

**HUNGARIAN REGIONAL SCIENCE  
ASSOCIATION  
9<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING**

**The role of waters in spatial development  
Development problems and opportunities  
of the Danube and Tisza regions**

**Komárno, 24–25 November 2011**

**Selye János University  
Conference Centre**



**HUNGARIAN REGIONAL  
SCIENCE ASSOCIATION**

**24 November 2011, Thursday**

Rivers and lakes are unique stakeholders in the formation of regions. In historical scale they have determined the internal structure of a given area, providing a valuable resource even in our days the value of which can hardly be overestimated in regional development. At the same time, in the exploitation of this resource we must pay attention to the specific ecological system without the protection of which our water-based economy on and the spatial structure of our regions may collapse. Hungary is in a particularly delicate situation which implies that besides the consideration of questions related to sustainability and the ecology, we must also be aware of the fact that water utilisation raises international questions since the overwhelming majority of our waters come from areas outside our borders. We must also consider that climate change contributes to the revaluation of this natural resource which may produce several problems and represent a significant value at the same time.

It is evident that the investigation of waters and spatial development can only produce realistic results if we analyse various, constantly changing systems simultaneously. Technical and natural sciences have a long history in the domain of water research. We feel that new challenges await social sciences including regional science in the examination of the role of social, economic and spatial interactions in the development of natural and technical systems. These results may be incorporated in the process of economic and spatial planning and may provide a new segment of spatial development studies. The objective of our Conference is to investigate this complex system of relations from multiple aspects.

**14.00 Annual meeting**

**Welcome speeches**

JÁNOS TÓTH rector, Selye János University (to be requested)

ANTON MAREK major, Komárno City (to be requested)

**Plenary session**

ETELKA BARSINÉ PATAKY, Government Commissioner for the EU Danube Strategy of the Danube Region  
Danube Strategy and spatial development

BALÁZS DURAY head of department, HAS Centre for Regional Studies Great Plain Research Institute  
The role of border waters in spatial cohesion

LÁSZLÓ G.-TÓTH professor, Szent István University, head of department, HAS Balaton Limnology  
Research Institute

Water as an EU framework guiding principle, the elements of water qualification, value limits,  
intercalibration and applications

ZOLTÁN HAJDÚ scientific advisor, HAS Centre for Regional Studies Transdanubian Research Institute  
Hydraulic energy utilisation debates in Hungary: changing borders, changing systems, changing stakeholders and a sempiternel debate?

TAMÁS HARDI senior research fellow, HAS Centre for Regional Studies West Hungarian Research Institute  
The geopolitical background of the Danube developments and their belatedness

IMRE NAGY professor, University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Natural Sciences  
The role of the Danube and Tisza rivers in spatial formation

TAMÁS NÉMETH secretary general, Hungarian Academy of Sciences  
(title of the presentation under consultation)

JÁNOS TAMÁS professor, University of Debrecen Centre for Agricultural and Applied Economic Sciences  
(title of the presentation under consultation)

### **18.30 Award of the Excellent Young Regionalist Prize**

### **19.00 Reception**

## **25 November 2011, Friday**

**9.00–13.00 Sections** Section work in workshops with several requested presenters  
(section 1-6 in Hungarian, section 7. in English)

#### **1. section: Policy, history and public administration**

*BÉLA BARANYI* scientific advisor, HAS CRS Great Plain Research Institute

#### **2. section: The river as an economic (industrial, innovation) axis**

*GYÖRGYI BARTA* scientific advisor, HAS CRS Central and North Hungarian Research Institute

#### **3. section: Transportation, logistics, water management**

*FERENC ERDŐSI* scientific advisor, HAS CRS Transdanubian Research Institute

#### **4. section: Rural development, agricultural economics, environment, tourism**

*ATTILA BUDAY-SÁNTHA* professor, University of Pécs Faculty of Business and Economics

#### **5. section: Human resources, labour market, migration, culture, identity**

*INGRID SZABÓ* vice-dean, Selye János University Faculty of Economics

#### **6. section: Complex cross-border cooperations**

*MIHÁLY LADOS* head of institute, HAS CRS West Hungarian Research Institute

#### **7. section: The socio-economic effects of the Danube developments in Southeast Europe**

*TAMÁS HARDI* senior research fellow, HAS CRS West Hungarian Research Institute

The programme of the sections is available on the following site: [www.mrtt.hu](http://www.mrtt.hu)

Co-organiser



Selye János University, Komárno