

University of Oradea  
*The Institute for Euroregional Studies*

Institute of Regional Research named after M. I. Dolishnyj of National  
Academy of Science of Ukraine

## PROGRAMME

# ROUNDTABLE DEBATE

*Cross-border Cooperation in EU Member States:  
Theoretical Studies and Best Practices*

May 7-9, 2019  
Oradea, Romania

**organized in the Jean Monnet project «Boosting Local Economic Growth in Border Regions in the Process of EU Integration: Best Practices of Eastern Partnership (EaP) Countries»,**

**(№599948-EPP-1-2018-1-UA-EPPJMO-SUPPA)**

**coordinated by SI «Institute of Regional Research named after M.I. Dolishnyj of National Academy of Science of Ukraine» for the period 2018-2021**

### **Partners:**

**University of Oradea, Romania**

**Institute for Euroregional Studies (ISER), Romania**

**University of Debrecen, Hungary**

**Centre of Excellence at SGH Warsaw School of Economics (CEWSE), Poland**

**Yuriy Fedkovych Chernivtsi National University, Ukraine**

**ECSA-Moldova (“E- Institute”)**

# DRAFT PROGRAMME

***Tuesday, May 7, 2019***

**17<sup>00</sup> - 19<sup>00</sup>** – Arrival of participants

**19<sup>30</sup>** – Dinner

***Wednesday May 8, 2019***

**9<sup>30</sup>-10<sup>00</sup>**

Welcome addresses. Official opening of the Round Table.

- **Prof.univ.dr. Constantin Bungău**, Rector of University of Oradea
- **Dr. Iryna Storonyanska**. Deputy Director of Research, SI «Institute of Regional Research named after M.I. Dolishniy of NAS of Ukraine, Lviv»
- **Prof.univ.dr. Sorin Curilă**, President of Senat of University of Oradea

**10<sup>00</sup> - 10<sup>30</sup>**

Presentation of the Project of Jean Monnet Erasmus+ Program «Boosting Local Economic Growth in Border Regions in the Process of EU Integration: Best Practices of Eastern Partnership (EaP) Countries», **Khrystyna Prytula**, SI «Institute of Regional Research named after M.I. Dolishniy of NAS of Ukraine»

**10<sup>30</sup> – 11<sup>30</sup>**

***1st Round Table:***

**European theoretical studies in the sphere of  
cross-border cooperation development**

**Ioan Horga**, University of Oradea, Institute for Euroregional Studies,  
*European theoretical studies in the sphere of cross-border  
cooperation development*

**Klára Czimre**, Department of Social Geography and Regional  
Development Planning, University of Debrecen, *Shifting  
focuses in European CBC modelling: theories influenced by  
space and time*

***Discussions***

**11<sup>30</sup> - 12<sup>00</sup>**

Coffee Break

12<sup>00</sup> - 13<sup>30</sup>

**2<sup>nd</sup> Round Table:**

**Methodologies of evaluation in cross-border cooperation**

**Vasile Cucerescu**, ECSA Moldova (E-Institut), *Moldovan Framework of Cross-Border Cooperation: Legal and Historical Approaches*

**Constantin Vasile Țoca**, University of Oradea, Institute of Euroregional Studies, *Methods of Evaluation in the CBC*

**Khrystyna Prytula, Olena Pasternak**, M.I. Dolishniy Institute of Regional Research of the NAS of Ukraine, *Features of the formation and functioning of global value chains in the EU-Ukraine cross-border area*

***Discussions***

13<sup>30</sup>-15<sup>00</sup>

***Lunch***

15<sup>00</sup>-17<sup>30</sup>

**3<sup>rd</sup> Round Table:**

**Existing challenges of cross-border cooperation  
development in the EU member states**

**Corina Tursie**, West University of Timișoara, *Capitals European of Culture and the Cohesion Urban Cross-Border (CECCUT) network as experience for development of CBC in the EU Members States*

**Marta Pachocka**, SGH Warsaw School of Economics, *Unpacking the European Agenda on Migration – policy vacuum or successful framing of migration governance in the EU?*

**Agnieszka Klos**, SGH Warsaw School of Economics, *Development of the Lower Silesia region on the example of implementation of cross-border cooperation programs between Poland and Saxony.*

**Luminița Șoproni**, University of Oradea, Institute of Euroregional Studies, *Cross-border region branding – tool for differentiation and positioning in regional competition.*

**Mirela Mărcuț**, University of Oradea, *Smart cities - opportunities for CBC*

**Discussions**

**Thursday, May 9, 2019**

**10<sup>00</sup> - 13<sup>00</sup>**

**4<sup>th</sup> Round Table:**

**Problems of cross-border cooperation  
development along the EU external borders**

**Anatoliy Kruglashov**, Chernivtsi Jury Fedkovych National University, Ukraine, *Cross-border cooperation stigmatized: why Upper Prut Euroregion activity goes down still*

**Iryna Storonyanska, Anna Maksymenko**, M.I. Dolishniy Institute of Regional Research of NAS of Ukraine, *Economic Challenges of Development of Territorial Communities: The Case of EU Border Regions of Ukraine*

**Magdalena Proczek**, SGH Warsaw School of Economics, *The Carpathian Euroregion – partnership across borders. The specificity of the Euroregion and sources of financing its activities*

**Nataliya Nechayeva-Yuriychuk**, Chernivtsi Jury Fedkovych National University, Ukraine, *Problems of cross-border cooperation development along the EU external borders.*

**Yaroslava Kalat, Olha Demedyuk**, M.I. Dolishniy Institute of Regional Research of NAS of Ukraine, *The ways to strengthen socio-economic cooperation in the Ukrainian-Romanian cross-border region*

**Florentina Chirodea**, University of Oradea, *European Union and its neighbourhood. Network for enhancing EU's actorness in the eastern borderlands – ENACTED*

**Ioana Bordeianu**, Oradea School of Border Police, *Basic Training of the Border Police Officers at the external borders of EU. Common Core Curriculum for harmonizing the competences and its plus values in the operational field*

**Edina Lilla Meszaros**, University of Oradea, *Cross-border cooperation in the fight against organized crime at the EU's Eastern border*

**13<sup>00</sup> - 14<sup>00</sup>**

**Conclusions and follow-up**

**14<sup>00</sup> - 15<sup>00</sup>**

***Lunch***

**15<sup>00</sup> - 19<sup>00</sup>**

***Visit of the City***

**19<sup>00</sup>**

***Dinner***

**Friday 10 May 2019**

**8<sup>30</sup>**

***Departure of participants***



## List of Participants

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# Abstracts

**Ioana Bordeianu**, Oradea School of Border Police, *Basic training of the border police officers at the external borders of EU. Common core curriculum for harmonizing the competences and its plus values in the operational field.*

The vocational education in the Border Police School of Training Agents from Oradea, Romania comes to meet the aim of promoting the best practices in the implementation of border management. The school is a Frontex Academy and includes specialised training, encouraging border police agents to learn the languages necessary for carrying out their tasks. The training system is guided in such a way that all the students gain professional knowledge, skills and competences required for being very competitive at the European level (level 4 of the SQF), being able to participate in joint operations, whenever and wherever they are needed, at the external borders, working together with other colleagues from EU countries, safely and efficiently.

