

REGIONAL COOPERATION IN NORTHERN AND EAST-CENTRAL EUROPE COMPARED

FUTURE RESEARCH CHALLENGES: HUNGARIAN–NORWEGIAN RESEARCH
CONFERENCE & KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

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MOMENTUM OF INNOVATION

Regional integration in Northern Europe in a nutshell

- Scandinavia squeezed between Russia and Prussia/Germany
- Scandinavism/Nordism has roots in the mid-19th century
- **Nordic Council estd. in 1952**
- But: SE, FI outside NATO; and NO, IS outside EU (though rich cooperation)
- Current themes: climate solutions, bioeconomy, gender equality, safe cities, Nordic food, reg. branding



Regional integration in East-Central Europe in a nutshell

- ECE squeezed between Russia, Germany (and formerly the Ottoman Empire)
- Cooperation dates back to 1335, but long periods of discontinuity
- **Visegrad Group estd. in 1991**, for joining EU, NATO
- 2004–2014: low intensity cooperation
- Since 2015, high intensity
- Main current/recent issues
 - → EU migration policy
 - → dual food quality in the EU
 - → integration of West Balkans
 - → agricultural policy in the EU



Comparing the NC and the V4: future research potentials

- What have the main issues of cooperation been within the two inter-governmental organisations?
- What norms, values, and policy solutions have they been trying to export, and how successfully?
 - → Which initiatives of the two groupings were exported into the agendas of larger inter-governmental bodies; which ones were even adopted?

Further potential questions

- How cohesive have these macro-regional initiatives been?
 - → Have they voted together in larger inter-governmental bodies?
- To what extent have they been challenged by alternative formations?
 - → e.g. Baltic Sea Region, Weimar Triangle, Slavkov Triangle, etc.
- How do the power relations look like within the organisations?
(Neither NO nor HU is the largest country within the respective group.)
- To what extent do citizens identify with such (politically) constructed spaces?

Thanks for your attention!

Mange takk!

Köszönöm szépen!

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