

## A NEW WORK SAMPLE

### – A COMMENT ON HUNGARY’S JOINING TO THE SCHENGEN TREATY (WRITTEN BY KRISZTIAN GAL)

AFTER THE COLLAPSE OF THE SOVIET UNION AND DURING THE POLITICAL-ECONOMIC TRANSITION, HUNGARY’S MAIN PRIORITY IN ITS FOREIGN POLICY WAS TO JOIN TO THE EUROPEAN UNION (EU). ALL THE POLITICAL ADMINISTRATIONS SINCE 1990 AGREED ON THIS POLICY. THE ENLARGEMENT OF THE EU WITH TEN NEW MEMBERSTATES DID HAPPEN IN 2004, BUT HUNGARY HAD TO WAIT FOR ALMOST FOUR YEARS TO JOIN THE SCHENGEN TREATY WHICH ACTUALLY WAS AN IMPORTANT STEP IN THE COUNTRY’S POLITICAL HISTORY, ALSO HIGHLIGHTING THE TREATY’S COMPLEXITY.

IN THE CENTRAL-EUROPEAN REGION THE IRON CURTAIN FUNCTIONED LITERALLY AS A CONCRETE WALL THAT DIVIDED EUROPE IN ALL TERMS - POLITICS, ECONOMY AND SOCIETY. THE SCHENGEN TREATY IS INDEED A GREAT TOOL TO ELIMINATE THESE DIVIDED LINES AND CREATE A UNITED REGION THAT DOES NOT KNOW ANY KIND OF BORDERS. NOW HUNGARIANS CAN GO TO OTHER EU-COUNTRIES WITHOUT PASSPORT. THIS IS MORE THAN A SYMBOLIC STEP FORWARD.

THE BORDERS DISAPPEARED AND THEREFORE NEW POSSIBILITIES CAME UP, AND IT IS DEFINITELY TRUE IN HUNGARY. THE CROSS-BORDER COOPERATIONS IN ECONOMY AND INTER-CULTURAL MEETINGS (BETWEEN SCHOOLS, THEATRES; CULTURAL FESTIVALS) STRENGTHENS THE REGION’S STABILITY AND OPENNESS. THESE KIND OF COOPERATIONS HELP TO FIND SOLUTIONS FOR PROBLEMS THAT DO NOT KNOW ANY BORDERS – ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES, ORGANIZED CRIME AND SMUGGLING. FURTHERMORE, THROUGH THE FREE FLOW OF LABOUR FORCE MANY HUNGARIANS TRAVEL ABROAD – BASICALLY TO WORK AND TO LEARN A NEW LANGUAGE, AS WELL AS THEY WILL BE ABLE TO WORK IN AN INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT. MOREOVER, THE EXPERIENCES FROM DIFFERENT APPROACHES THEY WILL HAVE ARE KEY FACTORS IN INCREASING PRODUCTIVITY AND TO LEAD AN OPENED AND COMPETITIVE COUNTRY.

STILL, THE SCHENGEN TREATY CREATED SOME CHANGES: NEW TYPE OF BOARDING CONTROL SYSTEM, BUT MANY SOCIAL AND CULTURAL INITIATIVES WERE AND WILL BE BORN IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS BETWEEN HUNGARY AND OTHER STATES. THE MOBILITY HAS DEFINITELY INCREASED, IN DIFFERENT TYPES OF POLICIES – YOUTH, EDUCATIONAL, ENVIRONMENTAL – WE CAN GAIN MORE AND MORE APPROACHES THUS WE ARE DEVELOPING OUR SKILLS. THE TREATY AS A MILESTONE, CREATED A WIDE DIALOGUE IN THE SOCIETY, WHICH HAD THE EFFECT ON THINKING OF THE COUNTRY’S STRATEGY IN THE FUTURE, ON WHICH DIRECTION SHOULD WE GO NOW OR IN WHICH SECTORS SHOULD HUNGARY INVEST MORE.

TO SUM UP, JOINING TO THE SCHENGEN TREATY GIVES THE MEMBERSTATES MORE POSSIBILITY, BUT THE RESPONSIBILITY THAT COMES WITH IT SHOULD ALSO BE HIGHLIGHTED. THOUGH SCHENGEN IS ABOUT TO CREATE A TERRITORY WITHOUT INEQUALITY AND DIVIDEDNESS, IT MUST PRODUCE A SYSTEM THAT RAPIDLY ANSWERS CHALLENGES THAT COMES WITHIN OR OUTSIDE IT. AS A SPILL-OVER IT SHOULD WORK FORWARD THAT THE WORLD ONE DAY WILL NOT KNOW BORDERS, AND THE EURO-MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES WILL ALL ENJOY THE ADVANTAGES

OF NO-BORDERS. THE BORDERS ARE GONE, DEPENDS ON IF WE USE THE BENEFITS OF THIS FACT.