

COOPERATION BETWEEN INSTITUTIONS OF PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY FROM BIHOR (ROMANIA) AND HAJDU-BIHAR (HUNGARY): A CASE STUDY

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The forms and degree of cooperation between public order and safety on both sides of the border took on different forms from country to country, from one region to another. Some countries have a very extensive inter-institutional cooperation and substantial, while in other countries relations are characterized by a deep division, competition and lack of communication. To understand existing forms of cooperation, and how best practices can be transferred to some Member States it is necessary to understand the existing diversity across the European Union. This paper focuses on presenting several cooperation projects with direct reference to public order and safety activities implemented in Bihor - Hajdu-Bihar euroregion, within the CBC Programme Hungary-Romania 2004 and especially the project "Mirror network for operative and operational data transfer", a joint project of cooperation in the public order and safety in Bihor - Hajdu-Bihar Euroregion.

This paper is part of the doctoral thesis on Integrate perspective on companies sector, coordinated by professor Ph.D. Alina Bădulescu from University of Oradea, Faculty of Economics.

Key words: public order and safety, euro-region, Bihor – Hajdu-Bihar

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1.Introduction

This paper is part of the doctoral thesis on Integrate perspective on companies sector, coordinated by professor Ph.D. Alina Bădulescu from University of Oradea, Faculty of Economics.

Despite the extensive development of management standards common problems of the EU border regions, forms and degree of cooperation between public order and safety on both sides of the border took on different forms from country to country, from one region to another. Some countries have a very extensive inter-institutional cooperation and substantial, while in other countries relations are characterized by a deep division, competition and lack of communication. To understand existing forms of cooperation, which are the best practices and the extent to which they can be transferred to some Member States is necessary to understand the existing diversity across the European Union. Three characteristics that best describe and explain the diversity and intensity of the phenomenon of cooperation forms (CSD 2011):

1. Organizational diversity: in addition to specific duties border police or customs authorities in some Member States, the police or gendarmerie units may have skills in the border area and in others may be involved tax police;
2. Degree of competence: in some EU Member States, public order and safety authorities, customs and border police have no jurisdiction to investigate, in others not even patrol outside powers / crossing point border;
3. The legislative basis should also be considered in order to cooperation: while in some EU countries there is comprehensive legislation, in others there are only local decisions or agreements of cooperation, or even just informal cooperation but requires their transformation agreements with legal support.

CBC main areas that can be done in this area (CSD 2011) are:

- Strategic planning
- Communication and exchange of information
- Workflow coordination
- Risk analysis
- Criminal investigations
- Joint operations
- Mobile units
- Emergency and calamity situations
- Joint use of equipment and infrastructure
- Training and human resources management.

2. Accomplished actions within the Cross-border Cooperation Program Hungary-Romania 2004-2006, in the field of order and public safety (selection) (VÁTI)

In the Bihor - Hajdu-Bihar euroregion, within the CBC Programme Hungary-Romania 2004 may be mentioned several cooperation projects with direct reference to public order and safety activities.

Thus, we refer to the "Training for a Healthy Lifestyle and for spending one's free time properly, drug prevention in Cooperation with the police", ID: HUROSCG0501/018/I/2.3/HU. Beneficiary of the project was Taltos Foundation Program, Békéscsaba County Békés place in Hungary and implementation grant amount being 3,347,228 HUF. The project aimed to create a suitable environment for young people, characterized by a philosophy of joyful, constructive, instead of dependency and self-destructive behaviors. Strategy project sought to replace the problem of drug addiction through various activities, formalized, leisure. During activities focused on the knowledge skills to young people, awareness of the harmful effects of drugs so that they are able to make the right decisions, to learn to say "no" to the pressures of others, to understand that such a decision would cause problems to discuss and develop skills to use logical arguments, in order to convey a positive effect on friends and groups they belong.

A second project that was "Development of transport infrastructure at EU borders in a Hungarian-Romanian project in the Mirror", ID: HUROSCG0501/019/M/1.1/HU. Beneficiary of the project was public road company, Budapest, where the implementation Békés County, Hungary, and financing amounted to HUF 114,934,800. The rationale of the project based on the fact that acceleration and multiplication of public road and rail traffic is accompanied by a deterioration of the quality of the roads. Their maintenance and repair roads and building new transport routes, have become requirements not only for transport within Hungary, but in the international transit of goods and people, the project aimed at developing transport facilities in the border area. Project funding was directed to link road sections leading to border crossing points from Elek (Hungary) - Guard (Romania), Dombegyház (Hungary)-Variasu-Small (Romania), and Lokösháza (Hungary) - Court (Romania).

