

Gergő Barna – Balázs Kapitány: In 2017, GDP growth was higher than the national average in seven counties of Transylvania

During the period following EU accession, the nominal value calculated in lei of the gross domestic product of Romania doubled. Between 2007 and 2017, the GDP per capita increased from 6,159 to 9565 euro. The weight of the capital region significantly increased, the relative economic performance of Transylvania slightly increased, while that of Moldavia decreased to a significant extent. Within Transylvania, the Szekler and Partium regions show important backlog, as the economic growth was slower in these regions. In the same time, regarding GDP per capita, the counties with large Hungarian populations are in the mid-range (Bihar, Mureş and Sălaj in the upper, Satu-Mare, Covasna and Harghita in the lower-middle range). In 2017, the annual GDP growth calculated on real value was above the average compared to 2016, this value surpassed the national average of 6.9% in seven Transylvanian counties.

Keywords: gross domestic product (GDP), change in the GDP, economic performance

Balázs Kapitány: Economic activity, employment, unemployment: the most important processes in Transylvania in 2018

In 2018, simultaneously with the slowdown of economic growth, compared to previous years, the labour market underwent less favourable processes in Transylvania. These consisted in a low level of activity on the labour market, lower rates of employment compared to the national average, and a rapid economic restructuring coupled with low rates of unemployment. Simultaneously with the contraction of agriculture, the number and rate of employees in the sector of industry are continuously increasing. The rate of industry workers almost reached one-third, which is outstanding both in Romanian and EU context.

Another feature of the Transylvanian labour market – compared to both the domestic and European situation – is the very low level of part-time employment, and the low level of labour market participation of unqualified individuals and women. The employment rate of women is 18% lower than that of men; while the employment rate of people with primary education is 12% lower than the average of EU countries, in Transylvania the employment rate of people with higher education is higher than the EU average.

Keywords: economically active population, employment, employment rate, part time employment, unemployment, unemployment rate, labour market, labour market supply and demand

Andrea Lukács: Decreasing employment, increasing unemployment during the pandemic

In October 2020 in Transylvania the number of employed people was 1979.7 thousand, which represents a decrease of 1.7%, that is of 33.3 thousand individuals compared to October the previous year. The decrease occurred mainly in the sectors of industry and constructions (−3.1%), secondly the services sector, while the number of employees in agriculture slightly increased.

In October 2020 the average net salary per capita was 3,113 lei in Transylvania, which represents an 8.2% (237 lei) increase compared to the same period of the previous year. The average net salary (and the annual increase) in October was 2,615 lei (3,8% increase) in Szeklerland, 2,749 lei (5,8% increase) in Partium, 3,679 lei (11,3% increase) in Central Transylvania.

The number of registered unemployed people in October 2020 was 84.6 thousand. During one year, the number of job seekers increased with 25.8%.

Keywords: employee, average net salary, unemployment, unemployment rate

István Csata – Zsombor Csata: Company activity in Romania and Transylvania

In 2018, the Romanian companies had a turnover of 1,517 billion lei in total. Of this, 42% is the share of companies registered in the capital region, while the share of Transylvanian companies represents 28%. 78 of the 136 companies with an annual turnover surpassing 1 billion lei have their central headquarter in the capital region.

The differences between the Transylvanian regions regarding the company activity and performance are largely due to the extent of urbanization. The indicators of the Szeklerland region are the lowest in Transylvania, as both the entrepreneurial activity and the financial turnout of the companies are below the Transylvanian average. The disadvantageous condition of the Szeklerland region is attributable to the lack of big cities; once the effects of this fact are filtered out, the indicators are better than in North Transylvania or South Transylvania. The density of companies is the highest in Central Transylvania in every company type, while in South Transylvania and the Banat region the presence of big companies is outstanding.

Within Transylvania, the presence of complex industries in South Transylvania and Banat is outstanding, the significance of light industry is relatively higher in Szeklerland and North Transylvania. The sector of intellectual services is strong in Central Transylvania (first of all in Cluj county). The transport sector is relatively more significant in the Partium region than in other Transylvanian regions.

