisette Borghans,
e-mail: l.borghans@eipa-nl.com,
phone: +31 43 3296 334

February 24 – 25, 2005, Seminar: Adapting to European Integration: How to Effectively Coordinate EU Policy-Making at Central Level

Contact:
Ms Eveline Hermens,
phone: +31 43 32 96 259,
fax: +31 43 32 96 296,
e-mail: e.hermens@eipa-nl.com

February 28 – March 1, 2005, Seminar: Intrastat Data Collection solutions: “How new (and old) Member States could benefit from the first 12 years of Intrastat experience”

Contact:
Diane Urlings,
phone: +31 43 3296 280,
e-mail: d.urlings@eipa-nl.com

March 7 – 11, 2005, Seminar: European Negotiations

Contact:
Noëlle Debie,
e-mail: n.debie@eipa-nl.com,
phone: +31 43 3296 226

March 10 – 11, 2005, Seminar: Anti-Money Laundering in the EU: New Developments

Contact:
Noëlle Debie,
e-mail: n.debie@eipa-nl.com,
phone: +31 43 3296 226

March 10 – 11, 2005, Seminar: Understanding Decision-Making in the European Union: Principles, Procedures and Practice

Contact:
Araceli Barragan,
e-mail: a.barragan@eipa-nl.com,
phone: +31 43 3296 325

March 14 – 16, 2005, Seminar: Committees and Comitology in the Policy Process of the European Community

Contact:
Belinda Vetter,
phone: +31 43 3296 382,
fax: +31 43 3296 296,
e-mail: b.vetter@eipa-nl.com

March 17 – 18, 2005, Seminar: Europe on the Internet

Contact:
Diane Urlings,
phone: +31 43 3296 280,
e-mail: d.urlings@eipa-nl.com

March 17 – 18, 2005, Seminar: State Aid Policy and Practice in the European Community – An Integrative and Interactive Approach

Contact:
Danielle Brouwer,
e-mail: d.brouwer@eipa-nl.com,
phone: +31 43 3296 228

March 21 – 22, 2005, Seminar: The Stability and Growth Pact (SGP): Theory and Practice

Contact:
Diane Urlings,
phone: +31 43 3296 280,
e-mail: d.urlings@eipa-nl.com

March 21 – 22, 2005, Fourth Seminar: The European Food Safety Authority – Towards Efficient Risk Analysis: Developments So Far and Remaining Challenges

Contact:

Winnie Curfs,

e-mail: w.curfs@eipa-nl.com,

phone: +31 43 3296 320

Events of the Academy of Entrepreneurship & Management, Warsaw, Poland

March 2005, Seminar “The Structure and Dynamics of Pay “

April 2005, Seminar “Problems Concerning Regions”

May 2005, Seminar “Advantages and Disadvantages of Transformation”

March 7 – 8, 2005, Conference “The Prospects for Structural Funds Functioning”

May 2005, the IInd National Conference “Law and Economy”

May 28 – June 1, 2005, Conference “General Accounting Theory. Towards Balanced Development”

June 2005, Seminar “Modern Administration”

Contact:

Witold Mikulowski,

e-mail: wituka@wspiz.edu.pl

Events of the North-West Academy of PA, St. Petersburg, Russia

Working language: Russian (with interpretation during international events)

January 24, 2005, Video-Conference “Forms and methods of how to make the training process of social workers more active”

January 28, 2005, round table “Public administration in Russian Federation: organizational, legislative and personnel provision”

February – scientific and practical seminar “Social policy: reforms into the life”

March, 2005, Scientific & Practical Conference “Actual problems of economics state regulation at the territorial level”

March, 2005, Scientific & Practical Conference “European cooperation: dialogue with time”

March – round table on some urgent issues of jurisprudence;

April 13 – 15, 2005, annual seminar for the chiefs of Governors’ Administration of the subjects of Russian Federation “Some issues of personnel management”

