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**Post-Soviet Features  
of Hungarian  
Administrative  
Sciences**

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# Post-Soviet Features of Hungarian Administrative Sciences

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## Introduction

Within the scope of the post-Soviet features of the Hungarian sciences of public administration<sup>1</sup>, firstly we should collect and introduce those traditional public policy processes that are stable and span over several political courses, and their most relevant elements which influence sciences, as well. Secondly, it is unavoidable to list those stereotypes that regularly evolve within the contemporary scientific descriptions of the era of state socialism in Hungary, but lack adequate scientific arguments. Thirdly, we must show and construe those current symptoms of administrative sciences in Hungary that reveal a close relationship with processes before 1989. And lastly, it is important to put this question in a broader context, inasmuch as the findings and statements related to the current Hungarian administrative sciences have become more approachable and interpretable by the results of a survey on the post-Soviet features of other states that belonged to the Soviet bloc.

## Contemporary delusions concerning public administration and administrative sciences of the Soviet-era in Hungary

Several stereotypes have been evolved in the last 25 years related to the preceding Hungarian public administration and administrative sciences:

*„Non-democratic, i. e. underdeveloped”*

András Tamás warns of excessive generalisations about Hungarian public administration, saying, ‘[The] public administration of state socialism is effective and cheap in many respects, while in reality it is absolutist and less democratic: but it would be a mistake to consider it “underdeveloped”.’ (Tamás, 2001:104)

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<sup>1</sup> The science of public administration is rather a whole collection of sub-disciplines dealing with public administration using distinct methods. Nevertheless, some disciplines do have a major role, as they consider the study of the main aspects of public administration their key task. These are the science of administrative law, political science and management sciences, etc.

*„During state socialism there were no original results, independent solutions within public administration, likewise there could not be scientific developments at all.’  
 „Public administration and administrative sciences existing before 1945 did not have any influence on post-war public administration and administrative sciences’*

By losing its political identity, Hungary did not lose fully its legal and administrative identity (Tamás, 2001:106). We may talk about some kind of continuity not only in the sense that our public administration has kept (preserved) some kind of European spirit also in the era of state socialism, but also that ‘[the] organisational activities of our public administration, the rules of management, its sample documents, moreover, file cover documents in 1989 are very much like the *K. und K.* administration of the era before the Great War’ (Tamás, 2001:108). Lajos Lőrincz considers this – if we like, material, if we like, formal – continuity the conservatism of Hungarian public administration: ‘(...) the advantage of the cursed slowness of Hungarian public administration is shown now, in so far as forty years was not enough to live up to its latest idol: due to its recklessness it failed to break up all its connections to Europe.’ (Lőrincz, 1991:1064) So in Hungary the certain ‘deep structural’ continuity of civil values was observable even in the Soviet-era (Hankiss, 1986:92). Continuing this logic, there are significant reasons to believe that the values, attitudes and expectations of communism have persisted after the political transformation as well. This ‘instinctive logic’ and often unwitting motivation may not only be observed on the side of administrative clients, but – as referred to before – on the side of the administrative staff as well. So, this system of values is observable mainly in the sphere beyond itemised law, in the attitude and self-image of the staff of public administration, and in the social expectations placed on public administration.

*„Reappearance (revival) of certain solutions of the Kádár-regime is restauration of state socialism’*

It is a fact that ‘[the] collapse of an empire-like public administration has a great sucking force which is able to bury a lot of things underneath’ (Tamás, 2001:104). However, it may also be observed that as we are getting further away from the 1980s, instinctive opposition towards the earlier solutions is disappearing: partly the fading of memories, partly the instinct of returning to the previous patterns, partly the need for adequate and practical answers given to necessities emerging from the different crises weaken the uniformity of rejection, which gave a definite ‘no’ to everything which was somehow related to the power and administrative solutions of state socialism.

In some fields the solutions of the *Kádár-era* have reappeared, even though, it must be added, not with the intention to return to Kádárism [*many of them were not even evolved (created) within the era of state socialism*], but mainly because these solutions

seemed to be adequate answers to the new problems, especially in those fields where the possibility of state – and material – control significantly decreased after 1989: e.g. *in the field of public education* supervision we may experience the return of some important elements of the structure which existed till 1985.

Within this scope, the disposition of certain tasks to unsuitable types of organisations or levels after the transition has been another reason. In this regard it is enough to refer to the notion of district; the name, (and partly the institutional structure) abolished in 1984, returned to Hungarian public administration law in 2010 as an old-new institution.