Ability to work together is called interoperability. There are common standards for the border police basic training system that support interoperability at the European level, guide and add plus value for border police officers so that they behave professionally and fully respect human dignity.

Common Core Curriculum is primarily targeting basic border guarding job competences, which are predominantly for border police officers and focuses on the development of an integrated approach to education and training policies at European level. The Academy is also focusing in increasing transparency in vocational education.

Implementation of the CCC was done in order to meet the challenges when moving from Copenhagen Process-based vocational border police initial education to Bologna Process-based training. The gap between vocational training and the European Higher Education Area does not exist anymore, after passing the CCC-based border police basic education, a student will be competent to continue in Bologna Process-based higher education.

**Florentina Chirodea**, University of Oradea, *European Union and its neighbourhood. Network for enhancing EU's actorness in the eastern borderlands – ENACTED*, Through the Neighbourhood Policy, the European Union aims to strengthen partnerships with Eastern countries in order to promote prosperity, stability and security at its borders. Sustained by different forms of regional cooperation (EaP or the Black Sea Synergy), ENP promotes, in the Eastern part of the European continent, the EU's role as a strong partner of political dialogue and socio-economic cooperation. Moreover, strengthening bilateral co-operation represents a way to offer references for better cross-border co-operations. In this context, ENACTED Jean Monnet Network facilitates change of information between 12 partners from 6 countries (Romania, Hungary, Poland, Belarus, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine). Common actions help to know and understand the existing realities on both sides of the EU's external border, the project being an example of good practice in terms of strengthening cooperation and increasing the EU's capacity to actively engage in the region.

**Vasile Cucerescu**, ECSA-Moldova, *Moldovan Framework of Cross-Border Cooperation: Legal and Historical Approaches*. The paper focuses on Moldovan experience of cross-border cooperation from legal and historical perspectives. Cross-border cooperation initiatives refer to the European Union, Romania and Ukraine. The research investigation examines legal instruments of cross-border cooperation between Moldova and its neighbours, cross-border cooperation programmes and the impact of cross-border cooperation projects for involved parties towards sustainable development in adjacent areas by helping to reduce differences in living standards and by addressing common specific challenges across Moldovan state border. The results and impact of cross-border cooperation are scrutinized through the prism of goals' achievement and *de facto* engagement leading to learned lessons by actors and revised design for improvement strategy.

**Klára Czimre**, University of Debrecen, *Shifting focuses in European CBC modelling: theories influenced by space and time*. Researches related to borders, border regions and cross-border co-operations in

Europe have undergone substantial changes throughout history. The focus of the theoretical approaches shifted not only as a matter of time but also depending on the geostrategic position of the nation states, state borders and border regions. The study of the theory of borders and border regions has been pushed into the background for a long time. It was mostly due to the widely accepted notion that all borders and border regions were unique. The processes and events of history and economic life, nevertheless, proved that there are many similarities between each border region. As a result of this, the harmonisation of the activities in the border regions was started, and the facilities for cross-border co-operations began to improve. The co-operation along the certain border regions, however, differed in many respects. Consequently, researches and studies related to the individual borders may be compared and categorised on the basis of the nature of the co-operation. In addition to the historical perspective of the theoretical development of borders, the paper concentrates more thoroughly on the second half of the twentieth century. Comparing the focuses of border theories reveal that the accelerating integration process in the early 1990s led to a shift more and more eastward, and regionalism, and more specifically cross-border regions, appeared as a new research area providing a basis and scope for several studies and researches. The researches related to cross-border co-operations affect a great variety of disciplines, thus, a complex conclusion may be only drawn with the evaluation and combination of the existing research trends. Most authors apply either a multi-, inter- or transdisciplinary approach during their research activities. Nevertheless, it may be established that most papers published on the topic are rooted in only a few disciplines. The influential power of time and (geographical) space is explained with the help of a comparative analysis of existing models and finally a complex model is suggested for the better understanding of the functional role of cross-border co-operations in Europe.

**Ioan HORGA**, University of Oradea, *European theoretical studies in the sphere of cross-border cooperation development*. Contemporary border studies reflect continuity and change in scientific thought as well as innumerable contributions to the conceptualization of social space and its workings. The field of border studies has opened up possibilities for questioning the rationales behind everyday border-

making by understanding borders as institutions, processes and symbols. The concept of border politics raises a series of interesting questions regarding the power relations involved in the making of borders; this manifests itself, for example, in tensions between the local constitution and external determination of borders in society. The EU's border politics is a complex array of programmes, policies, and imaginaries of political community in which borders are used as resources for different specific aims. Cross-border cooperation is a prominent instrument of the EU's border politics. We propose, in order to overcome the misunderstandings linked to the equivocal meanings of this concept, to approach it through four different entries, or dimensions: functional dimension; institutional dimension; structural dimension; ideational dimension

**Yaroslava KALAT, OIha DEMEDYUK, M.I. Dolishniy** Institute of Regional Research of the NAS of Ukraine, *The ways to strengthen socio-economic cooperation in the Ukrainian-Romanian cross-border region*. Cross-border cooperation is an efficient way to boost good-neighbourhood relations between adjoining countries. It possesses the necessary set of tools to address the most urgent issues at the level of regions and local communities and is the encouraging factor to urge state authorities to promote cooperation with neighbouring countries in institutional and financial aspects. Cross-border cooperation within Ukrainian-Romanian cross-border region provides numerous opportunities to its residents, business entities and communities in general to improve their living standards, however local and state authorities should have the strong will in creating favourable functioning environment. The paper aims to examine the current condition of Ukrainian-Romanian cross-border region's socio-economic development and to suggest the ways to activate it. For this matter, the authors examine current institutional environment of Ukrainian-Romanian cross-border region's functioning and its legal foundation. Special attention is paid to the major priorities of Ukrainian-Romanian cross-border region development in the context of 2016-2020 State Program of Cross-Border Cooperation Development of Ukraine. Economic situation in Ukrainian-Romanian cross-border region is studied based on the GDP per capita and average monthly wages and pensions rates in the adjoining oblasts and judets (counties). The authors also emphasize the role of such

cross-border cooperation instruments as participation in CBC ENI Programs and in institutionalized forms of cross-border cooperation as far as the region is eligible for three CBC Programs and has four Euroregions established at its territory.

