

Within this project, we will investigate mechanisms and sources of four dimensions of regional economic resilience in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) to exogenous shocks (including those related to global crises). We plan to deal with four dimensions of resilience. The first three dimensions, were recently conceptualized, framed theoretically and also (at least) partly operationalized. and synthesized:

- The ability of a regional economy to rebound to pre-shock state following the shock, and the speed at which it occurs,
- The ability of a regional economy to absorb the shock, i.e. remain near the pre-shock state,
- The capability of a regional economy to adapt its structure in response to the shock in order to maintain core performances.

Additionally, we propose to introduce another type of regional economic resilience that we define as:

- The capability of a regional economy to ‘look forward’ and ‘modify’ its structure, launch ‘insurance mechanisms’ against shocks and reroute its activity in order to minimize the effects of a negative shock and facilitate a recovery.

The nature of the project is, therefore, both theoretical (to conceptualize and launch the discussion over type IV resilience) and empirical (to investigate sources and mechanisms of all regional resilience dimensions). Empirical investigations will be performed on NUTS-2, NUTS-3 and NUTS-4 regions (we aim to ensure maximum disaggregation, subject to data availability) of 11 CEE countries that joined the EU in 2004 or later, i.e. Czechia, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Bulgaria, Romania and Croatia.

Conclusions from our theoretical and empirical studies will not only enhance our understanding of the regional resilience in general, but they will provide crucial information about its sources and mechanisms, specific to emerging and transition economies, which are still largely unknown.