

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ATM	Cash machine (Automated Teller Machine)	NAV	National Tax and Customs Administration (Nemzeti Adó- és Vámhivatal)
ATOMKI	Institute for Nuclear Research (Atommagkutató Intézet)	NEAK	National Health Insurance Fund Management (Nemzeti Egészségbiztosítási Alapkezelő)
CORINE	Coordination of Information on the Environment	NKE	National University of Public Service (Nemzeti Közszolgálati Egyetem)
Covid	Coronavirus disease	NKI	Hungarian Demographic Research Institute (Népességtudományi Kutatóintézet)
CSOK	Housing Subsidy for Families (Családi Otthontermelési Kedvezmény)	NVI	National Election Office (Nemzeti Választási Iroda)
CSFK	Research Centre for Astronomy and Earth Sciences (Csillagászati és Földtudományi Kutatóközpont)	NYE	University of Nyíregyháza (Nyíregyházi Egyetem)
DE	University of Debrecen (Debreceni Egyetem)	OH	Educational Authority (Oktatási Hivatal)
EHIS	European Health Interview Survey	OTK	National Concept for Settlement Network Development (Országos Településhálózat-fejlesztési Konceptió)
ELKH	Eötvös Loránd Research Network (Eötvös Loránd Kutatói Hálózat)	PIT	Personal income tax
ELTE	Eötvös Loránd University (Eötvös Loránd Tudományegyetem)	PTE	University of Pécs (Pécsi Tudományegyetem)
EU	European Union	PTI	Institute for Political Science (Politikatudományi Intézet)
Eurostat	Statistical office of the European Union/European Statistical Office	RKI	Institute for Regional Studies (Regionális Kutatások Intézete)
FFI	Institute of Geography and Earth Sciences (Földrajz- és Földtudományi Intézet)	RKK	Centre for Regional Studies (Regionális Kutatások Központja)
FGI	Institute of Geography and Geoinformatics (Földrajz-Geoinformatika Intézet)	SDR	Standardised death rate
FI	Institute of Earth Sciences (Földtudományi Intézet)	SoE	University of Sopron (Soproni Egyetem)
FKI	Geographical Research Institute (Földrajztudományi Kutatóintézet)	SZTE	University of Szeged (Szegedi Tudományegyetem)
FTI	Geographical Institute (Földrajztudományi Intézet)	TÁRKI	TÁRKI Social Research Institute Inc. (TÁRKI Társadalomkutatási Intézet Zrt.)
HÉV	Railway of Local Interest (Helyiérdekű vasút)	TDR	Total divorce rate
ISCO	International Standard Classification of Occupations	TFMR	Total first marriage rate
KRTK	Centre for Economic and Regional Studies (Közgazdaság- és Regionális Tudományi Kutatóközpont)	TIK	Faculty of Science and Informatics (Természettudományi és Informatikai Kar)
KSH	Hungarian Central Statistical Office (Központi Statisztikai Hivatal)	TK	Centre for Social Sciences (Társadalomtudományi Kutatóközpont)
LKK	Alexandre Lamfalussy Faculty of Economics (Lámfalussy Sándor Közgazdaságtudományi Kar)	TTI	Institute of History (Történettudományi Intézet)
MATE	Hungarian University of Agriculture and Life Sciences (Magyar Agrár- és Élettudományi Egyetem)	TTK	Faculty of Science (Természettudományi Kar) (DE: Faculty of Science and Technology – Természettudományi és Technológiai Kar)
MÁV	Hungarian State Railways (Magyar Államvasutak)	UBB	Babeş–Bolyai University
ME	University of Miskolc (Miskolci Egyetem)	UN	United Nations
MFK	Faculty of Earth Science and Engineering (Műszaki Földtudományi Kar)	WHO	World Health Organization
MNB	Central Bank of Hungary (Magyar Nemzeti Bank)		
MTA	Hungarian Academy of Sciences (Magyar Tudományos Akadémia)		

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PREFACE

The reader is holding the English version of the *Society* volume of the *National Atlas of Hungary (MNA)*. A national atlas is the given country's 'identity card,' one of its most significant national symbols in addition to its flag, coat of arms and national anthem. Similarly to the previous undertaking, the present volume is the outcome of wide-ranging professional collaboration: 16 editors, 42 authors, 87 map authors, and several dozen cartographers, professional and language proofreaders, translators have made their valuable contributions to it. Reflecting the special significance of the Atlas, the staff of the publishing institution, who carry out their work as a public task, have made selfless efforts in recent years. While the flagship strategic partner, the Hungarian Central Statistical Office, has provided the vast majority of the national and international databases, important contributions have also been made by the staff of universities (e.g. University of Szeged, Babeş Bolyai University, University of Debrecen, University of Pécs, Eötvös Loránd University, University of Miskolc) and other supporting bodies and institutions.