Keywords: company, business, company activity, company performance, density of firms, size of companies, turnover

Ottó Csíki: Industrial activity in Romania and Transylvania

Compared to the EU average, the weight of the industry is relatively high in Central and Eastern Europe, and in Romania specifically. Within Romania, the significance of the industry is outstanding in Transylvania, both in terms of GDP contribution, and the rate of employees in this sector. 44% of employees in the Romanian industry sector works in Transylvania, while 27% of the Transylvanian employees works in industry, which is significantly higher than the 21% national average. Within Transylvania, the complex industrial activity is the most intense in South Transylvania, where the largest enterprise of the region is located. Due to the large automotive industry providers, the industry of the Banat region is also very developed. Compared to other regions, industry is of smaller scale in Szeklerland, where the light industry is considered an important sector. In 2018, the average national net wage of employees in the industry sector was 2,404 lei (2,042 lei in the light industry, 2,781 lei in the complex industry), this average was 2,430 lei in Transylvania (1,987 lei in the light industry, 2,818 lei in the complex industry). The analysis presents the performance of the industry on the basis of its GDP contribution, employment, net wages, and the main indicators of industrial companies.

Keywords: industry, complex industry, light industry, economic sector, gross domestic product (GDP), industrial employee, turnover, industrial company, net wage in industry

Réka Nagy – István Csata: The services sector in Romania and Transylvania

The size of the services sector is significantly smaller in Central and Eastern Europe and in Romania compared to the European average. However, following the economic crisis in 2008, the services sector underwent an intense development in the region: growth was more dynamic than in other sectors. In 2018 the Romanian services sector produced 44% of the gross value added (GVA). The employees of the sector (25% of the total number of employees) produce a higher GVA compared to their rate.

This sector has an outstanding weight in the capital and its surroundings. In Transylvania, it is concentrated in the big cities and the surrounding suburbs, where significant urbanization can be observed. Cluj-Napoca, Timișoara and its surroundings are outstanding in this respect, where the rate of services nears the levels measured in the capital. Regarding the services sector, Szeklerland region is also in a good position, especially in the ICT sector. The relatively lower levels in the Szeklerland region can be attributed to the lack of big cities. Among the Transylvanian regions, the services sector is less developed in North Transylvania and Partium.

Keywords: services sector, service, gross value added (GVA), economy, services sector employee, company in the services sector

Ottó Csíki: The importance of foreign direct investments in Romania and Transylvania

In recent years, the value of the stock of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) continuously increased. The FDI inflows in Transylvania also increased, alike their national share. Most of the FDI comes from the Netherlands, Germany and Austria. It is channelled mainly to the industry, more specifically the processing industry. Among the Transylvanian regions, the Banat and South Transylvania have the largest FDI stock, and in recent years most of the FDI was invested also in these regions. The value of FDI per capita is the highest in Timiș county, where many large suppliers to the automotive industry are present, which are significant companies also in international context. There is a close connection between the FDI and GDP on the level of counties and regions.

Keywords: Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), FDI-stock, change of the FDI stock, FDI country of origin, industry, turnover, employee, FDI-inflow, gross domestic product (GDP)

Zsombor Csata – Melinda Püszik: Retail loans and deposits in Romania and Transylvania

Romania ranks last in the EU regarding retail loans and deposits per capita, despite the fact that during the last thirteen years, the savings gradually and significantly increased in the country. The loan stock also increased between 2008 and 2020 at a rate exceeding inflation, coupled with the continuous increase of demand for housing loans and a slight decrease of consumer credits.

In Transylvania the average growth of the loan stock similar to the national growth rate conceals increasingly significant regional differences. The loans per capita are the lowest in Szeklerland, 497 euro compared to the 1,367 euro average. The demand for housing loans is especially low, it is less than a quarter in case of a Szeklerland citizen than of the Transylvanian average. Regarding savings, the regional differences are smaller in extent, but also significant: the bank deposits per capita are 2,156 euro in Transylvania, and 1,453 euro in Szeklerland.

The period of the pandemic was marked nationwide by a more precautious household financial management (restriction of consumption and reserves) until October, coupled with insignificant decrease of demand for housing loans. The rate of persons with debts can still be considered low, and it continued to decrease during the period of the mortgage.

Keywords: bank loan, household loan stock, loan in lei and in foreign currency, non-performing loan, bank deposit, household deposit stock, deposit in lei and in foreign currency, coronavirus pandemic

Ottó Csíki: Economic mobility in Transylvania during the pandemic

The scale of the economic recession observed during the state of emergency declared due to the spread of the pandemic was of an extent unique for the

last few decades in Romania and in Transylvania as well. Besides the Korona-monitor tool, we will follow the state of the economy through a new economic mobility index. Based on this index, we can conclude that following the state of emergency, the economic mobility in Transylvania could reach closer to the pre-pandemic level compared to the national average, but it did not reach it. Regarding regions, the economic mobility index of Central Transylvania, more specifically of Cluj county decreased the most, since it has a different economic structure, and the services sector is much extended in this county than in others. In the Partium and Szeklerland regions the recession was of a lower extent. Since the beginning of the second wave of the pandemic, the economic mobility index clearly shows again a decreasing trend, however, the extent of the regression is much lower than the bottom level measured in April.