April 20 – 25, 2005, Scientific & Practical Conference “Small businesses in international economic relations”;

April, 29 – round table “Perspectives of social and economic development of Russian Federation regions”

April, 2005, Scientific & Practical Conference “Management of a big city”

April, 2005, annual inter institutional scientific and practical conference “Law and politics”

June 1 – 3, 2005, second international scientific and practical conference “Education and business – 2005”

June 2005, Third international scientific forum “Public authorities and local government in Russia: history and modern situation”

Contact:

Eduard Shevtchenko,

tel/fax: +7-12 323-50-92,

e-mail: InterDep@szags.ru

Events of the French National School of Administration (ENA), Paris, France

Specialized International Sessions in Public Administration

Working language: French

February 21 – March 18, 2005, Preparation and Implementation of the State Budget

February 21 – March 18, 2005, International Negotiation

March 7- April 1, 2005, The Organization of Parliamentary Work

March 14 – April 8, 2005, The Territorialisation of Public Policies

March 21 – April 15, 2005, Public Procurement

April 4 – 29, 2005, International Crisis Management

April 18 – May 13, 2005, The Financial Control, Analysis and Auditing of Public Management

May 9 - 20, May 9 – June 10, 2005, The Organization of Government Work

May 16 – June 10, 2005, Corruption: Economic Realities and Ways of Combating it

May 16 – June 10, 2005, The Diplomatic Profession Today

June 6 – July 1, 2005, Institutional Mediation

June 27 – July 8, 2005, International Cooperation and Project Leading

Contact:

Ms Pascale Trimbach, Ms. Nadine Gardelle-Coringe,

phone: + 33 144 41 85 98,

fax: + 33 144 41 85 99,

e-mail: gardelle@ena.fr;

Mr. Thomas Liebault,

phone: + 33 144 41 85 87

Fax: + 33 144 41 85 99,

e-mail: liebault@ena.fr;

web: www.ena.fr

Recent Publications:



Public Management in a Theory and Practice of the Polish Organisations

Author: Barbara Kozuch
 Publisher: PLACET
 Price: 36,00 PLN
 Language: Polish

Resume:

This volume provides a comprehensive overview of the theoretical bases of public management (PM) and reflects upon its impact on changes in public organisations, with particularly reference to how local units of public administration in Poland has transformed under the process of integration into European Union. It examines the ways and instruments that the public organisations from two regions of Poland have adopted to reform their practices of management in response to the changing local socio-economic and political context, and also regional-global environments. The research sample consisted of 173 units represented such public organisations as units of local public administration, high schools, police and rescue district units, and hospitals. Presented results show different approaches to modern management. Only a few researched organisations implemented principles and instruments of public management.

Contact:

Wydawnictwo PLACET, 01-517
 Warszawa, ul. Mickiewicza 18a/1,
 Poalnd,
 e-mail: redakcja@placet.com.pl,
 web: www.placet.com.pl

Global Knowledge Networks and International Development: Bridges across Boundaries

Authors: Diane Stone, Simon Maxwell

Resume:

This volume provides a coherent examination of how, why and to what extent research informs policy in the field of international development. Drawn from think-tanks, academia and development agencies, the contributors provide case histories of how research has informed local, national and global policy. They investigate how development agencies have promoted the development potential of research, and outline various methods and techniques of policy entrepreneurship. The book has three key elements – It provides an authoritative overview of the concepts and theories; – It illustrates the complexity with case studies of projects

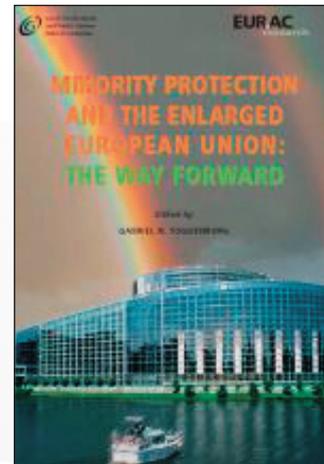
Bridging research and policy-making from all over the world; – It offers practical guidance to researchers and policy-makers. The book contains the foundation for a manual on policy entrepreneurship in international development.