**Agnieszka Kłos**, SGH Warsaw School of Economics, *Development of the Lower Silesia region on the example of implementation of cross-border cooperation programs between Poland and Saxony*. The article will present the objective of implementing cross-border cooperation programs, which is to support cross-border cooperation between citizens and institutions of neighbouring regions, ie Lower Silesia and Saxony. There will be presented the main problem areas in the above mentioned regions and the strengths and weaknesses of their development. The author will present conclusions from the implemented program in 2007-2013 and current challenges to support the sustainable development of the area in order to strengthen economic and social cohesion.

**Anatoliy Kruglashov**, Chernivtsi Jury Fedkovych National University, Ukraine, *Cross-border cooperation stigmatized: why Upper Prut Euroregion activity goes down still*. Foundations of the new Euroregions around Ukraine-Romania-Moldova have been treated with all countries involved from somewhat different perspectives. Romania considered them as a venue of making stronger the ties with compatriots abroad and a tool of expanding greater influence to the neighbouring borderland territories in the end of 1990<sup>th</sup> – beginning of the 2000<sup>th</sup>. Ukraine and Moldova had thought with some suspicions about this initiative of Bucharest, keeping in their mind some possible irredentists' threats. After some years of tense negotiation in place the contracted parties had agreed to constitute two new Euroregions: Upper Prut and Low Danube. Since the moment of their foundation, both Euroregions passed through some stages of their development. I am going to consider mainly CBC problems regarding Upper Prut activity hereby. Initially, the territories engaged in the framework of newly established Euroregions have been marked with many similar traits of their economic and social evolution. They were mostly peripheral regions with regard to their national capitals; underdeveloped in comparison

with some more advanced core territories; agrarian and facing with a deficit of a well-developed infrastructure. These made the regional political and business elite more agreeable with suggested terms and goals of the perspective closer cooperation. To add they all have been expecting some considerable benefits from the CBC, relying mainly on the EU related funds availability. Some of these hopes have come true, while many still have not.

First of all, analyzing the reasons behind the process of the slowing down of the pace and effectiveness of CBC in the given region one has to take into account the growing disparity of the three components of the region. While Suceava region has made some obvious advancement with somewhat lagging behind Botosani region, the northern districts of Moldova remain under pretty bad social and economic conditions. Chernivtsi and Ivano-Frankivsk regions are in a somewhat in-between position but they have been overwhelmed with a narrow agenda of mere survival recently.

Secondly, institutional structures and mechanisms of cooperation in the Euroregions are grounded predominantly on the very capability and good will of regional (and administrative) elite to outline the agenda of CBC and then set it in motion.

Thirdly, their dependence on the good-will and making a free contribution toward moving forward this 'joint venture' seemed a dominant trait there. Looking at this dimension of the Euroregion activity it's reasonable to state a lack of the true devotion and incentives that are applied towards the betterment of its institutional capacity and operational mode. Moreover, in recent years official structures of the Euroregion have been deactivated and which have worked with the lowest possible productivity due to the tacit consent such a situation engender within this structure.

Fourthly, the Upper Prut Euroregion remains till now by its nature regional elitists project, and is hardly accessible for regular partnership and full-fledged participations with NGOs and activities of regional Civic Society. Last but not least what the so-called ordinary people know about the CBC operations is as little as what is derived from real fruits of the Euroregion's very existence. Still, some attempt to revive the activity of CBC and Euroregions took place last year. Once again Romanian and Ukrainian counterparts took a lead in this process.

The newest turn of the events with regard to CBC in the region under consideration is security threats, where all partners have their



peculiar concerns and at the same time some common challenges to deal with. Initially, when they dealt with the security issues they mainly reflected on some natural disasters threats like floods or were preoccupied with possible technological catastrophe preventions. Hereby they succeed somehow to cope with them. Russian aggression against Ukraine, information war against the latter as well as against Moldova and many of the EU members' states forced their attention to be shifted toward military and other collateral risks in the region. Unfortunately, the CBC mechanisms of cooperation do not suit these new realities very well. For instance, long-standing debate on minority protections now seems to be an even more inflammable issue. Thus, partners from Romania, Moldova and Ukraine have to excise scrutiny and take precaution more than they ever did before. Finally, the activity as well as mechanisms and instruments of CBC in the framework of Upper Prut do require concerted efforts in order to make them function duly. Otherwise the whole structure of the Euroregion will end up being a mausoleum of vanished hopes and groundless aspirations.

**Mirela Mărcuț**, University of Oradea, *Smart cities - opportunities for CBC.*

The purpose of this presentation is to propose a framework for cooperation between cities beyond borders with the technological development projects and digital transformation. The hypothesis pursued is that local and/or regional authorities are important actors in digital transformation, although currently the European Union is focusing its efforts on top to bottom initiatives to help build the Digital Single Market. At the same time, the digital progress of the EU experiences fragmentation between Member States, but cities can also contribute to its elimination by pursuing smart city initiatives that can function across the border.

**Mészáros Edina Lilla**, University of Oradea, *Cross-border cooperation in the fight against organized crime at the EU's Eastern border*, The successive enlargements from 2004 and 2007 of the EU had extended its borders, leading not simply to the creation of a new and longer Eastern borders, but also to a new border regime in the form of the European Neighbourhood Policy. All these geopolitical transformations from the last two decades set an Eastern frontier for

the EU and with this Eastern frontier the Community got closer to the so called risky, troubled areas, reaching the “Wild East.” In the Western eyes the former communist/Soviet space is being perceived as a region generator of threats and challenges of instability, such as: illegal migration, organized crime, ideological radicalism, religious violence, human-, arms- and weapons trafficking, public health concerns, frozen conflicts, cyber crime, territorial disputes etc. With the enlargements the EU became a close neighbour of criminal groups, gangs originating from the “Wild East”, which by undertaking criminal activities have become a serious threat and risk to the European welfare state system, leading to a heavy securitization of EU external borders. In order to tackle the various forms of organised crime, heavy securitization measures are not enough, and proactive cross-border cooperation is needed with the countries from the close vicinity. Thus, in the current research we target to evaluate the efficiency of cross-border cooperation in the fight against organised crime between the EU and the EaP countries. We propose a dual approach, as within these lines not just the performance and level of commitment of the EaP countries in the fight against organised crime shall be measured through the inspection of their Association and Implementation respectively Progress Reports, but also the efficiency of EU initiatives in relation with the EaP countries in the field, like its civilian missions launched under the aegis of CSDP, such as EUBAM and EUAM and other Community projects like the EU Action against Drugs and Organised Crime (EU-ACT) and the Eastern Partnership Police Cooperation Programme.