In addition to the professionally and properly reasoned conscious steps the – previously mentioned – unconscious mechanisms work too: earlier researchers believed that citizens favoured/favour the village meeting and the institution of community debate to a public hearing (Hóbor and Varga, 1998:291), for which the reason, in the case of the village meeting, is probably – in the opinion of the researchers – that the institution originates from the era of councils (Act I of 1975 on councils introduced it), and thus it has a tradition of several decades in villages, and has been built in to public knowledge as a ‘classic’ legal institution (Kiss, 2013:20).

However, in summary it may be stated that a return to models and institutions similar to the administrative solutions of the *Kádár-era* does not primarily result from nostalgia for socialism, but from two other factors: on the one hand it is the result of a special and continuous ‘swinging’ on the other hand, the forces of the global economic crisis lead to solutions which shift the diverse administrative institutions (institutional systems) towards the growing need for state control and centralising solutions. The notion of swinging refers to the phenomena that at the time of the change of regime the rejection of the solutions of the previous system showed constrained forms: staying away from the magnified disadvantages of the previous solutions understated by politics often buried the viable (partial) solutions, well-operating practices, but with regard to these, the two decades, which have passed, clearly showed which elements should be considered really antidemocratic, contrary to real public interests, maybe restricting individual freedoms, or which disregard the requirements of basic transparency and effectiveness, and of which partial reintroduction – in line with the requirements of the rule of law (typically ensuring some kind of legal remedy) – may be reasonable.

In addition to the above mentioned information, the fact of the crisis resulted in the revival and spread of institutions – earlier linked to socialism – such as the conscious support of co-operative forms, which existed before, and the introduction and strong support of new forms of these co-operatives, also via organisation, coordination and information supply (naturally, not by the pattern of the forced formation of co-operatives which happened in two waves in the 1950s and 1960s).

*Some implications come from these stereotypes: even though these statements are oversimplified, they result in precaution even in the examination and also in the propagation of the re-invention of particular institutions or solutions set up or used in the Kádár-regime.*

### **Peculiarities observable in the state-socialism and the survival of which can be proven**

*Positivist approach:* legal-type examinations are dominant; science concentrates on the present, and commentary becomes the most frequent type of scientific literature. According to its self-concept, its role mainly consists of reactive and interpretative activities.

*One of the main effects* on the present state of modern law and jurisprudence originates from the break up with the exclusivity of divine natural law: the transcendent (moral) verification of the validity of positive law made by man was profaned in form of rational natural law (Cs. Kiss, 1994:8). Even though the need to verify the validity of positive law with transcendent, the so-called meta-juristic (moral) principles have not vanished yet, the verification problem itself shifted into the dimension of the history of the non-created world. Pál Kecskés wrote, 'As the conservatism of the historical-legal school established in the concept of Romanticism considered customs, which appeared in the historical spirit, the origin of positive law, with the urging of the historical method it significantly facilitated the creation of legal positivism' (Kecskés, 2002: 219-220), which, by rejecting metaphysics – thus the existence and role of God – considered only concrete, positive law as the only existing and valid law (therewith that in its opinion the only possible background reason of the created rules must be found in historical circumstances). In this approach, the notion of law is limited to the material (positive) law, of which only origin and, therefore, interpreter is the state or the will of the state.

*With the advancing of the positivism of the law, the separation/division of ethics and law* (morality and legality) from the strengthening of legal positivism pushing the natural law approach to the background, there has been the following alternative solution to the question of the 'origin and nature' of legal validity: positive law becomes valid either through a decision delivered in a rationalised (legal!) procedure, and it does not need any transcendent justification beyond law, or there is a need for external justification, reliance on metajuristic (moral) principles (Cs. Kiss, 1994: 8-9). *At this time it must be stated that nowadays we may witness the slow strengthening of the natural law approaches, interpreted in the broadest sense.* Regarding legal positivism, which can still be considered the ruling approach, the assumption is realistic according to which '[law] as momentum related to the system of norms and values, requires the certification of its validity, and the changing world of positive experience cannot serve as sufficient justification; it could remain in the shadow only till the wise spirit is tied down by one-sided natural scientific knowledge' (Kecskés, 2002: 220).

