

Activity 8.2: Combining economic, social and environmental objectives in a European perspective – Paths towards sustainable development
Area 8.2.2 Regional, territorial and social cohesion

SSH.2011.2.2-1. „Addressing cohesion challenges in Central and Eastern Europe”

“In the EU regional disparities are far more extreme than in similar economies such as the US, particularly following the recent enlargements. The richest regions are still eight times richer than the poorest regions. Recent foresight studies have shown that Central and Eastern European regions might be affected in a much differentiated way by the current challenges.

Today's economic and financial crisis also adds a degree of unpredictability. The situation is becoming particularly difficult in most of these regions because their recent economic development (e.g. the very high degree of foreign ownership of banks and industry and foreign lending leading to high levels of debts) has actually left them more vulnerable to adverse conditions brought by the crisis. Besides, the radical structural changes of the last 20 years have left behind a number of social and political disruptions (ageing, low fertility rates of 60 and high emigration, poverty of large sectors of population, especially pensioners, political polarisation, etc) that are potentially further obstacles to new forms of economic and social development.

Research should address the following issues:

- Which lessons should be drawn from the socio-economic policies of 1989-2009? Taking into account their economic, social, political, historical and geographical conditions, a comparative interdisciplinary assessment of the policies and the socio-economic development of the countries of Central and Eastern Europe since 1989 is necessary, including a thorough reflection on the spatial dimension within the countries concerned.

Research should include how the various EU policies at stake in the "acquis communautaire", such as internal market, monetary policy, agricultural policy, social policy for instance, have impacted these countries positively or negatively (mobility of labour and capital for instance), also in terms of policy learning across actors. Comparisons with previous enlargements are encouraged whenever relevant.

- The reflection process on the future of cohesion policy in a post-2013 period has started. At the heart of the debate lies, *inter alia*, territorial cohesion and the need to ensure harmonised development of *all territories*, a particular strong concern for Central and Eastern regions. Beyond the redistributive and regulatory issues, there is also a clear political issue for Europe since a strong policy towards the Central and Eastern European regions will mean more solidarity and more unity. Research should question which pragmatic options are left open for the socio-political and economic integration of Central and Eastern European countries until 2020, and which EU policies favourable to solidarity should be used.”

Funding scheme: Collaborative project (small or medium-scale focused research project)

Für dieses Förderthema ist als Förderinstrument ein **Collaborative project¹ (small or medium-scale focused research project)** vorgegeben.

Die maximale Fördersumme für Projektanträge in diesem Topic liegt bei 2,7 Mio. € pro Antrag.

Diese Summe stellt eine Höchstgrenze dar. Projektanträge, die eine finanzielle Unterstützung der Europäischen Kommission oberhalb dieser Grenze beantragen, werden nicht zur Evaluierung zugelassen.

An Projektanträgen mit diesem Förderinstrument müssen mindestens 3 voneinander unabhängige Partner aus mindestens 3 Mitglieds- oder Assoziierten Staaten beteiligt sein.

Dieses Topic ist unter dem **Call-Identifizier FP7-SSH-2011-2** ausgeschrieben.

Projektanträge müssen bis zum **02. Februar 2011, 17:00 Uhr** (Ortszeit Brüssel) per [EPSS \(„Electronic Proposal Submission Service“\)](#) eingereicht werden.

Alle notwendigen Unterlagen zur Einreichung von Anträgen zu diesem Topic finden Sie auf der [Cordis-Webseite](#).

Bitte wenden Sie sich bei Fragen zur Antragstellung jederzeit an die Nationale Kontaktstelle Sozial-, Wirtschafts- und Geisteswissenschaften!

Unsere Kontaktdaten finden Sie unter:

<http://www.nks-swg.de/de/ansprechpartner.php>

¹ Verbundprojekte („*Collaborative Research Projects*“, CP) sind Forschungsprojekte, die von Konsortien mit Partnern aus verschiedenen Ländern und dem Ziel durchgeführt werden, neues Wissen, neue Technologien, Produkte, Verfahren oder Dienstleistungen zu entwickeln. Größe, Gegenstandsbereich und interne Organisation der Projekte können je nach Förderbereich und thematischem Schwerpunkt unterschiedlich gestaltet sein. Prinzipiell unterscheidet man zwischen kleinen bis mittelgroßen Verbundprojekten („*small or medium-scale focused research projects*“) und großen integrierten Projekten („*large-scale integrating projects*“)