**Nataliya Nechayeva-Yuriychuk**, Chernivtsi Jury Fedkovych National University, Ukraine, *Problems of cross-border cooperation development along the EU external borders*. In the past years huge changes occurred in the geopolitical development of the world. One of the most remarkable was the Revolution of Dignity in Ukraine and further events including the annexation of Crimea, war at the east borders of Ukraine, migrant crises in the EU etc. That’s why the main attention will be paid to the challenges and problems of cross-border cooperation in the security and information sphere. While in traditional security measurement the situation is developing more or less stable in information sphere the situation is much more complicated. Every state at the external border of the EU has its own

information interests and policy and for their neighbouring countries it is not the same. The brightest examples – the interethnic communication between EU member states (like Hungary, Poland, Romania) and Ukraine, for example, on adopting the new Law on Education.

For our point of view the establishment and further development of existing mechanism of cooperation in the sphere of education can positively influence on solution of this problem.

**Marta Pachocka** Ph.D., SGH Warsaw School of Economics, *Unpacking the European Agenda on Migration – policy vacuum or successful framing of migration governance in the EU?*, The migration and refugee crisis in Europe and its consequences exposed the need for a far-reaching reform of EU's migration, asylum and border management policy. This was reflected in the European Commission's communication on the European Agenda on Migration from May 2015 and since then it has been regularly repeated in progress reports on its implementation. The Agenda – a strategic document in the field of EU's migration management – aimed at building up a coherent and comprehensive approach of the Union to “reap the benefits and address the challenges deriving from migration”. Consequently, it identified emergency actions to be taken immediately in the EU and its neighbourhood to face the most urgent challenges of the crisis. It also proposed several actions to better manage migration in medium and long term under four main action pillars: 1. reducing the incentives for irregular migration, 2. saving lives and securing the external borders, 3. strengthening the common asylum policy, and 4. developing a new policy on legal migration. In December 2018, the European Commission in its communication on the progress under the European Agenda on Migration stated that the EU and its Member States had established a comprehensive approach to migration management and related challenges, composing of three core action elements, encompassing action with partners outside the EU, at EU's external borders and inside the EU. However, at the same time, the report stressed that “it is time to move away from temporary internal border controls and ad hoc migration management, towards sustainable solutions”. The aim of this paper is to present and discuss the assumptions and scope of the European Agenda on Migration and the effectiveness of its

implementation from 2015 to 2019, considering various circumstances. The author's ambition is to examine the extent to which this document is a policy vacuum or successful framing of migration governance in the EU.

**Khrystyna Prytula, Olena Pasternak**, M.I. Dolishniy Institute of Regional Research of NAS of Ukraine, *Features of the formation and functioning of global value chains in the EU-Ukraine cross-border area*. In today's globalized world, the key to a successful development of the country is its entry into the global value chains (GVCs). The processes of globalization cause competition that is not only between the countries of the world, but between regions, cities and even companies. The European integration intentions of Ukraine, which were updated with the signing of the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the EU, opened the door for greater access of Ukrainian enterprises to the world market. Ukraine has had the opportunity to participate in certain stages of production chains, including large multinational corporations. In this context, the article analyzes theoretical principles and practical recommendations for increasing the participation of cross-border regions of Ukraine in GVCs. The article deals with various scientific approaches to the interpretation of the concept of «global value chain». The classification of GVCs is proposed. The place of Ukraine in the world according to separate indicators of the World Competitiveness Index, which concern the participation of countries in GVCs, is outlined. The research of foreign economic activity of the largest enterprises of the border regions of Ukraine has been carried out. Special attention is paid to their cooperation with Poland, Slovakia, Romania, Belarus and Moldova. The role of clusters, including cross-border ones, in GVCs has been outlined. Recommendations for activating the participation of cross-border regions of Ukraine in GVCs are proposed.

**Magdalena Proczek**, SGH Warsaw School of Economics, *The Carpathian Euroregion – partnership across borders. The specificity of the Euroregion and sources of financing its activities*. Despite their peripheral location on the periphery and the resulting peripheral characteristics, border areas play a significant role in the integration

and development of European countries and regions. The complexity of Euroregions as entities and the way in which they function makes them an interesting research area. At the same time, research on cross-border areas is important for shaping the socio-economic development of the regions, and thus of the countries, as well as for deepening the cooperation of neighbouring countries.

The main subject of the analysis will be the Carpathian Euroregion as an example of social and economic territorial cooperation of five countries, including Poland and Romania, in the field of economy, ecology, culture, science and education, due to the activation and dynamic involvement of institutions and organisations, which in the area of their activities refer to the idea of partnership across borders, as well as those local communities which are the best oriented in the developmental needs of their areas. The conditions of cooperation and functioning, as well as the legal basis of the Euroregion will be presented. The main objective, however, will be to discuss the sources of financing for the Carpathian Euroregion's activities, with particular emphasis on the EU funds, currently allocated to the protection, promotion and development of environmental and cultural heritage resources, development of road infrastructure, education and vocational training, which is aimed at adapting to the requirements of the cross-border labour market.

**Simion Roșca**, Institute of International Relations of Moldova (IRIM), *Cultural diversity by principle of transfrontal Cooperation programs*. The world's cultural landscape has changed rapidly over the past few decades. The demand for exchanges and intercultural cooperation has grown with the digital revolution. In a world that is facing many challenges and conflicts, culture has great potential to overcome divisions, strengthen fragile societies, and improve international relations. Europe is perceived in the world as a continent with a rich and extremely creative cultural heritage. Culture must therefore be an integral part of the European Union's external action. In the Motion for a resolution of 2018 on boosting economic growth and cohesion in the EU's border regions, the European Parliament underlined the importance of education and culture and, in particular, opportunities to step up efforts to promote multilingualism and intercultural dialogue in border regions. The European Parliament's Committee on Culture and Education has also recommended the inclusion of

several suggestions in the above-mentioned Motions for resolutions, highlighting in particular the importance of cross-border cooperation programs, including macro-regional and interregional programs, to finance educational, cultural, creative activities, sports, arts and other activities whose European added value brings citizens closer together, creates cross-border synergies, promotes mutual trust and understanding, and contributes to tackling different prejudices and stereotypes in border regions. So, Europe's cultural relations with other countries are already strong. Member States already have extensive cultural links dating back centuries, and Europe enjoys a good reputation in the world for its cultural traditions and creations. As requested by the Council and Parliament, coordinated actions at EU level, based on "intelligent complementarity", can help strengthen these links by creating synergies, pooling resources, facilitating cooperation, including cross-border cooperation, and by increasing the visibility of cultural exchanges and actions.