Finally, a third project to be mentioned is that entitled "For effective cooperation with police Bihor county (Romania)", ID: HURO0602/117/M/2.3/HU. Beneficiary of the project was police (police captain) of Hajdú-Bihar County, Debrecen, Hungary, instead of implementing the Hajdú-Bihar, Hungary, and the amount of funding amounted to 13,937,668 HUF.

Project financing was used to equip a training hall for producing a publication in several languages, crime prevention and strengthening public safety, to conduct a training project manager, crime prevention workshops and public safety, with the participation of police officers in the counties of Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg, Jász-Nagykun-Szolnok, Hungary and that Bihor County, Romania. Programs were conducted at extremely high standards is very useful effects already seen in labor relations further.

3. Case Study: "Mirror network for operative and operational data transfer" - a joint project of cooperation in the public order and safety in Bihor - Hajdu-Bihar Euroregion

Bihor County Police Inspectorate won, first in the country, European funding for a mirror project in the border with Hajdu-Bihar County (Hungary) on creating a network to transfer operative and operational data. As indicated to the Chief Commissioner Liviu Popa, Bihar Chief Inspector of Police Inspectorate (at the time) and project manager, in the press conference of 14.09.2007: "... the idea of this project was born from the desire to stand in future structural changes will occur with Romania's integration into the Schengen Area. the abolition of border police, the fact is that police will return a very important role in monitoring trafficking in persons and goods on the border with Hungary "(ziare.com).

The project called " Mirror network for operative and operational data transfer" was located in the North Region - West, Bihor county, Oradea, Romania, and the applicant was Bihor County Police Inspectorate.

Coordinates of the project are:

Priority 2 - Promoting cross-border cooperation initiatives

Measure 2.3 - Encourage cooperation between institutions and communities (projects "people to people", financed by the Small Projects) Phare CBC 2005 /

Contract: EN 2005/017-536.01.01.02.17 (mdrl.ro)

The project proposed improved collaboration between police captain IPJ Hajdu Bihar and Bihar, under the cooperation protocol between the two organizations by developing a system to enable the development of data exchange in real time so that you can coordination of the crisis involving the two institutions (prefecturabihor.ro).

3.1. Premises and framework

The project was founded on the existence of a cooperation protocol between the master and IPJ Hajdu Bihar Bihar dating from 2001. Partnership, which is also currently takes place mainly in combating organized crime, cross border crime and exchange of experience in forensics. This cooperation is carried out through meetings taking place at the border or through the exchange of experience took place in Oradea and Debrecen. This type of collaboration is costly and time, hitting the weights and the border.

The project was established as a natural continuation of direct contacts between the partners involved - IPJ Hajdu Bihar and Bihar police captain and a bilateral partnership agreement concluded, as I said, in 2001. Visits, exchanges of techniques and experience, operational exchanges, solving concrete cases of common crime is continuing actions that took place over 15 years and could improve. The cross-border cooperation in this field can find common solutions to harmonize legislation and to prevent victimization of citizens in communities partners in Bihor - Hajdu Bihar.

3.2. Objectives of the project

The overall objective was to develop a European-style institutions in the Bihor County Police, based on internal policy and transfer of knowledge and expertise in European integration, the Hungarian partners.

In the cooperation that has developed with the police captain of Hajdu-Bihar County, Bihor County Police sought to improve information and communication infrastructure, and to increase training for its staff, using successful experiences in the field of partner, already familiar with European integration issues. The overall objective was based on clear need time resulting from failure to respond to increasing pressures of crime generated by the free flow of movement.

Specific project objectives were:

1. Accelerate information exchange inter-institutional between police inspectorates in the Bihor - Hajdu Bihar Euroregion. Under this objective, we have developed two activities:

-introduction of audio-visual system via internet, purchase computer equipment and communicational equipment that facilitate the development of a network consisting of 6 local users for the county of Bihor able to collect data of operative interest, with possibly for processing in the center of the network (Oradea, Bihor County Police Inspectorate, IPJ). This network is connected with the network existing in Hajdu Bihar Police Captainhood;

-joint publication of materials for the prevention of committing crimes. With the European experience of the partner, Bihor County Police edited documents to prevent victimization addressed mainly to citizens, especially printing of a necessary support materials to form an harmonized way of operating in the two institutions.