Keywords: economic mobility, economic mobility index, coronavirus pandemic, economic activity

Attila Deák: Tourism in Transylvania continued to grow during the 2019 summer season

According to the calculations carried out by Erdélystat on the basis of the preliminary data of the Transylvanian statistical offices, during the 2019 summer season (May-October) the rate of tourist arrivals was 3.1%, the rate of overnight stays was 4.8% higher than during the same period of the previous year. The rate of growth is slightly higher than the national average (3.1%, respectively 4.6%). During this period, the capacity utilisation of tourist accommodation establishments was 37%, which indicates a 2.6% increase compared to the previous year.

The two counties in Szeklerland with a majority Hungarian population took a share of this increase above the average: compared to the previous year, between May and October 2019, the percentage of tourist arrivals was 10.2% higher, and the number of registered overnight stays showed a 9.9% increase in Szeklerland. A similarly outstanding increase was registered in the North Transylvanian region as well (6.9%, respectively 13.3%).

Keywords: tourism, tourist arrivals, overnight stays, capacity utilisation of tourist accommodation establishments, tourism

Attila Deák: The coronavirus pandemic halted the growth of tourism in Transylvania during the 2019/2020 winter season

According to the calculations carried out by Erdélystat on the basis of the preliminary data of the Transylvanian statistical offices, during the 2019/2020 winter season (November-March), the rate of tourist arrivals was 14.1%, the rate of overnight stays was 13.7% lower than during the same period of the previous year. The rate of decrease is similar to the national average (14.1%, respectively 12.9%), and can be attributed first of all to the decrease in February and March due to the coronavirus pandemic. During this period, the capacity

utilisation of tourist accommodation establishments was 24.9%, which is the same rate as in the previous year.

The two counties in Szeklerland with a majority Hungarian population were also affected by the decrease, but to a smaller extent than the Transylvanian average: compared to the previous year, between November 2019 and March 2020, the percentage of tourist arrivals was 10.4% lower, and the number of registered overnight stays showed a 4.7% decrease in Szeklerland.

As regarding annual data, compared to 2018, in 2019 in Transylvania the rate of tourist arrivals increased with 4.1%, while the rate of overnight stays increased with 5.5%.

Keywords: tourism, tourist arrivals, overnight stays, capacity utilisation of tourist accommodation establishments, tourism

Attila Deák: Tourism in Transylvania decreased by half during the 2020 summer season

According to the calculations carried out by Erdélystat on the basis of the preliminary data of the county statistical offices, during the 2020 summer season (June-October), the number of tourist arrivals and overnight stays decreased by half compared to the same period of the previous year (-49%, respectively -50%), despite the fact that once the restrictions imposed due to the coronavirus pandemic in spring were lifted, tourism started. The rate of decrease is slightly above the national average (46.5%). During the same period, the capacity utilisation of tourist accommodation establishments was 23.3%, representing a significant decrease (of 15%) compared to the previous year.

Tourism decreased to a similar extent in the two counties in Szeklerland with a majority Hungarian population: compared to the previous year, between June and October 2020, the number of tourist arrivals was 50% less, and 52.9% less overnight stays were registered in Szeklerland. In the Partium region, tourism decreased to a smaller extent, while in Central Transylvania to a significantly higher extent compared to the Transylvanian average.

Keywords: tourism, tourist arrivals, overnight stays, capacity utilisation of tourist accommodation establishments, tourism

István Csata – Gergő Barna: Transylvanian local authorities have an outstanding revenue

Between 2008 and 2017, the revenue of Romanian local authorities increased with 44% in nominal value, and with 6% in real terms. In 2017, 42% of the revenues consisted of own revenues, 55% of redistribution from the regional and central budget, and 3% of EU funds. The average total revenue per capita of Transylvanian local authorities is higher than in other Romanian regions, with the exception of the capital region. In the same time, in Transylvania the revenue of local authorities enlarged to a higher extent than the national aver-

age in recent years. Between 2015 and 2017, the per capita income of Transylvanian local authorities from EU funds was 51% higher than the national average.

