

# ENRI-East

## European, National and Regional Identities

**Interplay of European, National and Regional Identities:**  
**Nations between States along the New Eastern Borders of the European Union**  
 A cross-national study of trans-boundary social and ethnic groups in Europe



### About the project

**Main goal of the ENRI-East project** is to develop an in-depth understanding of the ways in which the modern European identities and regional cultures are formed and how these are inter-communicated in the Eastern part of the European continent.

**Main objects of the study** are approximately ten ethnic groups representing “split nations” along the new Eastern borders of the enlarged European Union. The sample must include major ethnic groups representing „divided nations“ in the big region eastwards of the new European frontier.

**Main method of the study** is the triangulation of theories of identities and empirical “facts of life” through the analytical efforts of ENRI-East experts. Their task would then be the verification and adjustment of existing theories of identity formation, based on the outcomes of a series of specially designed sociological surveys and systematic observations.

The project is an **inter-disciplinary effort** (sociology, political science, history, ethnography) and its methodological thrust comprises theoretical, empirical and comparative aspects.

There are four main **cross-cutting research themes** in the project:

- Interplay of identities and cultures: comparing “mother nations” and their trans-boundary “ethnic splits”;
- Nations between states: attitudes and policies of “mother nations” and “host nations” towards the “ethnic splits” and vice versa;
- Self-organization and representation of ethnic minorities along the East European borderland;
- Historical path, collective memories, present status and expected dynamic of split nations in Eastern Europe.

### Project components

The project is organized as a chain of several inter-connected components, also called Work Packages. These are of two types, as listed below.

#### Research work packages:

- Theoretical and methodological backgrounds for the studies of European, national and regional identities of split nations and ethnic groups in Europe;
- Contextual reviews and minority histories per country and studied group (“Minority reports”);
- Secondary data analysis (sociological and statistical data);
- Cross-national quantitative surveys on values and identities (design and reporting);
- Cross-national qualitative surveys (interviews, teenager essays, musical 3G survey, contentanalysis, etc.) (design and reporting).

#### Supporting work packages:

- Organization and conduct of regional survey fieldworks;
- Training sessions (Spring schools) to train regional survey supervisors and interviewers;
- Promotion and dissemination of project results (see details in a box below);
- Project and consortium management.

### Project consortium

The ENRI-East project is a large scale international study that shall be implemented by a consortium embracing 11 partnering teams from seven EU and three CIS countries.

**Institute for Advanced Studies** (Project Coordinator, Austria);

**TARKI Research Institute Inc.** (Hungary);

**University of Aberdeen** (UK);

**Osteuropa Institut Regensburg** (Germany);

**Institute of Social Research** (Vilnius, Lithuania);

**Moscow State University** (Russia);

**Belarusian State University** (Belarus);

**East-Ukrainian Foundation for Social Research** (Ukraine);

**University of St. Cyril and Methodius** (Slovakia);

**Oxford XXI** (UK);

**University of Lublin** (Poland).

Consortium's core teams have already implemented a series of large scale FP5 and FP6 projects.

### Leading experts

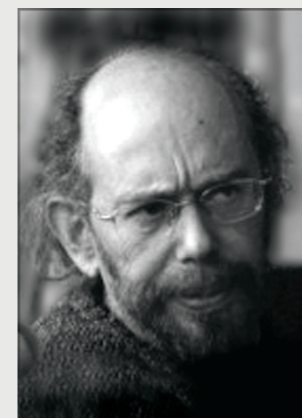
Project's leading experts is a network of experienced sociologists and social scientists cooperating with each other since more than 15 years.



Prof. Hans-Georg Heinrich  
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Dr. Alexander Chvorostov  
Project Director,  
IHS-Vienna



Prof. Endre Sik  
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Coordinating team,  
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### Geographical scope

The main project areas are the “overlapping” geographic regions that are conventionally labeled as follows:

- **Baltic region** (including Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, northern parts of Poland and Baltic-bordering provinces of Russia);
- **Eastern Europe** (including bordering areas of Belarus, Ukraine, Russia, Poland, Slovakia and Hungary);
- **Central Europe** (including special case of Germany and possible further extensions of the study in the case of secured co-funding);
- **Carpathian basin** (border regions of Hungary, Slovakia and Ukraine).

In these regions we select approximately ten ethnic minority groups for thorough comparative study, departing from the originally compiled list of 21 relevant ethnic minorities along the new Eastern borders of the enlarged European Union.

### Planned dissemination

The following target groups shall be approached for the purposes of dissemination of project intermediate and final outcomes:

- **Academic communities** from European universities and research institutes;
- **Governmental officials** at the national, provincial and municipal levels in the four main regions of the project;
- **NGO communities** and European as well as regional, national and local **mass media**.

The main dissemination and discussion instruments of the project are:

- ENRI-East **web-site** ([www.enri-east.net](http://www.enri-east.net)), as a main communication platform and primary dissemination channel for the project;
- Project **leaflets** (two or three multilingual issues), up to three issues of **Project Newsletter**, two project **posters**;
- A series of **regional workshops** (for experts and stakeholders) in the four main regions of the project is planned for the Autumn/Winter season 2010;
- Final open **international conference** in Vienna in Winter 2011 as a main concluding event.

In addition to that, the UK-Oxford partner organizes a presentation to the European Cultural Parliament, Council of Europe, European Youth Foundation, European NGOs and European media.

### Coordination

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### Project funding

Total planned costs for the core components of the project are estimated at € 1.7 mln. Primary funding worth € 1.5 mln are provided by the European Commission through an FP7-SSH Grant # 217227.  
 Co-funding for possible project extensions is sought from various national, international and private sponsors.