2. Specializations and training of the staff with activities in the field of preventing and combating crime and in the field of information exchange related to cross-border cooperation. Under this objective, we have developed two activities:

-managerial training, in order to transfer managerial experience between partners, with the final objective of improving skills of the institutional staff in terms of on-site investigation, criminal investigation, transfer of information, operations in network

-seminars on crime prevention focused on mutual knowledge - harmonized methods of operation, training and information system in operation with audio – visual equipment, partnership among institutions with responsibilities in preventing victimization and skills development on accessing European funds.

The target group consisted of six municipal and city police offices from the proposed network in Bihor county, institutions with adjacent responsibilities in preventing and combating crime and the final beneficiaries were communities in Bihor and Hajdu-Bihar and staff of institutions involved in the training and specialization, given that the publications were made available for a number of about 20,000 people, and in the training and specialization activities were involved a total of about 50 workers.

The accession process requires the institutional development related to EU requirements. Among these requirements is the increase of the climate of public safety and prevention of victimization. Hence there is a the need to improve the operational infrastructure and institutions involved in this field skills, and optimize cross-border cooperation.

Experience organization was determined by two approaches: involvement in similar projects accessed by the General Inspectorate of Romanian Police and the Institute for Crime Prevention and Research, but managed locally by the working group IPJ Bihor (MATRA project "Preventing and combating violence in family", "Preventing and combating street violence", "Institutional capacity building in combating cybercrime", " Patterns of inter-institutional cooperation in countering smuggling in the area of organized crime", " Prevention of juvenile delinquency in schools") and hiring of professionals with proven expertise in project management. The latter come from local institutions with activities in public participation and community development (project OMAT - "Planning traffic in Oradea metropolitan area") and the Hungarian partner, the Police captainhood of Hajdu Bihar County (4 projects TAIEX (Technical Assistance Information Exchange Unit) of European Commission - "Methods of checking the traffic of cars and trucks used in the EU", "The police role in crime analysis", "Current and future role of police and judicial cooperation development in the EU", "Police Cooperation in the organized crime").

3.3. Description of the cooperation actions achieved

Activities undertaken have had as main objective *speeding up the inter-institutional information exchange within the two police inspectorate of the constituent counties of Bihor Euroregion - Hajdu-Bihar.*

Based on the urgent need of effective communication, a first objective of accelerating activity subsumed under inter-institutional information exchange police inspectorates Bihor - Hajdu Bihar was the *introduction of audio-visual system* via the Internet, by purchasing information and communication equipment to enable the development of a local network of six users from Bihor county, able to collect the operative, with the possibility of processing the hub (Oradea, Bihor County Police) and the existing network connection to the Police Captainhood of Hajdu Bihar.

This work has started, like any project, with specific administrative actions: establish the organizational and team work tasks, related to the management plan, listing contact persons and addresses, making newsletters on the project goals and objectives target groups, implementation of project presentation brochures, letters, invitations to target groups, organization and holding a conference to launch the project, with partners in Hungary. On this occasion, the launch took place and a first working meeting of those involved in the project on both sides of the border: the implementation team, representatives of Hungarian, representatives of profile institutions and volunteers.

Then there were a series of meetings of the Working Group on the local information network operators to identify data exchange and establishing networking arrangements, the Working Group meetings with local operators to implement data exchange system.

Note that these activities were organized and implemented by IPJ Bihor, with its own contribution of specialists in IT and media relations and acquisitions, and with the participation of Hungarian.

Later to the acquisition of equipment necessary to implement audio visual system for data exchange (drafting of specifications and tender equipment, identify potential suppliers of advertisements in newspapers, by sending requests to offer specialized companies for goods purchased) was carried out the activation and enabling the communication network and users. This involved: computer work stations connection to the Internet, common training workstation users, establish, jointly with the partner system passwords and computer network security and data exchange protocols work. This time, work was organized and implemented by IPJ Bihar mirror with Hungarian partner, a police captain Hajdu-Bihar County.

The information required for operationalization to realize a common data network. This was achieved by exchanging data from existing databases, the types of crime, Hungarian and Romanian partners, setting out how it actually - the steps for registration, filing or data exchange network, implementation of regular (at least once a week) to the data summaries of the target groups, by type of crime, and communication between the Romanian and Hungarian partners to base decisions on crime prevention, field trips, 10 days per month, to capture the realities of the surrounding areas target groups and recording crime situation.

In case of serious offenses, and making trips have agreed on the spot, capture and storage, electronic, images, and other such evidence incriminating details that will help solve the case and thus to improve security the community. Filling the database with suggestions received from the target groups was carried out by each partner, and Captain Hajdu Bihar Bihor County Police, partners and each providing the necessary data.

