

## Modes of governance and coordination processes in Hungary and Albania (STSM)

**Grantee Name:** Nevila Xhindi

**Home Institution:** Mediterranean University of Albania

**Host Institution:** Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest (Hungary)

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### **Statement about the STSM:**

I have actively engaged in the public sphere in Albania by participating in lectures, conducting research, and publishing in the academic field. My expertise lies in the area of decentralization development in the country. I hold a PhD Degree in Human Geography from the University of Tirana and have also successfully completed a second PhD Degree in Regional Development and Planning at the Potsdam University, Germany.

This Short-Term Scientific Mission (STSM) at Eötvös Loránd University has provided an excellent academic opportunity for me to collect evidence on the governance and coordination processes in Hungary. My primary objective has been to identify examples of best practices in intergovernmental coordination. Additionally, I have sought to create a valuable network of scholars from both Albania and Hungary who are actively engaged in research and work related to intergovernmental coordination. Establishing this network will contribute to knowledge sharing, collaboration, and further advancements in the field.

### **Purpose:**

My focus during this tenure was on decentralization issues in Albania within the context of EU integration. Building on my primary research on decentralization in Albania, the objective of this Short-Term Scientific Mission (STSM) was to investigate modes of governance and coordination processes in Hungary. The aim was to analyze the challenges faced in coordinating the production of public goods and services, and subsequently gather comparative evidence between Albania and Hungary.

### **Description of the work carried out during the implementation of the Grant:**

During the STSM, I had the valuable opportunity to collaborate with Professor Istvan Hoffman and engage in various activities aimed at understanding intergovernmental coordination in Hungary. These activities included:

Reviewing Government Documents: We carefully examined official government documents, such as laws, regulations, and policy statements that are relevant to intergovernmental relations in both Hungary and



Albania. These documents provided us with valuable insights into the legal framework, delineation of responsibilities, and coordination mechanisms between different levels of government.

**Analysing the Constitution and Legal Framework:** We conducted an in-depth analysis of the distribution of powers, responsibilities, and decision-making processes outlined in the Hungarian constitution and legal framework. This examination allowed us to gain a comprehensive understanding of the relationship between the central government and subnational entities in Hungary.

**Studying Intergovernmental Agreements:** We specifically looked for intergovernmental agreements or treaties that have been signed between the central government and subnational entities in Hungary. These agreements shed light on areas of cooperation, funding mechanisms, and decision-making processes that are crucial for effective intergovernmental coordination.

**Consulting Academic Research:** We delved into scholarly articles, books, and research papers on intergovernmental relations in Hungary. By studying the work of other scholars and researchers, we gained insights into the dynamics, challenges, and effectiveness of intergovernmental coordination and cooperation within the country.

**Exploring Local Government Websites:** We visited the websites of local government entities in Hungary to gather information about their roles, responsibilities, and interactions with the central government. Reports, publications, and statements found on these websites provided valuable insights into intergovernmental relations.

**Monitoring Media Sources:** We closely followed news articles, interviews, and opinion pieces from reputable news outlets in Hungary. These sources helped us stay informed about ongoing debates, conflicts, or collaborations between the central government and subnational entities.

**Examining Case Studies and Comparative Analyses:** We thoroughly reviewed case studies and comparative analyses that focused on intergovernmental relations in Hungary. These studies provided specific examples, best practices, and challenges encountered in the coordination processes between different levels of government.

### **Description of the main results obtained:**

Based on the information gathered from the above-mentioned activities, Professor Hoffman and I will critically evaluate the data, taking into consideration potential biases, publication dates, and the credibility of the authors or organizations. Our findings will be compiled into a comparative article, which we intend to publish to contribute to the scholarly discourse on intergovernmental coordination.