Contact:

To order: info.politics@routledge.co.uk,
 or in the US:
 phone: +1 800 634 7064,
 fax: +1 800 248 4724,
 web: www.routledge-ny.com,
 – in Canada:
 phone: +1 877 226 2237,
 fax: 416 299 7531
 web: www.routledge-ny.com,

– in the rest of the world:

book.orders@routledge.co.uk,
 phone: +44-1264 34 3071,
 fax: +44-1264 34 3005,
 web: www.routledge.com



Minority Protection and The Enlarged European Union: The Way Forward

Editor: Gabriel N. Toggenburg
 Publisher: LGI/OSI
 Language: English

Resume:

Over the last decade the European Union has engaged and encouraged a topic never before tabled on its agenda of concerns: the protection of Europe's countless minorities. Strangely, minority rights were limited only to minorities living outside the borders of the EU in the candidate states then bidding for accession. Consequently, the Union soon was confronted with the hypocrisy that it viewed minority rights as an idea unfit for 'domestic consumption' and only appropriate for 'export.' Since the accession of ten new states to the EU on May 1, 2004, the question is more urgent than ever. So far the EU lacks an overall strategy or coherent policy for addressing this dire need. The EU has to find its place in this new policy

area without overstretching its normative foundations and its legal structure. Moreover, it is of utmost importance to develop a true 'European' strategy which finds an efficient 'division of labor' not only between states and the EU but also between the big international players in Europe, namely the Council of Europe, the EU, and the OSCE. In this indispensable volume on minority rights, a team of eminent experts analyzes these critical questions, and, crucially, provides a bundle of policy proposals that show the way forward for the Union in a policy area that will gain in importance in the years to come.

Contact:

LGI/OSI, Budapest, Hungary,
phone: (+36 1) 327 3104,
fax: (+36 1) 327 3105,
web: <http://lgi.osi.hu/publications>

Publications of Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic

Crisis Management in Public Administration – Theory and Practice

Authors: Rektorik, Selesovsky, Vilasek et al
Publisher: Ekopress
Price: 325 CZK
Language: Czech

Resume:

The aim of this book is to ensure the completion of knowledge of civil servants and students on actual issues of crisis management in public administration. The legal base of the crisis management is emphasized. The financial aspects are also included.

Information Systems in Public Sector

Authors: Spacek, Spalek
Language: Czech

Resume:

This book is a handbook for distance studying programme of the

Faculty of Economics and Administration. The aim of this text is to enlarge the knowledge on the theory and practice of the information systems within the public sector. Authors also included the main trends related to this issue.

Contact:

David Spacek,
e-mail: spacekov@email.cz

Publications of the Institute of Economics, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, Hungary

Discussion Papers:

Gergely Csorba: Screening Contracts in the Presence of Positive Network Effects

Kata Bognar, Lones Smith: We Can't Argue Forever

Júlia LENDVAI: Inflation Inertia and Monetary Policy Shocks

Contact:

Ms. Erzsébet Hubai-Márkus,
e-mail: markus@econ.core.hu,
secretary@econ.core.hu,
web: <http://econ.core.hu>

Publications of the North-West Academy of Public Administration, St. Petersburg, Russia

State system and state service of Russia: ways of development, Conference proceedings, Editors: V.K.Egorov, V.A.Shamakhov, V.M. Gerasimov

System of state power and administration in Russia: history, tradition, contemporaneity,

Conference proceedings, Editor: V.A.Shamakhov

Theory of organization, Textbook, Authors: A.A. Vasetskiy, V.A. Volkov, N.M.Mysin, V.V. Yanovsky

Public administration and state service: speciality introduction, Author: V.V. Yanovsky.