**Iryna Storonyanska, Anna Maksymenko, M. I. Dolishniy** Institute of Regional Research of NAS of Ukraine, *Economic Challenges of Development of Territorial Communities: The Case of EU Border Regions of Ukraine*. A municipal self-government reform called as decentralization of power in Ukraine has been arising. During 2015-2018, there was the First Stage of decentralization of power in Ukraine. This reform provides the establishing of territorial communities (the "ATCs"). New amalgamated territorial communities have new responsibilities. During November 2018, an expert survey among authorities of local self-government of Carpathian region was conducted in order to assess the changes in the various spheres of social and economic life of the communities and to identify the problems that hamper the intensive socio-economic development of ATCs. This survey covered 70 territorial communities of the Carpathian region (which includes Transcarpathian, Ivano-Frankivsk, Lviv and Chernivtsi oblasts) out of 90 formed during 2015-2017 and 78 % response rate was achieved. In such a survey we estimated, which changes in infrastructure occurred and how authorities of territorial communities provided services for their citizens. But the most significant questions concerned tools, which are used for its development. According to survey, the funds of programs of the regional level, subventions on socio-economic development of

separate territories and State Regional Development Fund were most frequently used. It should be emphasized that 13% of amalgamated territorial communities used the programs of cross-border cooperation for their development. One of the objectives of the poll was to assess the problems faced by communities after formation. The least important was the lack of cooperation between territorial communities. The most acute problems were related to the human capital of the community, in particular: the low activity of the citizens in solving the issues of the community; limited employment opportunities in the community and migration. Finally, recommendations for prospect of their development were given.

**Luminița Șoproni**, University of Oradea, *Cross-border region branding – tool for differentiation and positioning in regional competition*. Cross-border regions, with their unique characteristics, with specific human, economic and social resources, are new forms of association established by market-driven and private-sector principles which imply multiple interactions between non-state actors. In this context, the state is complemented by other actors, operating in a more complex environment. The state functions are largely transferred to regional bodies and private companies, both engaged in cross-border competition to attract the resources needed for development. The decisions of these actors are influenced by the actions of other firms and governments in their proximity. At the inter-regional level, the brand has the objective of enhancing the cooperation between the partner-regions, to sustain the local development and to promote the shared values of the territory. Even if the cross-border areas have different cultural backgrounds, their cooperation can determine a framework for dialogue and cohesion.

**Corina Tursie**, West University of Timișoara, European Capitals of Culture and Cross-Border Urban Cohesion. The title of "European Capital of Culture" (ECoC) has a dynamic history across several generations of Capitals. Initiated in 1985, with the aim of bringing the European citizens closer together, the project has been adjusted to address the weaknesses of the initiative in terms of lack of sustainability and community development. Since 2014, the main objectives have been the safeguarding, development and promotion of European cultural

diversity and cultural heritage and the strengthening of the competitiveness of the European cultural and creative sectors, with a view to supporting smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. Achieving these goals must also contribute to three other objectives: strengthening the sense of belonging to a common cultural space; promoting social inclusion and equal opportunities, with special attention being paid to young people and marginalised and disadvantaged groups; being part of a long-term strategy with a lasting impact on local economic, cultural and social development.

More specifically, some ECoC are cities located in border regions (Lille 2004, Luxembourg-Grande Region 2007, Pécs 2010, Košice 2013, Mons 2015, Donostia 2016, Rijeka 2020, Novi Sad, 2021, Timișoara 2021, Esch-sur-Alzette 2022, candidate cities Debrecen 2023, NovaGorica 2025, Chemnitz, Dresden 2025 ...). The discussion is then directed towards the "cross-border" dimension of this particular cultural program.

CECCUT is an academic network aiming to discuss both the new dynamics generated by ECoC and the cultural policies specific to cross-border regions. After all, the establishment of a cultural policy considering urban spaces in neighboring countries is a fundamental step to support community integration, especially since one-third of Europeans live in cross-border regions. CECCUT's objective is therefore to intersect the works concerned by ECoC with those concerned by cross-border cultural policies and, thus, to bring original elements of analysis of cross-border ECoC. The three dimensions of strengthening the sense of belonging, social inclusion and / or sustainable development are allowing to articulate the research.

**Constantin-Vasile Țoca**, University of Oradea, *Methods of Evaluation in the CBC*. The field of cross-border cooperation is gaining more and more importance in the contemporary period both from a theoretical and a practical point of view, especially through the real and visible results at the borders that lead to sustainable development and the increase of the quality of life in the border regions. In this respect, the field of CBC requires a sustained approach of the methodological dimension for assessing this aspect by implementing specific methods and tools. Through the evaluation process, we can measure the performance of a program and there is the possibility of finding solutions to existing problems. The CBC assessment can highlight



the reflections on programme performance and offer the possibility to receive feedback on the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and consistency of cross-border programs as well as other forms of cross-border cooperation such as EGTCs and Euroregions. The main forms of CBC assessment on which we shall focus on are: ex-ante, on-going, ex-post evaluations. However, other evaluation methods specific to the field of sociology or international relations, such as sociological inquiry based on the sociological questionnaire, the interview, etc., should not be neglected. The practical dimension of the paper will refer to the ex-post evaluation of the HU-RO 2007-2013 Cross-Border Cooperation Program and a questionnaire survey that highlights the development of cross-border cooperation in the Euroregion Bihor-Hajdu Bihar, Oradea and Debrecen communities.



## About Oradea

Located just 8 miles from the Hungarian border and spanning both shores of the Crișul Repede River, the elegant city of Oradea is a great starting point for exploring Romania.

First documented in 1113, under the Latin name *Varadinum*, the city was administered at various times by the Principality of Transylvania, the Ottoman Empire, and the Habsburg Monarchy. In 1598, the Oradea fortress was besieged and, on August 27, 1660, it fell to the Ottoman raids, only to be seized in 1692 by the Austrians.

Until the construction of flood-banks along the length of the Crișul Repede River, Oradea was facing constant flooding threats. In 1836 a large part of the town was destroyed by fire. The picturesque town of present-day Oradea was rebuilt in the 18th century to the plans of Viennese engineer Franz Anton Hillebrandt following the then-trendy Austrian architectural style called *Secession* with its richly decorated facades of pale pink, blue, green and white. In addition to the many Baroque buildings, Oradea is remarkable for its particularly rich collection of Art Nouveau architecture.

Oradea (*Nagyvarad/Grossvardein*), the Capital City of Bihor County, is one of the important economic, social and cultural centres of north-western Romania, holding on to these characteristics throughout its history. The city is nestled among hills that divide and unify the Crișana Plains and the hill-like limits of the Apuseni Mountains in a harmonious way. Located on the Crișul Repede River which divides the city into almost equal halves, it is the gateway to Central Europe and Western Europe.