Hungarian public administration and the science of public administration – traditionally – are very much of legal character. This is not changed by the fact that the most acknowledged researchers of the science of public administration (earlier Zoltán Magyary, in the near past, Lajos Lőrincz) often expressed their concerns about the one-sided legal analysis of public administration. Nevertheless, the analysis of public administration primarily with jurisprudential methods and from a legal approach is comfortable, because “(...) the questions of public administration may be homogenised legally, and its mechanisms have been consciously based on law since the beginning of the 19th century” (Tamás, 2011: 67-68), therefore, this is determinative also in practice. According to the data of a survey published not long ago, the civil servants questioned – in their own opinion – spend exactly two-thirds of their office hours on legal activities, and this rate is slightly higher in the case of jurists working in public administration (68%) (Gajdushek, 2011: 395).

The latest article of Márton Gellén also states that the basic framework of public administration education – as a major driver of public administration culture – is still dominantly legalistic (Gellén, 2014: 111). Although the National University of Public Service (NUPS) is the primary promoter of non-legalistic general PA in Hungary (launching a doctoral school is the first tangible step), for the time being NUPS cannot entirely detach itself from its heritage. Changing the curriculum will still require a lot of effort (Gellén, 2014: 119).

This paper does not want to introduce the scientific methods and new paradigms that are to overcome the one-sided jurisprudential methods of analysis of public administration. Nevertheless, as it has been obvious for a long time, a sort of inter- or multidisciplinary method is needed for a strong scientific and material framework, which allows further conclusions. And on the other hand, *beyond* multi- and interdisciplinarity, it is unavoidable to re-establish the philosophic synthesis between legal norms regulating public administration and the facts of real operation. In general, it may be stated that due to the crises social sciences shall start examining the broader frameworks of the analysed phenomena more and more, instead of using descriptive methods analysing exclusively the ways of operation.

### *Lack of strategic way of thinking*

Hungarian public administration and the science of public administration must be oriented by certain facts of the future. Regarding Hungary, such questions are the Roma issue (Rixer, 2013) and the possible effects of climate change.

Attila Ágh states in one of his articles, ‘The underfinanced and marginalised social sciences do not meet the needs of strategic planning within the society; they broke up into introverted sub-disciplines that mostly do not communicate with each other’ (Ágh, 2008: 11). This phenomenon is to be avoided by contemporary administrative sciences in Hungary.

If we had to determine what the core characteristic of the 'good state' is, we could say that it is the ability to reflect on real social problems. Under ideal circumstances, we could also add that the fact and content of material response for real questions should not depend on what short-term political consequences it has for the decision maker...

It is a pre-question in the examination of public administration, positive law, the performance of public administration and the effectiveness of law enforcement that at what degree the state and society will provide answers to the urging questions of the coming years and decades.

*Undue carefulness concerning the new methods and techniques for effective teaching*

When the scope of administrative sciences comes to an expansion, the reasons behind that are not only external ones, but they also relate to the changes in educational methodology and didactics. For example, *public administration and fiction* is an emerging discipline also in Hungary, which aims at revealing the literary context of legal and administrative phenomena.

*Shortages within critical thinking, restricted scientific debates*

The development of critical thinking traits is of central importance because the healthy operation of any science requires the existence of substantive critical attitudes.

The elimination of the most natural mechanism of healthy science in the era of state socialism, i. e., the partial abolition of free critical thinking, led to the situation in which real scientific debates have disappeared from Hungarian administrative sciences, *mainly from administrative law*. On the one hand it means that there are almost no reactions to particular articles in the next issue; and on the other hand, reviews (*recenzió*) do not contain parts that point to the shortcomings and other weaknesses of the given book. It also refers to the problem that there are only two scientific journals out of seven that provide substantial expert review/peer review (*lektorálás*).

*Influence of party-politics on sciences* causes classification of researchers by political considerations. One of the prerequisites of scientific objectivity is the clear demarcation between political and scientific values that is provided by well detectable and reachable guarantees.

Unfortunately, even under democratic circumstances we see examples of strong self-censorship.

*Restricted influence of the sciences of public administration.*

The starting point is the dilemma: to what extent is science able to influence the creation of public policies, the law-making processes and the content of individual administrative decisions?



The Hungarian scientific literature shows that the relation between law-making entities and administrative sciences is occasional and the utilization of the results is doubtful and hardly plannable. It comes from the fact that public policy processes begin, but they do not often get to the end. There is no evaluation phase and closure; moreover, there are almost no programs that span over political courses.

However, it would be a mistake to accuse exclusively politics of the problems of the relationship: we must ask the question whether the representatives of administrative sciences did their best to make this relation an organic one. It is obvious that, in order to strengthen this connection, it is the given scientific field that must show inner integrity in advance.

