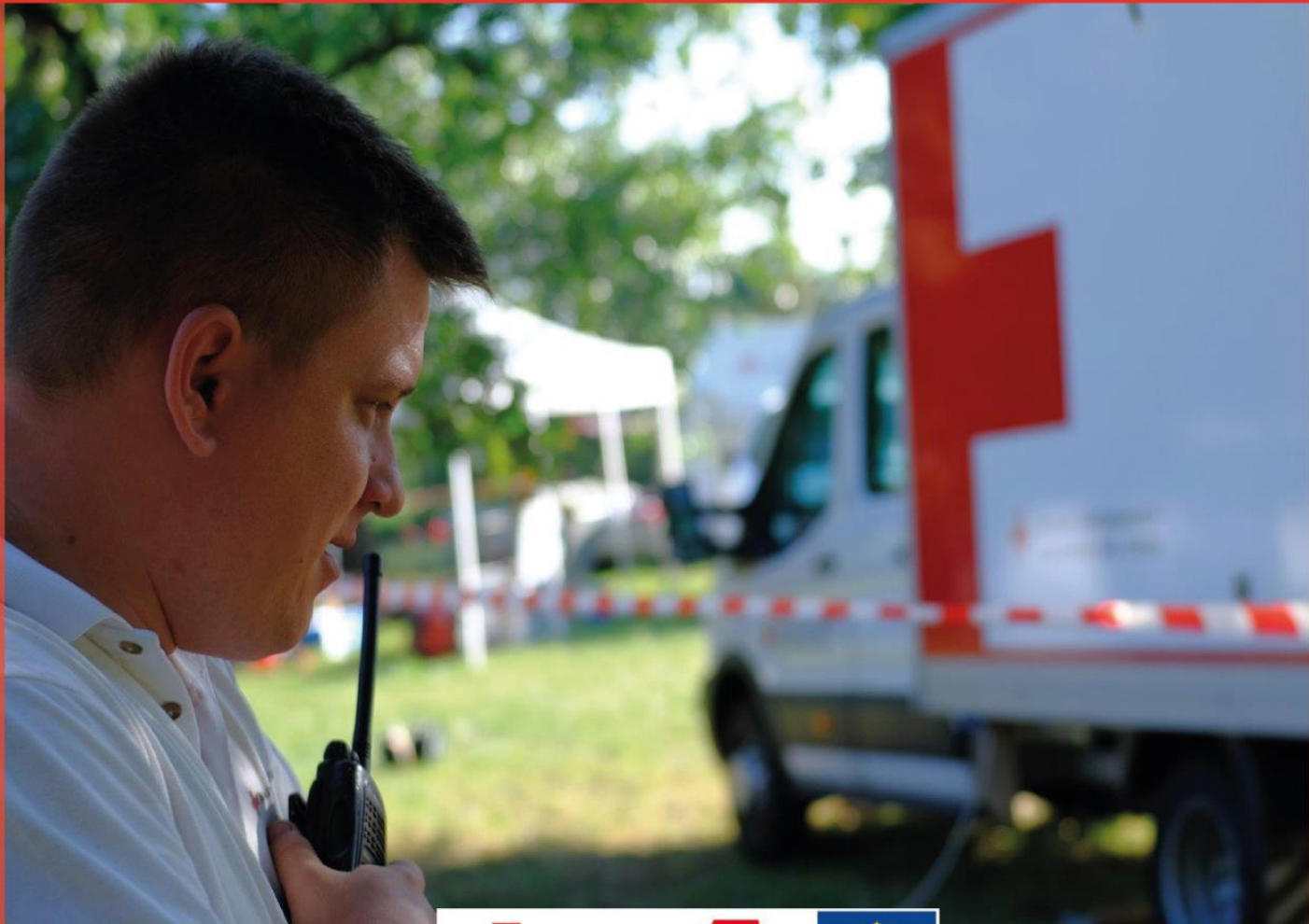


Second Conference on Effective Response

Abstracts and programme

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Cover: Safety and security officer of Hungarian Red Cross H-HERO Unit in Kishomok Training Facility during an SOP training event. Photo: A. Molnár

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Uzzoli, Annamária

Senior research fellow, Centre for Economic and Regional Studies

Connection between frequency of heat waves and planning of health care capacity based on a Hungarian case study

Numerous studies have already documented that the length, frequency and intensity of heat waves will increase in the future. This increase will lead to a substantial growth in need and use of different health care services. In this case, it is necessary to strengthen the preparedness and adaptation in health care systems at national and local level too.

The aim of this presentation is to analyse the connection between frequency of heat waves and planning of medical capacity. The paper integrates both of quantitative and qualitative methods such as measurement of vulnerability, statistical projections, content-analysis and semi-structured interviews. The examinations are based on a local case study to show how increasing number of daily temperature have effects on the number of emergency calls. The spatial example of this case study is Békés county (Hungary) which is the mostly affected area by climate vulnerability in the country.

The most important results highlight that there are remarkable territorial differences within the examined county according the effects of heat waves, but the southern part is the most touched area. On the other hand, statistical projections can present the emergency calls will increase with at least 10% in the next 10-15 years regarding increasing frequency of heat waves.

The outputs of this analysis are suitable to give some proposals for decision-making to make more efficient national and local health care services.

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Keywords: climate vulnerability, heat wave, health care, preparedness, Hungary