Located about 10 km from Hungarian- Romanian Border, - Oradea ranks tenth in size out of the Romanian cities. Specifically, it covers an area of 11,556 ha.

### 1. Oradea – Multicultural Area

In Oradea lived 226.000 inhabitants (more 250.000 in the metropolitan area). It is a multiethnic city, where beside Romanians (65%)

also live Hungarians (27%), Roma, Slovaks, Germans, Hebrews, and other communities. It is also a multi-confessional city, with over 50 cult places, belonging to the Orthodox, Protestant (Calvinist), Roman Catholic, Greco-Catholic, neo-protestant (Baptist, Pentecostal, Adventist, etc.) and to the mosaic cults. Of course, such a spiritual wealth is materialized in an architectural splendour that includes churches from the late Middle Ages, from the 18th-19th centuries (the Roman Catholic Bishopric's Palace and Cathedral, the Moon Church, St. Nicholas Church), and recent ones such as the New Orthodox Cathedral, Monastery of the Holy Cross, Greco-Catholic Monastery in Olosig, or the monumental Baptist Church (the largest in Europe).

## 2. Most Important Tourist Attractions



With a history of almost 1000 years, **Oradea Fortress** has every asset to become a first rate tourist attraction, not only for the city on the banks of the Crişul Repede River, but also for the western region of Romania, and, in a wider sense, for the Central-Eastern-European area. Its historic past, architecture, the stories and legends about certain events, which left their mark on its existence, all of these converge to give it a note of attractiveness and originality coveted by many other monuments.



Oradea Fortress, the cradle, the core out of which the city known as Oradea Mare, Nagyvárad or Grosswardein grew, is a reference point for the urban development and history of this area.

**St. Ladislau Square** from old times received the current name of (*Union Square*) between the two World Wars. Unirii Square is marked by City Hall, the Greek Catholic Episcopal Palace, the Church with Moon, the Black Eagle Palace, St. Ierarh Nicolae Orthodox Church and the St. Ladislau Church. In the centre of the square the statue of King Ferdinand I was placed in 1924, the founder of Great Romania. Currently there is the statue of Mihai Viteazul, a place where, every year, the city's authorities and citizens pay homage to the fallen heroes.



**The Black Eagle Complex** is probably the most monumental architectural accomplishment in Oradea and in Transylvania, as far as the Secession building style is concerned. The contest to build this architectural complex was won by architects Komor Marcell and Jakab Dezső. Its construction, on the old location of the “Black Eagle” Inn, begins in 1907, under the supervision of construction engineer Sztarill Ferenc, and in December 1908, the edification is complete.



Comprised by two unequal and asymmetrical building bodies, connected to a third, much retracted one, in the middle, the complex was to house: a theatre, ballrooms, a casino, offices and so on. The Y-shaped passage with its three entry points (main entry in Unirii Square, secondary entrances on V. Alecsandri and Independenței Streets), the staggering avalanche of curved lines, the alternation of stucco-bass reliefs with floral and figurative motifs, the stained glass and the colossal chandeliers are compositionally organized in such a symmetrical way that the eminence of the edifice cannot be contested.



The Black Eagle Palace the one-time hotel was built in the period 1907-1909 on the base of the old Eagle guesthouse. The ensemble equipped with a glass covered passage making the connection between three streets became the most important realization of the architect couple Marcell Komor and Dezso Jakab. The glass painting with the black eagle the ensemble's emblem was executed in 1909 in the Oradean Neumann workshop.



The church 'The Assumption of Mary', also known as '**The Moon Church**' is located in front of the Greek-Catholic cathedral, in the South-East corner of Unirii Square. Construction work at this church started in November 1784, when Transylvania was troubled by one of the most powerful peasant movements. The architect who drew the plan of the church was Iácob Eder and the entrepreneur behind it, Ioann Lins. The walls were erected in 1790 and on 17th November of the same year the first mass was celebrated here. The consecration of the church took place much later, more than four decades after, in 1832, when the interior painting was also finalized.

The style of this church is late-Baroque with marked Classical elements, but also with a strong indigenous, provincial influence. The interior is confined to the rigid norms of spatial development of the Byzantine style, and it rigorously follows the canons of this church. On the iconostasis there used to be a painting of Horea, one of the leaders of the 1784 riot, which many historians believed to be the only accurate representation of his face. Nowadays, it has been replaced with a copy and the original is to be found in the Orthodox Bishopric's Museum of Oradea.



**The church of 'Saint Nicholas'** – the Greek-Catholic cathedral, in relative extension to the bishopric, in Unirii Square, was built between 1800 and 1810. Its architect and constructor are unknown, but the style is well defined, representing classical Baroque. The interior decoration, typical for individualizing Romanian Greek-Catholics in the Catholic world is Byzantine. The building fell to the fire in 1836 and it was rebuilt with great efforts and spending until 1870. In the same period the Byzantine pinnacle was added to the tower. A new fire affected the tower in 1907. Its restoration was carried out between 1910 and 1912, when the sumptuous Baroque pinnacle was added, still visible today.

The interior decoration is rich and masterly. The painting follows to a great extent the typical rigors imposed by Byzantine Greek-Orthodox religious art, especially around the iconostasis. Among others, the unperceivable differences in appearance and rite lead to the usage of this place of worship as a high-rank Orthodox Church after the communist regime outlawed the Greek-Catholic rite. The restoration of democracy changed this status quo, and the church became what it had been initially, i.e. a Greek-Catholic cathedral.





**Zion Synagogue** is one of the **most** monumental synagogues Central and Eastern Europe, the third largest in Europe with 1000 seats.

The history of Oradea is closely linked to the presence of the Jewish community on these lands, which have contributed to the development and appearance of Oradea.

The Neolog Synagogue Zion was built on the bank of Crişul Repede by the Jewish community, which emerged after the split of the Jewish community from Oradea, the Orthodox and Congressional communities in 1870, which later became the name of the neolog community.

The Synagogue is located on the shores of Crişului Repede, and the entrance to the building is from Independence Street. The project of the synagogue was made by the chief engineer of the city, Dávid Busch, a project of an eclectic building with Moorish oriental influences, influenced by the new theories of the second half of the nineteenth century, which emphasized the Oriental origins of the Jewish people. He commissioned the work of the famous architect of the city, Kálmán Rimanóczy sr.

Another interesting aspect is the orientation of the inner space is determined by the direction of Jerusalem, so most of the synagogues in Europe are oriented to the north-east and south-west.

The Tourist Information Centre in the **City Hall Tower** of Oradea is the first tourist information point in Oradea created after 1989.



The City Hall Tower is located in the wing of the building facing the Tudor Vladimirescu street and has a height of about 50 m. It has four main levels, three for panorama purpose.