We may detect the lack of stable research institutes independent from the state budget and/or political parties in Hungary as well.

*So, what are the general and constant features of public policy determining the relation of administrative sciences and public administration in Hungary?*

A starting point of this point is that new Central-Eastern-European democracies established after 1989 did not build the political system on layered, sophisticated consultation procedures and institutional systems based on wide scale social participation, but – almost exclusively – on the parliament-centred formation of political structures based on the principle of representation. Many believe that one of the great problems of societies getting out from under a dictatorship is that due to the lack of civil society filling the space between individuals and the state during their socialisation, the members of these societies could never naturally learn the formulation of their interests, the exchange their thoughts, and the harmonisation of different opinions, due to which the various problem-handling methods were not developed, either. From the public policy side it may be stated that in Hungary the legal and institutional requirements of representative democracy were fulfilled after 1990, but since then no material change has occurred towards participative democracy; this means that Hungarian democracy “has frozen into” the level of representative democracy (Jenei, 2010: 95).

A further tendency, a feature which may be hardly separated from the one mentioned earlier is that the all-time state – formed after the transition – imitates, reconstructs and replaces the civil sector through its conscious efforts, making it weaker. During the analysis of this, it must not be forgotten that in the economic and sociological literature of the past one or two decades the state, by undertaking the ‘replacement’ and ‘simulation’ of the organisation of market and self-regulating social mechanisms, and the political organisation of society, eventually hampers the connection between political decision-making mechanisms and the actual fragmentation of the interests of society.

Within the state-led and legal type transition at the very end of the 1980s, organised civil society, even though it is obvious that it was strengthening during that period, 'was not the foundation nor the driving force of that transition'. That transition appears mainly as a non-organic, non-revolutionary shift, which took place due to predominantly external and economic reasons. The weakness of the civil sphere was detectable not only in political, social, religious and other autonomous fields, but also within the features, integrity and power-dependence of scientific communities. The biggest danger concerning administrative sciences existing after the collapse of communism is that it tends to accept unnatural things as, during the 'change of regime', conscious and natural mechanisms of proactivity beyond mere defence had not been built up. This approach to science is limited to commenting what happens, and though with critique, it is ready to accept whatever comes...

*Weaknesses in terminology (Tasks related to the dogmatics of administrative law)*

Related to the linguistic tasks the most important question is whether there is a real need of an institutionalised, conscious neology in Hungary let it be everyday language or the special terminology of administrative sciences. The *language*, linguistic environment, the framework with which its highly regulated nature keeps together and from several aspects determines certain features of, and the dogmatics of, public administration. Language, expert terminology/dogmatic continuities, and their role in influencing scientific-professional, scientific-ethical directions are impossible to overrate (Rixer, 2014: 48). In the case of small languages shaping and actuation of scientific communities *especially* require the existence and continual maintenance of an independent specialised terminology.

The terminology is poor in some aspects, e.g. the word *kormányhivatal* – as a legal term – has two different meanings in today's substantial law in Hungary: on the one hand, it appears as a type of central state administration organisation (translated as government agency) with nationwide competence, and, on the other hand, it is the territorial (county and metropolitan) state administration organisation of the government with general competence (translated as metropolitan and county government offices).

*Weaknesses in dogmatics*

The dogmatics of administrative law needs a renewal in many ways in Hungary. Such questions are the problem of para-administrative organisations or the need for the elaboration of a theory of administrative legal relations. The differentiation of the notions of co-regulation and co-decision seems to be unavoidable as well.

If we would like to find the most important reason behind the shortages within the dogmatics of administrative law, we must realise that Hungarian administrative sciences have chosen 'conservation supplemented by constrained adaptation' instead

of the renewal of dogmatics. We may find a textbook even after 2010 in which the relative majority of quotations originates from Szamel Lajos's work, published in 1977.

*Shortages of relations with Hungarian scientific communities working outside Hungary*  
The intensification of relations with Hungarian scientific communities working outside Hungary/beyond the borders of Hungary is needed. Such relations are mostly missing or are accidental; programs of those communities or independent researchers are isolated from the representatives of the mother country who work within the same field of science.

*Researchability of Hungarian public administration. Accessibility of materials in English*  
Having scientific 'catalyzers', by which particular institutions and certain solutions of a given state can be observed within their broader context, serves as a precondition for participation within international public life of science. It results in a situation in which foreign researchers do not have to 'excavate' the whole legal system and the superstructure of the administrative system of the given country again and again, one by one...

