

# Summaries

Ferenc Kozma:

## Meditations about Europe and Europeanism

The study goes thoroughly into the concept of Europe and touches on the essence and - mainly - the contradictory nature of Europeanism as a collective consciousness. It examines all those geographical, demographic, cultural and economic factors, which divide Europe - taken in geographical sense - into different regions, with various "European" interpretations. Among these, the largest tension is caused by the invisible border between the Western Centre and the Eastern periphery running from the mouth of Oder to the Istrian peninsula. In its second chapter the study analyses the tensions within the Western Centre, which can be attributed to the different stages and models of the development of market economy. In the third chapter the author examines the factors determining the balance of forces between the Western Centre and other centres of the World economy (North America, Eastern Asia), pointing to the danger that the European region — in a historical perspective — could be excluded from the factors determining world economic, political and cultural development. The sixth chapter describes the special features of the Eastern European periphery, especially its contradictory situation and its extremely disadvantageous connection with the Western Centre. In his conclusions the author ventures a few alternative versions concerning the trend of future development. He states that to start and to continue the process of closing up, today at the turning point of the 20th and 21st centuries, the own forces of the new European periphery are not enough, the political-economic circumstances of the region are so disordered — also on the long run — that it would not receive a larger import of capital and technology to start an independent development, and at the same time, the developed world is not interested in pumping

such a large amount of capital into Eastern-Europe.

Breaking out from this peripheral situation is only a dream now. The most positive thing that the periphery can do, is to avoid further decline, but this can be done only by concentrating the forces.

**Tibor Keimer:**

## **Market conform institutional framework and operating conditions for Research and Development**

Summarising the characteristics of the present situation of domestic research and development and of science and technology politics, and that of the details of the R & D practice of the developed market economies, the author of the essay states, that the present situation shows such a considerable irregularity which may have further negative effects on the system of conditions and possibilities concerning the transformation of the Hungarian economy and society. It harms the chances of transition to a market economy, completely disregarding the determinative nature of the role of science and technology politics. The essay concludes with a suggestion to be considered. According to the author, it is justified to have urgent central arrangements relating to those R & D institutes which got into a critical situation. The situation of R & D institutes must be revised, the operation perspectives and financing conditions must be determined for the probably few-year time of transformation period. This is the only way, by which the disadvantages of the complete recommencement — which can be seen already now — and dissipation of accumulated human capital can be avoided.

**István Magyari-Beck:**

## **Hither and beyond Extremities (an antipolitical essay)**

Events shaking the world (and specially the Central European region) nowadays make the unfortunate fact more and more clear that the time of social sciences — at least temporarily — passed by. Instead of fertilizing debates of theories, stormy slogans prevail the scene of social transformations. The noble task of social sciences would be to concede and syntetize the appearing contradictionary targets and values within the frames of a well-functioning society.

**Mihály Ruff:**

## **New phenomena on the political map of Germany**

After nearly 25 years of stability, at the turning point of the decade new phenomena appeared in the political spectrum of Germany. The social change in the society, the transformation of the structure of interests, the latent discontent, the radical modification of the state's borders gave opportunity for the renewal of old parties and for the emergence of new parties.

The unity of Germany has broken the homogeneity of the society, as it mixed post-material circumstances with that of the industrial society and created a special symbiosis in the social sphere of society. After October 3rd, 1990 the status nascenci of Germany can be summarized as one state - two societies, in which the intent to unify the society - as determinative characteristics of the changes - prevails stronger and stronger.

In the German society new lines of conflicts were formed, which do not concern appearing-disappearing small parties near the "traditional" parties, the seasonal existence of which derives from their "one-dimensional" nature, but here and now the effect of constant conditions of the birth of parties, their progress, weakening and disappe-

aring prevails. That is, the new social break lines modified the way of political "tankers" - taking over and reforming responsible leaders - strengthening the new but influential parties and created opportunity for organizing new ones.

**Péter Bohn:**

## **Our non-reviving natural resources**

**Content:** The two studies published in our volume are parts of a larger, comprehensive work, which was made for the essay-competition "OTKA 593."

The first study deals with our not reviving natural resources, paying special attention to the mineral resources. It is a task of vital importance to evaluate future alternatives and to make a comparative analysis between our country and other countries of the region with regard to their mineral resources from an economic, technical and environmental point of view. The analysis is made difficult by the fact, that the conditions of evaluating the mineral resources, their economical exploitation can show large changes also in short periods, depending on social and technical tendencies.

**Tibor Gánti:**

## **The rural landscape as economic resource**

The second study analyses rural areas as economic resource. **Content:** The resource role of the rural areas in the life of a country or a region is realized by tourism. Being one of the most important factors from the viewpoint of tourism, which can mean a mighty touristic attractiveness in itself, it can represent a significant part of the economic life of a country or a region.

## **The opinion of the Teacher's Union about the concept of the Public Education Bill**

The national office of Teachers' Union published its opinion about the professional concept of the Education Bill, on the basis of the opinions of teaching staffs and professional branches. It emphasizes that the draft Educational Bill is not acceptable for them, because it does not serve the democratization of teaching. The institutional network covering education and teaching is for the children. Education - teaching organized on any basis must be established in the light of this basic principle. However, the concept insufficiently interprets the basic tasks and the free provision of education-teaching. Further increase of unemployment among educators is anticipated by the new concept of the first two years of nurseries, by the contingency of day-time and student's homes and the subsequent revision of secondary qualifications. According to the opinion, such a coherent educational concept is needed for answering all substantial questions, which outlines the future of education, and which would clearly state the gratuitousness of institutional education-teaching supported by the Constitution.