In the **First Level** is the horologe mechanism – called “mother clock”. The Clock at the highest altitude plays the “March of Iancu” every hour and it was built in the early twentieth century, in 1904 by a watchmaker named Mezey Dezső.

Currently the clock from The City Hall Tower is cared for by Csaba Sándor Nagy. Thanks to him, the operation mode of the clock has changed since 1992. If until 1992 inertia from the weight worked the clock and the pendulum, the pendulum is now electronically controlled, resulting movements of the axles and gears to his pointers dials.

The clock consists of four parts – the dials, located at the top on each side of the lens. The dial in front, facing the river Criș, was made of thick glass, named glass of milk and had rear illumination. After the war, in 1944, the front dial was changed and the glass replaced with a sheet of tin, as was done for the other quadrants.

The clock has survived two World Wars, and the roof and wall of the tower survived two fires, the first in 1917 and the second in 1944. The clock face retains even today the bullet holes from the war in 1944.

**Level II** presents a panorama from 33.85 m. In the “File of Bihor’s fire fighters history” Volume II, published in 2001, it was stated that in 1904, the point of observation for city fires moves to the new building of the Town Hall tower, announcing with the knocking on the bell, according to the area where the fire started – 2 beats New Town, West Olosig (ret) 3 beats, 4 beats Olosig East, Velenta 5 beats and Velenta South 6 beats. On the observation tower, in the daytime there was a red flag on the direction of the fire, and an electric reflector at night.

**At the third level**, at 40.25 m, more functional huge hammers that beat three times every quarter of an hour are mounted on the balcony parapet.

**The fourth level** enables detailed observation of the landmarks in the downtown area with a telescope. Access to this level can be achieved in a number of maximum of 5 persons due to space limitation.

**The Baroque Palace** (Șirul Canonicilor Street) was built between 1761 and 1777. It is part of the same architectural complex and is, again, the work of the Viennese architect Franz Anton Hillebrandt. After the cornerstone was set on May 23rd 1762, the work took place under the supervision of the Austrian construction engineer Johann Michael Neumann.

The palace building is distinguished by its exterior monumentality and its interior grandeur. It is shaped as a giant U, its facade is 102.3 m wide, and its lateral wings are 25 m long. The style used in its design is a French import, via Austria, namely the French Palatine Baroque, also known as “courd’ honneur”. There are 282 windows on the three floors of the building. It is notable that, although this palace did not entirely follow the initial designs, which would have increased its architectural value, it is the most important and extensive Baroque project in our country and, probably, in SE Europe.





The Roman-Catholic Cathedral 'The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary' is located on the Șirul Canonicilor Street, inside the Baroque Complex Park, where one can also find the Roman-Catholic Bishopric Palace, and it represents the fourth Diocese of the Roman-Catholic denomination in Oradea. Access to this house of worship is either through the main gate of the Baroque Complex, or through the gate that leads to the nave of the church. The building is the work of Franz Anton Hillebrandt, an architect from Vienna who accepted the proposal of bishop Paulus Forgács to design it. What is interesting to mention is that from 1750 until 1st May 1752 when the foundation was laid, the Austrian architect's name was ubiquitous, but from this moment on, it disappeared only to be replaced by that of Italian constructor Giovanni Battista Ricca.



Some sort of bad omen hung above those names linked to this place of worship, since the Italian artist died in 1756. The arrival of a new bishop, Ádám Patachich, gave a new stimulus for the construction. He

settled things in such a way that, parallel with the construction of the Baroque Palace, the same Franz Anton Hillebrandt, who in the meantime became chief-architect for the Imperial Court, would be the supervisor of the cathedral's construction by Austrian Johann Michael Neumann. From 1761, Ricca's plans were revised and replaced, so that instead of a North-Italian Baroque style basilica, the building would be erected in the late-Austrian Baroque style. After several amendments to the plan and after construction stalemates, works ended in the summer of 1779. The consecration of the church was done a year later, on 25th June, 1780.

### 3. Entertainment Places

Designed ingeniously, in the latest technology, the **Nymphaea Aquapark** will fully satisfy your imagination and calm your thirst for adventure, revitalizing your baby.

With an arsenal of 10 exciting waterslides, 15 swimming and relaxation pools, special playgrounds for children, 6 saunas, massage parlours, Turkish baths, sports grounds and restaurants, Nymphaea Aquapark holds the supremacy of fun in Transylvania. It will introduce you into an unreal world, a small tropical island, creating a perfect day of relaxation in any season.



Here you will always come back with pleasure. Try the new attraction and you will not regret!

### **“Best thermal water in Baile Felix”!**

Established in the 18th century, Baile Felix is currently Romania's largest health resort, open year-round. The thermal waters found here, very rich in oligo minerals, are supplemented by sapropelic mud. This natural combination has proven helpful in easing the effects of rheumatism and some paralysis, as well as gynaecological conditions and nervous disorders.



### **Cris County Museum**

1872 marked the beginning of the activity for the Bihor County Archaeology and History Society, one of its main goals being the construction of a county museum. With the support of local authorities, Oradea's first museum was opened in June 1896, in an eclectic building that was finalized in 1895, especially designed by the famous architect Rimanoczy Kalman with this purpose.



The nine main rooms of the museum displayed archaeology, history and ethnography pieces. Nevertheless, this museum represented an appropriate frame and background for the enlargement of the existing collections, and its presence created the need for conservation and storage measures. In 1918 the museum owned 17.640 pieces, out of which 1377 were

part of the private collection of the catholic bishop Ipolyi Arnold. In 1896 the first building especially projected to host a museum opened its gates to the public, and on the 17 of January it became the Tara Crisurilor Museum, one of the largest of its kind in Romania. Both dates are significant for the Romanian museology because they mark the starting point of different stages of collection organization of the objects- most of them testimonials of the western Romanian culture a land where Romanian Hungarian, Slovakian and Swab cultures meet.

Today after 110 years of existence, the Museum has arrived at an age of maturity becoming an important local, national and European cultural reality. At this point of high hopes projected into the future the museum is preparing to relocate in a new building, organized according to the requests of the present times, a location that we hope to be permanent and preserve a special consideration to the museum's patrimony.

The vivarium of the Nature Sciences Section will be soon open to the public.



Exceptional Exhibitions - The Leonardo da Vinci Manuscripts and Inventions at the "Tarii Crisurilor" Museum in Oradea until 15 June 2018.

## 4. UNIVERSITY OF ORADEA

Oradea University, one of the largest in Romania, more 15.000 students is an excellent educational centre in Western of Romania.



In the year 2020, The University will celebrated 240 of years since the creation of Academic Education System from Oradea and 57 of years of continuous university education in Oradea.