In 2010 a project was completed under the supervision of academician and professor Lajos Lőrincz, which aimed at analysing the public administration of each EU member state based on previously selected aspects [the result of the research is the following work: Szamel Katalin – Balázs István – Gajduschek György – Koi Gyula (Eds), *Az Európai Unió tagállamainak közigazgatása* [Public administration of the member states of the European Union]. Complex, Budapest, 2011. Moreover, the enhancement of the research of Hungarian public administration by external actors (by researchers from abroad) was also needed. This goal was facilitated by the book entitled *Hungarian Public Administration and Administrative Law*, presenting Hungarian public administration as a whole and in a complex way in English. It has come to fruition as a result of the cooperation between Lajos Lőrincz Research Centre for Public Law and the National University of Public Service (NUPS). Publishing the *Hungarian Public Administration and Administrative Law* was especially reasonable, because no book presenting the Hungarian public administration as a whole and from the aspects of several fields of science has been published in English or in any other foreign language before.

There are several explanations for the preceding lack of a comprehensive work presenting the Hungarian situation. Among these the most obvious is the one that assumes the relative isolation of the science of Hungarian public administration and supports its findings mainly with the internal structure of the science of public administration, with the traditional and significant relationship of public administration to a specific form of state, and with reference to linguistic limits.

*Dominance of individual researches*

A trend is to be shown in Hungary both in political sciences (Antal, 2011: 136) and in social sciences in general: the representatives of these sciences do seek international connections individually. Moreover, the dominance of books written by one author (without co-author) is visible, while prosperity of a given science depends on the existence of prestigious authors having multiple relations.

*Shortages of the connection between representatives of administrative sciences and administrative authorities in Hungary*

Related to the fact-finding researches we could say that scientific collaborations do operate mainly by the involvement of local self-governments (*helyi önkormányzatok*); the cooperation with state administrative organisations (*államigazgatási szervek*) is really rare, moreover, the forms of such cooperation are still rudimentary.

During the era of state socialism science had been under the control of the state; nowadays the state just fears the researchers and carefully backs off in many situations. The result is almost the same: the existence of a public administration that is hardly accessible for sciences.

**Lack of processing the achievements of the Hungarian sciences of public administration between 1945 and 1990.**

The shortage of the presentation and evaluation comes at least partly from the fact that the grouping of the authors and the existence of stable sights and consensuses for the evaluation of contemporary administrative sciences are almost completely missing.

The most intrinsic problem comes from the fact that any science which doubts its own past will be always sceptical towards its present and future.

The difficulties of the research work in this field come from the fact that the comprehensive evaluation of the given discipline, the evaluation of the post-war period has not happened yet.

- A) There are so many reasons for that, one of which is *the lack of clearly separable scientific schools*. The lack of independent scientific schools comes from the relatively small number of the representatives of the given fields, which results in the constant pressure for cooperation. On the whole, real competition conditions have not evolved yet. We may mention only different streams, directions, influential tendencies – instead of separate schools. Moreover, these ‘streams’ do not compete with each other, they rather follow each other.
- B) Those studies which undertake a kind of evaluation related to administrative sciences after 1945 often introduce their findings in extreme ways: they either absolutize negative tendencies (András Jakab), or exaggerate the positive ones (Zoltán Józsa, Katalin Szamel).

- C) The lack of serious political impacts on the given fields of science, visible personal continuity, the fact that researchers were charged with significantly growing researches in numbers, the growing number of researches financed from abroad, and the rising international relations made it possible and also necessary to avoid the comprehensive evaluation of administrative sciences after World War II.
- D) It also serves as an obstacle for the elaboration of post-war trends within administrative sciences that personal, political and professional aspects are fairly often mixed up concerning a given scholar. Moreover, some opinions do still function as political statements.
- E) Low availability and accessibility  
 Nowadays approximately 90% of all the scientific contributions are published somehow, and it reaches the broad public, but before the 1990's the very same index number was not more than 15-20% in Hungary. In addition, even if some of those materials were printed by former techniques, the number was limited to 2 to 5 copies in many cases. Unfortunately, the collection, conservation and processing of materials written or printed between 1945 and the fall of the Iron Curtain is not organised or ordered at all; many of the most important materials still belong to private libraries of individuals.
- F) Memoirs and edited reminiscences are completely missing among the scholars belonging to this field of science; i. e., the indirect information on the public administration and administrative sciences of the era in question is still missing. Even though the development of technical tools is accelerating, this knowledge of intrinsic tendencies and other 'secrets' disappears easily within a few years or decades without gathering consciously the basic elements of the 'oral history' from the older generation.  
 For example, the most important features, directions and scientific results of the Magyary school, which existed before World War II, are well presented – but we still do not know how Magyary was able to influence and affect the poorly paid members of his team... This piece of information could be obtained only from records of scholars around Magyary.
- G) It was not a prevalent or even an acceptable practice to criticise living people, belonging to the same scientific field, publicly.

