

# ROLE OF DISTANCE IN TERRITORIAL ECONOMIC COHESION – A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF RELATIVELY SMALL AND LARGE TERRITORY COUNTRIES IN EUROPE

Sándor Nagy<sup>1</sup>, Ádám Molnár<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Economics and Rural Development, Faculty of Engineering, University of Szeged,  
Szeged, Hungary

<sup>2</sup>Economic and rural development agricultural engineer (MA), Szeged, Hungary  
*nagys@mk.u-szeged.hu*

## **Abstract**

The economic development and economic cohesion within a specific country can be influenced and determined by a number of factors. During our research, we have been focusing basically on regional aspects and on *the distance factor*. We measured the distance from the capital city, or central (most developed) region and the distance among regions. Since the economic development can be captured traditionally by the GDP – and in parallel this indicator is historically the most widely available for NUTS2 – we used it as a basis for our calculations. We were curious about the role and relevance of *distance* relating the territorial differences in relatively small or in relatively larger EU countries. For our analysis, we used the methodology and formulas of territorial differences and neighborhood effect.

*Key words: distance, economic cohesion, regional, territorial differences*