Within Transylvania, the towns in Partium and Szeklerland had the highest revenue per capita between 2015–2017; regarding communes, the Banat and South Transylvanian regions are on the top.

Keywords: local authority, local authority revenue, own revenues of a local authority, national redistributed revenue, EU funds, income tax, county council, local council, commune council

István Csata: Transylvanian local authorities have significant revenues from EU funds

Between 2011 and 2017, the county and local councils accessed EU funds of 5.3 billion euro nationwide. In Transylvania, during this period the local authority revenues from EU funds per capita amounted to 350 euro, which is 30% higher than the national average.

Between 2011-17, 86% of the Romanian towns and 80% of the communes accessed EU funds. Nearly 50% of the total local revenues from EU funds consists of EU funds accessed by communes. Among the communes with significant Hungarian population, the most EU funded projects were launched by communes in Sălaj county, North Bihor and Gheorgheni micro-regions.

Keywords: local authority, local authority revenue, EU funds, county council, local council, commune council

Attila Deák: After the capital region, Transylvania provides the best housing conditions

Two thirds of the nearly 7.5 million housing units in Romania (67%) had piped water, and 65% was connected to the sewage system according to the data of the 2011 census. The development level of the housing infrastructure shows significant differences in various regions of the country. While more than three quarters of the Transylvanian dwellings has access to piped water (77%) and sewage network (75%), this rate is only a half in Wallachia and Moldova. The national rate of dwellings with a bathroom is 62% (in Transylvania 71%), the rate of dwellings with a kitchen is 85% (in Transylvania 88%).

Regarding piped water and connection to sewage network, the most developed regions within Transylvania are South Transylvania and the Banat with a rate around 80%, while the Partium region is the least developed. Szeklerland is above the national average with 73% access to piped water and 70% access to sewage network. In this region the rate of dwellings with a kitchen is also the highest both in villages (89%) and towns (96%).

Keywords: housing infrastructure, piped water, sewage network, kitchen, bathroom, electricity, town, village

János Főcze: The Union of Hungarian Workers of Romania (MADOSZ). A history of a Hungarian left-wing group in the interwar period's Romania

Controlled by the communist movement of the country, the Union of Hungarian Workers of Romania (MADOSZ) was founded in 1934 in the Romanian Kingdom. A national-revolutionary organization at its inception, MADOSZ became one of the few Romanian popular front organizations after 1936, only to be banned with all the political parties in 1938. In this paper, after addressing the antecedents of its creation, I analyse the group of the intellectuals, who had played an essential role in creating MADOSZ, aiming to make a cautious generalization of their backgrounds and highlighting the main striking differences between them too. Finally, I give a short and sketchy overlook of the organization's history.

Keywords: popular front, MADOSZ, left-wing organizations, collective biography, interwar period, Romanian Kingdom

Ambrus Miskolczy: The Hunyadi trial in history and literature

János Hunyadi is one of the most mysterious characters in our history. Originally a nobleman, he became governor and captain general of the Hungarian kingdom, and played an outstanding role in history. The subject of the Hunyadi trial was the ethnic and social background of János Hunyadi. It was a true "historiographic comedy". Myth building started with humanist historiography, and is continued even today. Jupiter himself became the mythic ancestor, while blood connections with king and emperor Sigismund were also presumed. Moreover, Hunyadi's father was pictured as a relative of a voivode of Wallachia, as a distinguished boyar and even as a simple peasant. Nowadays the Romanian Wikipedia indicates Kuns as ancestors in the imaginary family tree. The only certain point of reference is a deed of gift issued in 1409, by which the Hunyadi family (including the 4 or 5 years old János) was given the domain of Hunyadvár, a small village, at the edge of which János and his wife erected a fortress existing even today. In 1900 Mór Wertner alleged that János was born into a Romanian kenez family in the Țara Hațegului region. In turn, the nickname of his father (Bud, Buthi) indicates that he might have been born in Buthfalva (in Romanian Budești), a place near Caransebeș which no longer exists, and probably he was a kenez, lord of the village, who had great merits in defending the southern borders, and became a soldier at the court (*miles aulae*). It's not an exceptional career. King Sigismund granted high positions to many commoners in recognition of their military achievements. The history of the Hunyadi trial illustrates the truth of what Henri Pirenne put as follows: "If one wished to invoke an example in order to prove the unimportance of race in historical development, such an example is certainly provided by the Hungarians."

Keywords: myth building, genealogy, social and national mysticism, social mobility