Contact:

Natalia Muyzinik,
tel/fax: +7-12 323-50-92,
e-mail: interdep@nwags.ru

Publications of the PALGO Center, Belgrade, Serbia & Montenegro

Language: Serbian

Reform of the local self government finance system

Editors: Anthony Levitas, Gabor Peteri

State of health and health requirements of population in Serbia

Authors: Authors: Mijat Damjanovic, Predrag Micovic, Djordje Jakovljevic

Contact:

Marina Cvorovic,
phone: + 381.11.472.629,
fax: 381.11.2497.176,
e-mail: marina.cvorovic@palgo.org

Visiting Professors

Bruno Dort, Fribourg University, Switzerland, Field of Expertise: management and development of municipal infrastructure, Period of visit: December 1, 2004 – February 1, 2005

Contact:

North-West Academy of PA, St. Petersburg, Russia, Eduard Shevtchenko,
tel/fax: +7-12-323-50-92,
e-mail: InterDep@szags.ru

“How to Be a Better Policy Advisor in Public Administration Reforms in Selected Balkan and Central Asia Countries”

Two training courses for advisors Call for Applications

1st training: Bratislava, Slovak Republic, March 8 – 12, 2005 (English language)

2nd training: Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic, June 15 – 18, 2005 (Russian language)

General Information

NISPAcee with the support of the SLOVAKAID is organizing two training courses for advisors “How to be a better policy advisor” and one workshop “The Slovak experience in advising governments” focused on fostering successful implementation of public administration reforms throughout the selected Balkan and Central Asia countries through the development of the indigenous advisory capacities.

Aim

The aim 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.

Target Group

The course is designed for *the academicians working in the field of public administration* who are interested in participation in policy advice delivery to their governments and would like to improve their skills in this area. The course is designed according to the needs of those who are beginning or plan to be involved in policy planning and advice provision to their governments. The degree of participants does not have to be in public administration, however the current academic research and teaching activities **must focus on the aspects of public administration reform** in your country.

1st training course “How training courses for advisors” including workshop “The Slovak experience in advising governments”

Place: Bratislava, Slovak Republic

Date: March 8 – 12, 2005 (4 days training course + 1 day workshop)

Trainers: Katarina Staronova, Slovakia (leading trainer)
Rodica Bombonica Dudau, Romania
Alfredas Chmieliauskas, Lithuania

Language: English

Target countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia

Deadline for applications: January 31, 2005

2nd training course “How training courses for advisors”

Place: Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic

Date: June 15 – 18, 2005

Trainers: Bolotbek Orovov, Kyrgyzstan (leading trainer)
Zulfiya Tukhtakhodjaeva, Uzbekistan
Meruert Makhmutova, Kazakhstan

Language: Russian

Target countries: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan

Deadline for applications: April 30, 2005

Selection Procedure and Criteria

The participants of the course will be selected by the selection committee according to the following criteria:

1. Area of education
2. Field of academic interests
3. Current employment at an academic teaching or research institution
4. Experience in research and policy advice
5. Language skills
6. Region (For the training in Bratislava, Slovakia are eligible only applications from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia and for the training in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan are eligible only applications from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan)

Selection process can include two stages: document review and telephone interviews in selected cases.

Financial Support

The travel, accommodation and subsistence costs of selected participants will be fully covered by NISPAcee.

How to Apply

If you are interested in participation, please, submit on-line application form available on www.nispa.sk and upload the following required documents:

1. Curriculum Vitae – if possible, please, upload to your personal details
2. Letter of intent clearly describing your current experience in policy advice delivery, reasons why you would like to participate in this course and how you will apply the skills and information you will receive during training (max. 2 pages)
3. 2 Letters of recommendation (originals have to be sent by post)

Contact:

NISPAcee Secretariat, Ms. Elena Zakova, Project Manager
Address: Hanulova 5/B, P.O.Box 163, 840 02 BRATISLAVA 42, Slovak Republic
Phone: +421 2 64285435,
Fax: +421 2 64285557,
e-mail: zakova@nispa.sk

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 instit-

utions 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:

– February 28, 2005

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 (hard copy and an electronic format as well) to the NISPAcee secretariat (contact information on the last page of the Newsletter). If you feel you would need further information, please contact the NISPAcee Secretariat.