In the illuminist atmosphere of the end of XVIIIth century, a “superior institution of philosophic academic learning “took place in Oradea in 1780 ,transforming into the Faculty of Law, the oldest faculty not only from the territory of actual Romania, but from a larger region of Eastern Europe.

Our mission, of the University of Oradea, is to promote knowledge, research and training through partnerships between teachers, students and community.

In the last 28 years, the University answered to the changes occurred within the national-educational policy, demographic changes, requirements of the market economy, local and regional needs and new technologies.

The University of Oradea is a creative, energetic, active and innovative university. Teachers, professors and researchers are very enthusiastic and determined to experience all the new opportunities offered by informational technology.





In addition, modern multimedia tools are available in most classrooms in the new building.

Today, the University of Oradea is an integrated institution of higher education of this kind, comprising 15 faculties.

Its mission is to train and educate on a large scale both the students and also the high education graduates, as well as to approach certain domains of science and technology at high level.

The structure of the University contains academic education, postgraduate education and scientific research.

The University of Oradea expanded itself by developing new faculties and research teams, as well as by developing certain specializations inside the existing faculties.

Inside the University of Oradea the education and research activity is developing in the area of natural and physical sciences, as well as in the area of social and human sciences, covering the following: Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Sciences of Life, Agricultural Sciences, Medical Sciences, Technological Sciences, Economical Sciences, Geography, History, Juridical Sciences and Law, Linguistics, Pedagogy, Political Sciences, Psychology, Letters and Arts, Sociology, International relations and European Studies, Journalism and Sciences of Communications. The educational process is based on the curricula for long term studies, short term studies, postgraduate's studies, master, doctoral studies and programs of continuous education and Distance Open Education.

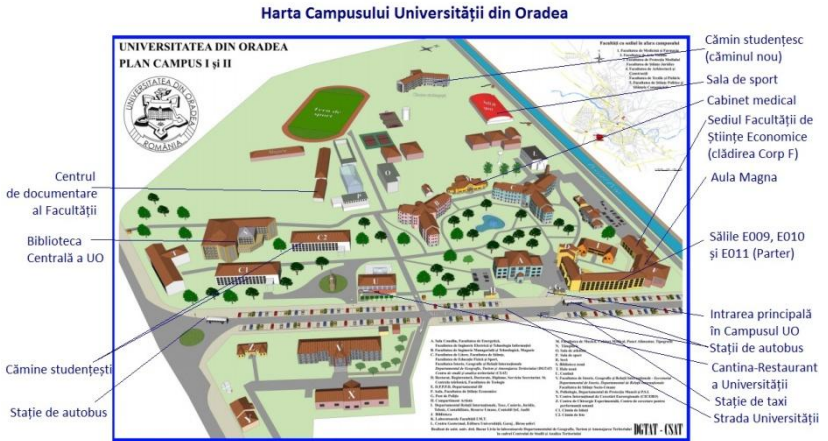


Library of the University of Oradea

In Oradea, a university centre with a tradition of more than two centuries, the program of International Relations and European Studies was established in 2003 and accredited in the spring of 2008, within the Department bearing the same name and has since become one of the most effective, efficient and dynamic program in our University. The national performance of the teaching staff, a relatively young one, has resulted in the grade received for the activity of research– the first place on the national level in the National Exercise of Research Assessment – NERA, the Excellence Award received from the European Institute of Romania and the Grand Trophy of the Education Section won at the Gala of European Values Multipliers in Northern Transylvania.

During the studies, students from Oradea are given the opportunity to get Erasmus scholarships – that contribute to the completion of the professional training – or placement – to the improvement of their practical skills in over 60 universities from Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Latvia, UK, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain and Hungary. Practical training is completed by attending specialized training courses taking place in various local institutions whose activities are compatible with the field of International Relations and European Studies (Bihar County Council, Oradea City Council, Oradea City Hall, Oradea Metropolitan Area Association, Oradea Local Council of SMEs, Centre of Information and European Consulting and so on). There is a field trip organized annually, including a visit to the main regional, national and

European institutions involved in the integration process of Romania into the EU, namely in the international bodies and organizations.



More details to visit the official site: [www.uoradea.ro](http://www.uoradea.ro)

## 5. THE INSTITUTE FOR EUROREGIONAL STUDIES

The Institute for Euroregional Studies Oradea-Debreceen was named in 2005 through the Jean Monnet project no C05/0015 of the Jean Monnet Action as a “Jean Monnet Center of Excellence”

Since January 2008, IERS became legal entity registered at the University of Oradea, str Universitatii, no, Tax Code Ro24216932 with the name: ***The Association of Institute for Euroregional Studies (IERS) "Jean Monnet" European Center of Excellence***

- *IERS promotes excellence in the field of regional development and European territorial cooperation (special cross-border cooperation)*
- *ISER develops projects in partnership with universities, public local and regional authorities, business environment*
- *ISER help the education structure in the field of International Relations and European Studies*
- *ISER develop the networking for twinning local communities; regional universities networking (Oradea – Debreceen – Kosice); networking with business associative structures (business federations, SME local councils, Chambers of commerce); networking with business enterprises, Oradea HUMINT NATO Center of Excellence, School for Border Police from Oradea*

*ISER has developed the institutional relationships with The International Institute of Administrative Sciences of Brussels, the Centre of Interdisciplinary Studies of the 20<sup>th</sup> century from the University of Coimbra, Centre Virtual of European Knowledge (Luxembourg), M.I. Dolishnyj of National Academy of Science of Ukraine Lviv, European Evaluation Society and from other research institution from SNSPA Bucharest, University Babes-Bolyai Cluj-Napoca, Center of European Studies of University “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” Iasi.*

ISER has very good collaborations with the NATO Excellence Center in Romania, based in Oradea and with the Border Police School from Oradea.

ISER is a owner of Data Base concerning the Curriculum in European Studies until 2010 in 12 countries (see [www.iser.uoradea.ro](http://www.iser.uoradea.ro))

ISER is owner of Data Base ICMEEB with 2000 primary resources (documents and archives) and more 2500 secondary sources (bibliographies) concerning borders and cross-border Cooperation (see [www.iser.uoradea.ro](http://www.iser.uoradea.ro))

ISER has a specialized Library in Borders and CBC studies and regional studies

ISER is the editor of *Eurolimes* journal in Borders and CBC studies. Since 2006, it has published 26 issues (see [www.iser.uoradea.ro](http://www.iser.uoradea.ro)),

ISER was awarded in 2014 whit Excellence Price of Romanian Institute of Europea Studies

ISER has 200 m<sup>2</sup> concession space consisting in 3 research laboratories, 2 classrooms / seminars and 1 laboratory with 24 calculators, magnetic board, high performance printers