Data processing was done by updating the databases created daily, weekly preparation for studying the synthesis of values, data processing decisions based crime prevention in the Euroregion, the returns of each partner to the other end. The work was done by each institution by users.

A second activity subsumed under the same primary objective was the joint publication of books on crime prevention commission. With the European experience of the partner, Bihor County Police took and edited documents that prevention of victimization addressed primarily citizens by printing an appropriate substrate to form a harmonized way of operating in the two institutions.

Made jointly by both partners, this action resulted in the publication, in Romanian and Hungarian theme of preventive educational materials, namely printing of about 5,000 leaflets, 200 posters, 200 brochures and realization of audio 3 spots in Romanian and Hungarian.

These preventive and educational materials were distributed in border crossing points, public institutions, the means of transport, schools, travel agencies, train stations, airports, coordinated action by IPJ Bihor (for its area) and included data summaries provided by the Hungarian partner, which acted similar to the area.

The second objective - *Specialization and training staff with responsibilities in preventing and combating crime in the area related to information exchange and cross-border cooperation* has been achieved through staff training activities.

Thus, management training course was conducted by specialization whose aim was to transfer managerial experience between partners, with the ultimate aim to improve staff skills in terms of research institutions on the ground, concrete actions criminal investigation, information transfer, network operation. This work was prepared in terms of logistics to drive the best results, resulted in final the training of 20 participants for 3 days with intake of 4 lecturers.

An important activity in effective cooperation in the field officers of the Euroregion Bihor - Hajdu-Bihar have set up a seminar on prevention of crimes committed.

This work has been carefully prepared, establishing prevention issues presented by the operational situation, making the media training course maps, logistics etc. The actual work involved produce a series of six seminars, two in Romania, four in Hungary, focusing on mutual knowledge - harmonized methods of operation, training in computer operation system audio - visual, partnership between institutions with responsibilities in preventing victimization and develop skills for accessing funds. Participants were 30 in number, trained by four lecturers in the 6 seminars of two days each. Also, a number of five people participated in the Romanian partner in a series of four seminars organized by the Hungarian partner.

3.4. The impact made on beneficiaries AND T II common

The proposed project aimed to increase the level of safety in communities of the Euroregion, direct meetings of those attracted to the project presentations at the launch of the project, evaluation and finalization, and especially promotion activities in each project, helping to identify communities project and, therefore, to develop new complementarities.

The project was an initiative for the first time in Romania, with the effect of "model" is estimated at that time that could be implemented successfully by other police inspectorates, located in border areas.

The project has attracted other institutions, both in Bihor county, and in Hajdu Bihar: institutions of local government (County Council, Local Councils and Mayors of towns involved), the relevant institutions and the General Inspectorate of Border Police Directorate Customs, Department of Finance, school, University of Oradea, which, as their ultimate beneficiaries, receiving and issuing information or data, participated in conferences launch and completion of the project, promoted and disseminated project results.

The role and contribution of partners, Bihor Police Inspectorate and Hajdu Bihar Police Captainhood were similar, each being effectively involved in the project by introducing system audio - visual collection and exchange of information, the monitoring of crime in their sector to substantiate joint publication of books on crime prevention commission and the election of current topics, drawn from practice, to organize seminars on crime prevention commission.

The activities proposed, the project aimed to improve inter-institutional collaboration as follows:

- gave an overview of on developing the system to prevent and combat the cross-border crime, identifying concrete ways to undertake in this field;
- promoted the diversification of working methods in regional framework;
- contributed to the improvement of the cross-border co-operation;
- led to improving the information exchange between the components of the target groups;
- generated the development of the infrastructure and services in preventing and combating crime, with emphasis on preventing victimization of national citizens;
- facilitated the harmonization of the relationship between community and institutions responsible to prevent victimization.

In concrete terms, it is estimated that, after the project implementation, in a horizon of 3-5 years, the number of people informed about the commission of illegal acts of any kind in the region increased by about 50%. The project also has generated the possibility of extending the network to institutions with similar concerns.

The project aimed to abandon the perception of competition between border regions and to promote common strategies between institutions involved in promoting, developing and strengthening existing relationships.

The results of the project aimed at increasing prevention and safety in the border area, resulting stability able to determine an important influence on economic growth.

The project proposed and succeeded creating the possibility of a quick resolution for difficult police cases up to that time, setting types in solving such casuistry, creating models of effective cross-border and inter-institutional partnerships for other institutions in the public sector.

The development and cooperation will influence policy decisions at euroregional level and can generate an attitude of support from the part of local authorities for the harmonious development of the safety and public order system.

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