

***Special Session (SS13) on:
Ethnic issues in a regional
context: the phenomenon,
problematics, and manifestations
of ethnoregionalism***



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The purpose and scope of the special session

This session is organised by the Institute for Regional Studies, Centre for Economic and Regional Studies (Hungary) and the Research Institute for National Strategy (Hungary).

Ethnoregionalism is a complex and multifaceted phenomenon that encompasses the political and cultural aspirations of ethnic groups to various forms of self-determination in a specific territorial area or region. The aim of this section is to explore ethnoregionalism in depth, examining its historical roots, contemporary manifestations (or their lack), and possible future directions and challenges. Papers are invited that explore different perspectives on ethnoregionalism, including both theoretical frameworks and empirical comparative or case studies.

As the conference will take place in Hungary, we would like to have a focus on indigenous ethnic minority groups and the cross-border ethnic communities of CEE, one of the ethnically most colourful macro-regions of Europe. Ethnic Hungarians, as the most populous minority group of CEE, can also have a special attention. Presentations on the situation, demographic processes, identity patterns, policy intentions, and struggles of indigenous ethnic communities are welcome.

The section invites papers related to ethnoregionalism, including but not limited to:

- Historical perspectives on ethnoregionalism: examining the development of ethnoregional movements and their impact on political, social and cultural relations.
- Contemporary Ethnoregional Conflicts and Aspirations: Analysing ongoing ethnoregional conflicts, self-determination movements, and efforts towards autonomy - or their lack.

- Ethnoregionalism and Governance Structures: Exploring the (potential) implications of ethnoregionalism for various governance models and structures; advocacy and representation opportunities.
- Ethnoregionalism and Community: Analysing the demographic and other socio-economic trends affecting ethnoregional communities.
- Ethnoregionalism and Cultural Identity: Investigating the interplay between ethnoregionalism, cultural identity, and the preservation of cultural heritage.
- Ethnoregionalism and Region: Exploring the socio-economic characteristics and development of ethnoregional areas.
- Comparative Studies of Ethnoregionalism: Drawing comparisons across different regions with strong ethnoregional movements.
- Ethnoregionalism and the EU (20 years of EU integration in CEE): understanding indigenous minority communities in European legislation, identity, values, and regional and rural development, shaping the future EU.
- Ethnoregionalism, geopolitics, and securitization: challenges of ethnoregionalism in the contemporary European geopolitical environment.

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