Prior to a more detailed introduction to the second volume of the symbol of the Hungarian state and nation as embodied in maps, it is my great pleasure to guide the esteemed reader along the virtual international and local path that has led to this publication and its digital version.

A national atlas is usually a series of maps complemented with textual explanations and various illustrations, which show the given state's natural, economic and social features through logically and proportionally constructed maps using a well-defined scale and fairly uniform cartographic iconography. It is intended for the country's inhabitants as well as for interested foreigners. The national atlases issued so far all share the principal feature that they refer to the given state's territory. They introduce a country's natural, social and economic structure and its spatio-temporal data with an almost encyclopaedic scope, in a complex and structured form, applying a logical sequence of maps. The main expectations concerning national atlases are that they should serve the representation of the state and the nation, public policy planning and decision-making, scientific research, as well as public and higher education, and that, due to their user-friendliness, they should also meet the requirements of the wider educated public.

In our days, most countries in the world have national atlases as far-reaching national symbols. Such atlases first appeared during struggles for national independence or in their aftermath, and they are usually updated every two or three decades. The first national atlas was published in 1899 by Finland, a country that was seeking to escape Russian control. Up to the mid-20th century, most atlases were issued in a single volume; although their size varied considerably, their methodology was mostly unsystematic, and in content they tended to concentrate on geography. After WWII, several developed countries launched their first (or revised) national atlas project, which already aimed at regional development and planning.

The 1980s saw the beginning of a new era in the history of national atlases, which is primarily due to reasons of marketing. The increasingly sophisticated national atlases were now intended for the educated public and actors of public and higher education. As a

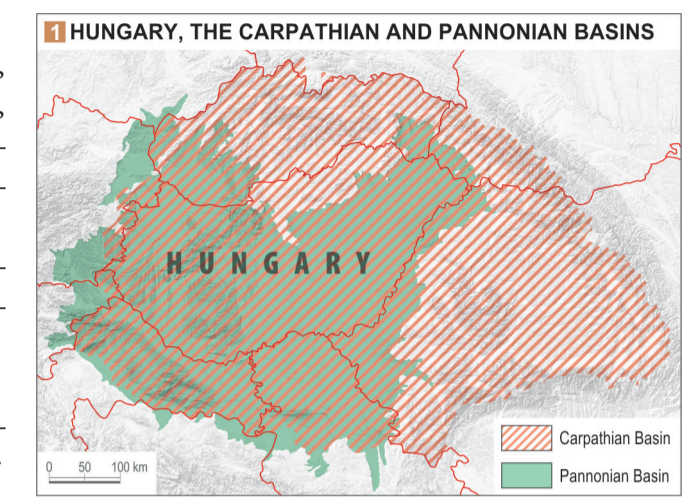
sign of targeting wider audiences, in order to be more comprehensible, more popular and more marketable, atlases started to include more explanatory texts, photographs, and various visual elements at the expense of maps. At the same time, maps were simplified, and themes shifted towards areas more relevant for society and users in general. Still based on scientific research, since the late 1980s the more market-oriented, more mass-consumable atlases have been issued electronically as well as in hard copy. The birth and rapid spread of personal computers revolutionised cartography, including atlas cartography, all over the world. Thanks to the changes in production and information technologies, modern atlases issued since the 1990s have been able to meet all the various functions emphasised during the past century in atlas making. The first electronic development was the appearance of CD-ROM versions accompanying conventional print atlases. Subsequently, the first internet and web-based national atlas was marketed in Canada.

In the case of national atlases published over the past two decades, traditional print atlases have lost ground to their electronic versions, which contain an almost unlimited number of multimedia elements (e.g. photos, videos, animation, and World Wide Web hyperlinks). However, paper-based atlases that we can still use at times of blackouts, a copy of which is in the hands of the reader, have not disappeared as outstanding period documents of the given state's geographic environment. Instead, they have been completely revived, becoming more interesting and more fascinating in consequence of their competition with electronic mass communication. Meanwhile, electronic atlases have become primary sources and tools of obtaining and analysing regional information. The easy access to and up-to-the minute nature of web-based atlases on the internet make them attractive because of their practically unlimited capacity to store data and maps.

