

Erika Nagy: Consumption across borders – Understanding marginalization as a multiscalar process

I interpret cross-border consumption (i) as a set of socio-spatial practices addressing basic and social, material and non-material needs that are embedded in the everyday reality of national borders, as well as (ii) the manifestations of diverse strategies and multiple social relations. I argue for understanding institutional and corporate strategies related to border regions as the responses of local agents to their perceived marginality – in the flows of goods and capital, within the shrinking systems and the changing logic of the national redistributive systems, and in the centralised political spaces – by (re)valorising their fixed assets through extending and exploiting their networked relations across scales and by mobilising various border-related identities. I argue also for understanding consumption-related strategies of powerful local agents – having clear class and urban bias – as the engines of growing socio-spatial inequalities within border regions, marginalising major groups of low-income, immobile social groups, transferring social problems to less powerful localities, while improving access to goods and services for the well-off. Finally, I also link these arguments to earlier critiques on the neoliberalisation of European regional policies.

Sevinç Bahar Yeniğül: Rural Gentrification: Middle class' migration from urban to rural areas

Rural gentrification, which is linked in particular to the migration and permanent settlement in the countryside of middle-class or affluent urbanites, is increasingly affecting contemporary rural communities. After the 80s the lifestyle and consumption practices of new middle-class have an important impact on the residential urban landscape in Turkey. Thus, this process involves major changes in terms of housing and the social composition of households. In this study, the phenomena of rural gentrification have been studied due to the housing policies of Turkey. Housing market in Turkey has led to an increase in housing construction since the 2000s. Unfortunately, this growth has been seen in countryside/rural areas across the metropolitan regions. This phenomena cause the transformation and gentrification of rural areas and rural communities which are under the pressure of the urban sprawl. The gentrification of metropolises has been analyzed from a variety of perspectives. But nowadays, not only the gentrification of metropolises but also the gentrification of rural areas has needed to be discussed. Gentrification is the process by which higher-income households displace lower-income residents of a community, changing the essential character and flavor of that community. Rural gentrification, which is linked in particular to the migration and permanent settlement in the countryside of middle-class or affluent urbanites, is increasingly affecting contemporary rural communities. The urbanization oriented policies of 80s in Turkey ignored the rural areas, and these areas are seen as the potential areas for urbanization and urban citizens. Urban citizens are particularly attracted by the promise of a better quality of life in the countryside. The socio-spatial inequality between urban and rural areas is now observed in rural areas where urban and rural communities are living together. Key words: Rural gentrification, socio-spatial inequality, housing policies, Türkiye

Mária Molnár: Social and Territorial Distribution of Disabled People as well as Measures to Promote their Social Inclusion through Strategic Steps into the Labour Market in the European Union and in Hungary

Keywords: regional differences, social inclusion, labour market

The measures and priorities for social inclusion get an increasing emphasis in the European Union and in Hungary. There are inequalities on regional, social and economic level. The struggle against poverty and social exclusion is very important task in the different strategies. The driving of people living with disabilities back to work can be facilitated by exploitation of individual capabilities and resources applying the philosophy of lifelong learning increasing the accessibility of educational institutions. The mobility and economic activity must be enhanced to the learning and the more intensive economy finding the balance between the labour demand and supply.

My main goal is to demonstrate the changes of the past 10-20 years. Highlighting those factors, which can contribute to increasing labour market participation of this social group. Summarizing the data on disabled people based on databases of EUROSTAT, ESPON, OECD, Regional Information System (TeIR in Hungarian) and Hungarian Central Statistical Office (KSH in Hungarian), it is possible to get a more comprehensive picture of the inequalities. Pearson correlation, Factorial- and cluster analyses. The differences can be decreased by strengthening of collaboration, cooperation and equality. The 'region-specific' development measures may offer appropriate conditions for everybody to find work near their place of residence. More and more disabled people could be in a better position by involving grants to improve their quality of life.

The cluster analysed showed that between the EU 27 countries IHDl gives a better picture of economic inequalities reflecting differences in distributions of health care, education and income. For this reason more member states moved into less favourable position compared with the HDl. In peripheral areas disadvantages increased. Opportunities in work rehabilitation and developing-preparing employment should be supported in more places. Network connections and cooperations should be strengthened based on the Social Work Centres, local governments, associations, foundations, public sectors and government. It is difficult to predict the future, but there are positive tendencies.