### **Comparative aspects**

Beside the internal analyses of administrative sciences of a given country, international comparison gives a broader and more detached picture. Moreover, the best solution is the analysis of countries, the history of which makes it possible to compare the Hungarian processes with those of the countries with fairly similar past. Actually, it requires an inquiry reflecting on the particular differences and similarities of countries that formerly belonged to the Soviet-bloc.

I have made an attempt to clarify the absolute position of the approaches and the attitudes of contemporary Hungarian administrative sciences towards their recent past. It was worked out by a questionnaire (survey) sent to 125 scholars representing 18 countries that belonged to the former Soviet-bloc. There were three questions on the list, the first two of which were closely connected with the post-Soviet issue:

,Currently I research the past, the present and the near future of Hungarian administrative sciences. Working in this field it occurred to me whether the experiences and main observations in this context are the same in other states that formerly belonged to the Soviet bloc or not. I have formulated three questions, and I would be pleased if you could answer them – even if your answer is really short.

1. Do you face any *direct* consequences (implications) of the era of state socialism within the contemporary administrative sciences of your country? If yes, what are these [e.g. personal continuity, lack of external relations, lack of knowledge of languages, weaknesses and shortcomings of dogmatics, permanency (endurance) of old terminology]?
2. Have handwritten, typed or other not printed materials, documents of *high value* (belonging to the field of administrative sciences), from the era between 1945 and 1990, been collected, catalogued and processed *consciously* in your country since the change of the regime?
3. (...)’

Forty detailed answers arrived from 14 countries at the beginning of this year (2015), and this number was high enough to make some conclusions.

Ad 1. The vast majority of the respondents alleged that personal continuities linking sciences to the Soviet-era with the last 25 years have ceased by that time. Nevertheless several phenomena of the past influencing contemporary administrative sciences (mainly administrative law) were mentioned. There is a lot of evidence about path dependence: a) though not the same persons are within the same positions, the selection and career mechanisms are still almost the same, and cause many problems, even contraselection; b) many respondents mentioned weaknesses in dogmatics and terminology; c) the lack of proper knowledge of foreign languages is also detectable; d) in many post-Soviet countries the absence of PhD in public administration can be seen; e) there are several old reflexes in the representatives of administrative authorities related to scientific researches; f) public administration education is still dominated by legal subjects in most of the countries.

Ad 2. A detailed description of the administrative sciences of the given era is missing almost everywhere. Among the reasons we may find a) insecurity and fear deriving from over-politicized public life; b) conscious collection of written and other materials created during that period is missing in most of the countries; c) moreover, lack of

memoirs that contain elements of the 'oral history' is a constant phenomenon in the whole region.

## Conclusion

To sum up, we have to list some suggestions as well. Suggestions that could be helpful in connecting the recent past of administrative sciences in Hungary with their present and future...

Firstly, all the scientific journals must be peer-reviewed – not only formally, but in reality. Secondly, the renewal of terminology shall not be avoided; this renewal can not be confined to the adaptation of the adequate EU terminology and wording. Thirdly, deliberate gathering of all the materials arisen within that period of time is enormously important, also. At least partly, it can be done by the extension of the LUDITA (Ludovika Digital Knowledge Repertory and Archives). LUDITA is a digital knowledge repertory which represents the intellectual wealth and research productivity of the National University of Public Service and is able to store and make documents, which were made during the educational and research work, and are worthy of preservation, researchable in full text and other multimedia formats (<http://ludita.uni-nke.hu/ludita>). Its purpose is to index, publish and archive educational and research achievements made at the faculties and their organisational units, inter-faculty institutes, doctoral schools, academic study groups and special colleges. LUDITA contains six repositories – separated in themes, divided into collections –, as well as a university academic cadaster.

And lastly, there is an urgent need for life story interviews with the most accepted and influential elderly representatives of the given field of science. The importance of these interviews comes from the fact that facts can be collected without the direct evaluation of any person; though the chances for this are given to the next generations.

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