Hungarian geography and cartography have always played a decisive role in developing our knowledge of the nation and the homeland, in building the image of Hungarians and their country. Following World War I, geographic and cartographic pieces were produced mainly in French, English and German, with maps and atlases among them, reflecting the impact of the Trianon Dictate and justifying the demand for a full or partial restoration of the country's former territorial unity.

In 1945, the *Atlas of Central Europe* was compiled by the *Institute of Political Sciences*, the organisational predecessor to today's *Geographical Institute*, Research Centre for Astronomy and Earth Sciences. Issued in both Hungarian and English, it already met all the requirements for national atlases. However, rather than focusing on the territory of one state (Hungary), it covered the *Carpathian Basin and the broader region* (12 countries).

Following the fundamental political, social and economic changes of 1948, the year 1967 saw the first edition of the *National Atlas of Hungary*, which was to propagate the new socialist Hungary. Based on the recommendations of the International Geographical Union's (IGU) Commission on National Atlases, work on the map collection was launched in 1959. The atlas, whose birth was assisted by the scientific contributions of MTA (especially its Geographical Committee) and the cartographic projects of the Cartographia Ltd.



Company, intended to facilitate 'economic management and planning' as well as to offer general information about the country. Again funded by the Government, in 1983 MTA in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture and Food decided on a revised edition of the National Atlas. Coordinated by the Geographical Research Institute of MTA and with the contribution of 87 (mainly) state-run institutions and organisations, as well as 183 authors, the second edition of the National Atlas was issued in 1989, shortly before the democratic regime change. In order to be more open to the outside world, the atlas, which was still published as one volume but had grown four-fold in size compared to its earlier version, was now bilingual (English and Hungarian).

The country's fundamental post-1989 social and economic transformation compelled the Geographical Research Institute to continue, in 1994–1995, the publication of the National Atlas in the form of a supplementary map lift-out series, thereby providing the public with accurate and updated information. The National Atlas managed to catch up with international trends. Thus, it broke with the tradition of producing one huge uniform volume; it changed its orientation by turning to the general educated public and opening its vista to education; it selected problem-centred issues of interest to a wide range of the population; and for working with maps and geographic information, it switched to digital technology (ArcGIS).

In preparation for a further edition of the National Atlas, in 2009 our legal predecessor, the MTA Geographical Research Institute issued its relatively small-sized information atlas called *Hungary in Maps* in English, and subsequently in 2011 in Hungarian (*Magyarország térképekben*). With the help of numerous maps, this publication intended to give a quick overview of the Hungary of the 2000s and of the Carpathian Basin.

Nearly a quarter of a century following its second edition, in 2013 preparations for the new (conventional) edition of the *Atlas of Hungary* were started – again under the coordination of the Geographical Institute of the MTA Research Centre for Astronomy and Earth Sciences (CSFK).

It is a unique novelty of our aims that the new edition of the National Atlas of Hungary wishes to present the dynamic spatial structure of nature, society and the economy not merely for Hungary, but wherever the required data are available, for the entire Carpathian Basin and its neighbourhood (the Carpatho-Pannonian Area), thus covering a territory of some half a million sq. km and 34 thousand settlements in twelve countries. It is to be noted that in the National Atlas, we strictly distinguish the terms 'Pannonian Basin' and

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National Atlas of Hungary (MNA)

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MNA Society

Volume editors

Károly Kocsis (Editor-in-chief), Zoltán Kovács, Zsombor Nemerkenyi, Gábor Gercsák, Áron Kincses, Géza Tóth

Chapter editors

Péter Bajmócy, Lajos Bálint, Pál Beluszky, Lajos Boros, †Bálint Csatári, Zoltán Dövényi,
Károly Kocsis, Zoltán Kovács, Péter Őri, Viktor Pál, Laura Szabó, Judit Székely, Patrik Tátrai

Revised by

Ferenc Probáld, Gábor Gercsák

English translation by

Richard William McIntosh

English translation revised by

Andrew Gane, Gábor Gercsák, Ferenc Probáld

Cover design

Geographical Institute, RCAES, Ildikó Kuti – Civertan Bt.

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Ildikó Kuti – Civertan Bt.

