

# SUMMARY

**István, MOLNÁR**

## **Legal Harmonisation in the Countries of Central and Eastern Europe – (with a focus on Hungary and the EU) as a necessary precondition for EU membership – with special attention to social policies and Labour Law**

*The paper discuss the changing social-labour policies of the Central and Eastern European countries (CEEC) and refute the claim of many Western countries that CEEC attracts foreign direct investment (FDI) by committing social dumping. The work basically consists of four parts:*

*The first part gives an overview of the relations between the CEEC and the European Community (EC), trying to underline the importance of the role of the EC in the successful transformation process of the CEEC.*

*The second part of the paper discusses the growing importance of FDI, its role and importance in globalisation. In addition a short summary of the EC social policies and their effect on member state social legislation will be given.*

*The third part presents the Western argument for social dumping and the reasons behind German fears of the phenomena.*

*The fourth part highlights the main differences in social and labour policy in the CEEC before and after the beginning of the transition process.*

**Pál, MAJOROS**

## **The role of the CEFTA in member states' EU integration efforts**

*The short history of CEFTA is a success story. The semi-peripheral Central-East-European transition countries have successfully changed their economic models and foreign trade orientation. Their ultimate objective is to become EU member states. In this respect the CEFTA countries have achieved considerable advantage; three of them have become OECD members. The author discusses the development of CEFTA, and the pros and cons of EU membership as seen by the East-Central European countries. The co-operation of the CEFTA countries is highlighted as instrumental in strengthening the bargaining position of the semi-peripheral countries because it reduces the asymmetric relationship. An acknowledgement of CEFTA's activities so far is the fact that accession talks have been started with 4 CEFTA member states.*

**Zsolt, KŐHALMI**

**On the innovation potential of the Hungarian industry: findings of a survey**

*The conclusions shown give but a brief and preliminary overview of the findings of the survey. A profound analysis of the data is going to be disclosed for a wider public by the Institute of International Technology in cooperation with the National Committee for Technological Development.*

**Tamás, GÁSPÁR**

**The behaviour model of the European Union  
– the role of the Central-East European countries**

*The paper seeks to discuss some elements of the strategy of the Central-East European countries in the accession to the EU. The starting point is that the strategies has been built upon economic political and practical cost-benefit analyses so far, while the integration theory lacks the appropriate answers to the integration process in the globalisation period of the world economy. The paper starts with defining some functions of societies so as to distinguish between different integration strategies and to decide which would be the most suitable for the Central-East European countries. In this approach the terms 'national', 'regional' and 'global' are given a functional meaning from the viewpoint of the world economic interpretation of different subsystems: the economic, political and cultural ones. The behaviour model of the integrations is derived from the three subsystems. The well known and commonly used cost-benefit approach of the integration strategy is only the logic of the economic subsystem. The regional content and function of an integration is the control of the economic and political efforts and ambition of the (potential) member countries. The global function of an integration includes the elimination of the inner friction and the effort to maintain the stability of the region and its relation with other parts of the world. The final part of the paper discusses the theory from the Central-East European aspect. The conclusion puts much emphasis on making difference between the strategies built on the different options of the future of the integration model.*

## László, RÉTVÁRI, István, TÓZSA Bauxite or medicinal water: pros and cons

*The economic expansion under the socialist regime led to environmental crises in some regions of Hungary. The technology of bauxite mining in the Transdanubian Mountains is a typical example for a prominent activity causing far-reaching environmental impacts and attracting great attention. The lasting deleterious effects of mining are manifested in water and related physical processes and in regional management.*

*Environmental degradation began with the introduction of active dewatering technology in the exploitation of bauxite and coal in the early 1960s. The applied technology caused an average 30 m dropping of karstwater level over an area of 3,000 km<sup>2</sup>. It reached its lowest level (110 m) in the major mining region in the western portion, at Nyirád. Many wells and springs of the region dried out, including the most abundant Hungarian spring at Tapolcafő. The world famous and unique spa, Hévíz, with incomparable balneological medical, recreational and infrastructural value, situated only 6 km from the southwestern basin of Lake Balaton, was also affected.*

*Due to academic argumentation and pressure from local authorities, the government decided to close down the deep bauxite mine at Nyirád. This measure was followed by a slow rising of the karstwater table, also in the Hévíz spa region. As there has been no recultivation, however, the pits and caverns resulting from mining can still be seen. In the paper the landforms related to mining are presented and micro-scale changes in land use are detected in the environs of Nyirád.*