

Special features of social enterprise and solidarity economy (SSE) in post-socialist East-Central-European (ECE) countries



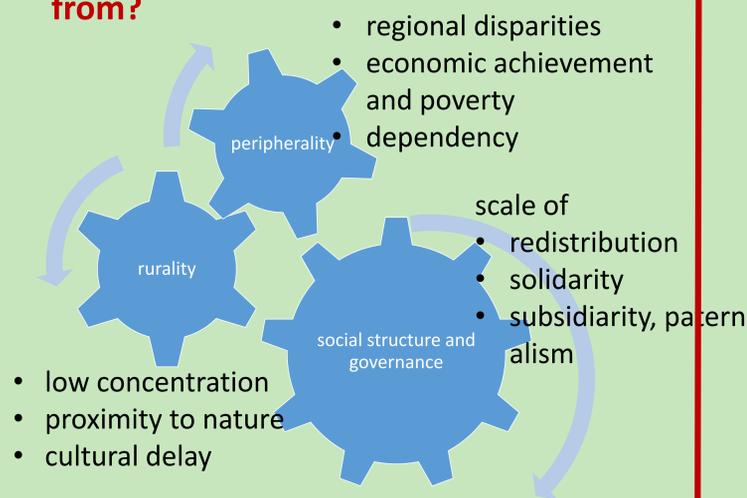
1. Are there any special features of the SSE in ECE countries?



- market or welfare orientation?
- entrepreneurial or civic attitude?
- role of government?

Analysis of the differences in SSE among global macro regions can be found in the context of North and South in the literature [1][2][3]. Different types of SSE can be linked to different societal structure [4]. Based on the available pieces of information, some general trends can be outlined [5][6]. An comprehensive analysis on social enterprises has been carried out on all of the EU member countries in 2014 [7]. However, post socialist specialities have not been revealed yet.

2. Where do ECE's specialities of SSE come from?



3. How SSE in ECE countries can be made visible?

- collecting best practices
- measuring social impacts of SSE initiatives



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Abstract: Only a little has been known about the SSE sector of European former socialist countries. The poster will introduce our concept on socio-economic determinants of SSE, impacts of state-socialist legacy and some details on social enterprise and solidarity economy in the selected countries.

Methodology:

I. On international fields:

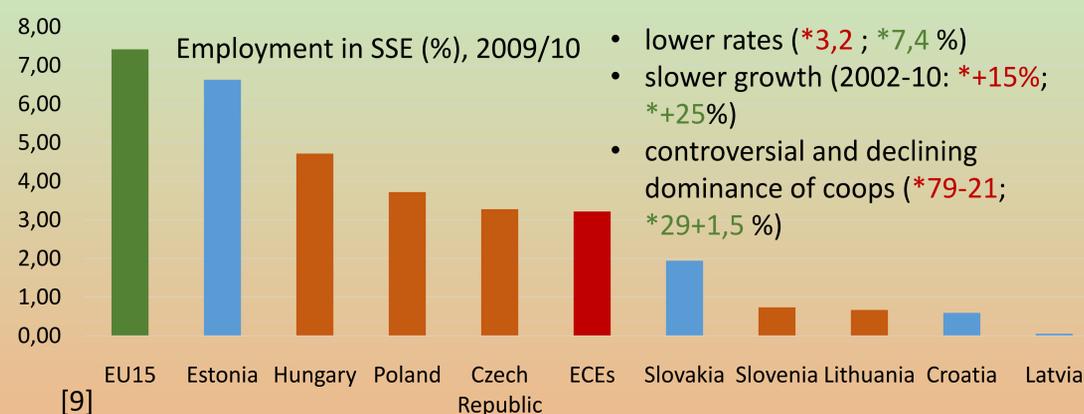
- Analysing transition process and its literature in terms of SSE.
- Selecting half of the ECE countries: Czech Republic, Poland, Lithuania, Slovenia and Hungary.
- Collecting data, experts and best practices by the selected countries.
- Visiting the selected countries and consultation by academics, politicians and practitioners of SSE.
- Preparing country reports: social-economical background, structures, activities, results, literature.

II. On Hungarian fields

- Selecting 12 SSE organisations in different types from 3 counties.
- Preparing general case-studies and editing a book of them.
- Making social impact analysis on several SSE employment initiatives.

III. Synthetisation

- Comparison of several countries and organisations
- Organising an international workshop
- Drawing conclusions
- Publication of results



Hungarian characteristics of SSE

- Strong state dependency
- Frustration with the community ideas
- Striving to meet expectation of EU
- Confusing legal framework
- Dominance of social cooperatives
- Weak academic background



Hungarian case-studies



- ❖ motivation
- ❖ function
- ❖ operation
- ❖ finance
- ❖ cost-benefit
- ❖ needs for advice

- community enterprises - village (social) cooperatives
- social and cultural non-profit businesses - social foundations
- social start-ups - non-profit Ltd-s
- eco-business initiatives: Green Basket, Eco-Village, E-Mission Association

Literature

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