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NATIONAL ATLAS OF HUNGARY SOCIETY

Authors

PÉTER BAJMÓCY
LAJOS BÁLINT
PÁL BELUSZKY
LAJOS BOROS
GABRIELLA BRANYICZKINÉ GÉCZY

†BÁLINT CSATÁRI

ZOLTÁN DÖVÉNYI

TAMÁS EGEDY

SZABOLCS FABULA

TAMÁS FARAGÓ

JENŐ ZSOLT FARKAS

DÓRA GÁBRIEL

TAMÁS GÁL

ÁGNES GULYÁS

FERENC GYURIS

ZSÓFIA ILCSIKNÉ MAKRA

FERENC JANKÓ

ÁRON KINCSES

KÁROLY KOCSIS

ZOLTÁN KOVÁCS

TAMÁS KOVALCSIK

LÁSZLÓ KULCSÁR

GÁBOR LADOS

ZSUZSANNA MAKAY

JUDIT MONOSTORI

LÍVIA MURINKÓ

GÁBOR NAGY

GYULA NAGY

CSILLA OBÁDOVICS

PÉTER ŐRI

VIKTOR PÁL

JÁNOS PÉNZES

GÁBOR PIRISI

LAURA SZABÓ

JUDIT SZÉKELY

PÉTER SZILASSI

PATRIK TÁTRAI

GÉZA TÓTH

PÁL PÉTER TÓTH

ANDRÁS TRÓCSÁNYI

ANNAMÁRIA UZZOLI

ANDRÁS WÉBER

Authors of maps and figures

NORBERT AGÁRDI

ERIKA BÁCSKAINÉ PRISTYÁK

PÉTER BAJMÓCY

LAJOS BÁLINT

DÁNIEL BALIZS

ANDRÁS BALOGH

OLGA BARANYAI

ZSOMBOR BARTOS-ELEKES

PÁL BELUSZKY

JÓZSEF BENEDEK

ZOLTÁN BERTUS

†ANDRÁS BOGNÁR

LAJOS BOROS

ZSOLT BOTTLIK

GABRIELLA BRANYICZKINÉ GÉCZI

LÁSZLÓ BRAUN

TAMÁS CSAPÓ

†BÁLINT CSATÁRI

ISTVÁN CSERNICSKÓ

GÁBOR DEMETER

GYULA DÉZSI

ZOLTÁN DÖVÉNYI

TAMÁS EGEDY

TIBOR ELEKES

GYÖRGY FARKAS

JENŐ ZSOLT FARKAS

SÁNDOR FRISNYÁK

TAMÁS GÁL

ÁGNES GULYÁS

RÓBERT GYÓRI

FERENC GYURIS

IULIA HÄRÄNGUŞ

VIKTOR HEGEDŰS

ISTVÁN HORVÁTH

ZSÓFIA ILCSIKNÉ MAKRA

FERENC JANKÓ

ERZSÉBET JÁSZ

LAURA KARDOS

ÁRON KINCSES

TAMÁS KISS

KÁROLY KOCSIS

SÁNDOR KÓKAI

ZOLTÁN KOVÁCS

BALÁZS KOVALCSIK

TAMÁS KOVALCSIK

†ANDRÁS KUBINYI

JÓZSEF KÜCSÁN

GÁBOR LADOS

ISTVÁN MÁTÉ LENGYEL

JÓZSEF LENNERT

ZSUZSANNA MAKAY

KVETOSLAVA MATLOVIČOVÁ

ZSOLT MÁTÉ

CIPRIAN MOLDOVAN

JÓZSEF MOLNÁR

CSILLA MUCSINÉ ÉGERHÁZI

LÍVIA MURINKÓ

GÁBOR NAGY

GYULA NAGY

ÁDÁM NÉMETH

PÉTER ŐRI

VIKTOR PÁL

GÁBOR PÁLÓCZI

ISTVÁN ZOLTÁN PÁSZTOR

JÁNOS PÉNZES

JÁNOS PINTÉR

PÉTER RÓBERT

TAMÁS T. SIKOS

BALÁZS SZABÓ

LAURA SZABÓ

KATALIN SZENDE

JUDIT SZÉKELY

PÉTER SZILASSI

SÁNDOR SZÜCS

PATRIK TÁTRAI

†GUSZTÁV THIRRING

TIBOR TINER

GÁBOR TOLNAI

GÉZA TÓTH

PÁL PÉTER TÓTH

ANDRÁS TRÓCSÁNYI

ANNAMÁRIA UZZOLI

†ÁRPÁD E. VARGA

GÁBOR LÁSZLÓ VASÁRUS

ANDRÁS WÉBER

JERNEJ ZUPANČIČ

Chief cartographers

FANNI KO CZÓ

ANIKÓ KOVÁCS

GÁSPÁR MEZEI

ZSOMBOR NEMERKÉNYI

Contributors to cartography

NORBERT AGÁRDI

LAJOS BÁLINT

ZSOMBOR BARTOS-ELEKES

ZSOLT BOTTLIK

GÁBOR DEMETER

RENÁTA SZABÓ

Technical staff

MARGIT LACZKÓ

ÁRPÁD MAGYAR