Invitation

For the 13th NISPAcee Annual Conference

Democratic Governance for the XXI Century: Challenges and Responses in CEE Countries

May 19 – 21, 2005, Moscow, Russia

Organized in co-operation with The School of Public Administration of the Moscow State University and the High School of Economics, Moscow

The programme of the conference will be structured in:

- plenary session on the main conference theme
- panel sessions and forums
- working sessions on the main conference theme
- parallel meetings of the NISPAcee Working Groups

Working Groups:

- 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 Multi-ethnic 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 Programmes of Public Administration / Public Policy Education in CEE Countries
- IX. Working Group on Ethics in Governance

Work plan and papers

The final version of the completed paper should be prepared according to NISPAcee **MANUSCRIPT GUIDELINES** (posted on the NISPAcee web) and submitted via the NISPAcee website by **April 1st, 2005 at the latest.**

Papers will be accessible for all conference participants on the NISPAcee website prior to the event. Copies of papers will not be provided by NISPAcee during the Conference. Authors of the papers are welcome to bring copies of their papers for distribution at their working session or working group.

The most representative papers of the Conference will be submitted to the selection process and published in the Conference Proceedings.

The publication of speeches or papers presented at the Conference requires the authorization 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.

Support

NISPAcee, in co-operation with the working groups' coordinators, intends to develop projects and seeks funds to support applicants with the selected papers of the working groups in the conference. However, this funding is uncertain and therefore all participants are encouraged to find their own financing.

Registration and Hotel Reservations

ON-LINE registration and hotel reservations will be available from **January 2005** on

the NISPAcee website. **All participants, including authors of the accepted papers for the conference, are kindly asked to register for the conference and make their hotel reservations.**

Deadline for registration: February 28, 2005 at the latest. (<http://www.nispa.sk>)

Deadline for payments: March 15, 2005

Organizational information

Visa: A visa may be required for citizens from certain countries. Participants must personally arrange their visas in their countries. It is possible to apply for visa support documents within the registration for the conference. Organizers will not provide these documents after the deadline for registration.

Working language: English

Information on the conference programme and all logistics is available on the Internet:

NISPAcee homepage <http://www.nispa.sk>

Contact person:

Inquiries should be addressed to: Viera Wallnerova, Project Manager NISPAcee

Hanulova 5/B, 840 02 Bratislava 42 Slovak Republic.

Tel: +421-2-6428 5558, Tel/Fax: +421-2-6428 5557,

E-mail: wallnerova@nispa.sk

NISPAcee MEMBERSHIP

Presently, the NISPAcee enlists 126 Institutional members (from 23 countries), 32 Associate members (from 19 countries), and 220 Observers (from 35 countries).

New Institutional members of the NISPAcee

Institution of European Studies, Budapest School of Communication, Budapest, Hungary

New Associate members of the NISPAcee

School of Technology and Society, University of Skovde Skovde, Sweden

NISPAcee ACTIVITIES ARE SPONSORED MAINLY BY:

– 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, Washington, D.C., USA – Open Society Institute, New York, USA

NISPAcee NEWS is published with the support of the Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative (Affiliated with the Open Society Institute), Nador ut. 11, 1525 Budapest 114, Hungary.

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 February 28, 2005.

news
NISPAcee
news
news

1



NISPAcee Secretariat

Hanulova 5/B

P.O.Box 163

840 02 Bratislava 42

Slovak Republic

tel/fax: +421-2-6428 5357, 6428 5557

e-mail: nispa@nispa.sk

<http://www.nispa.sk>