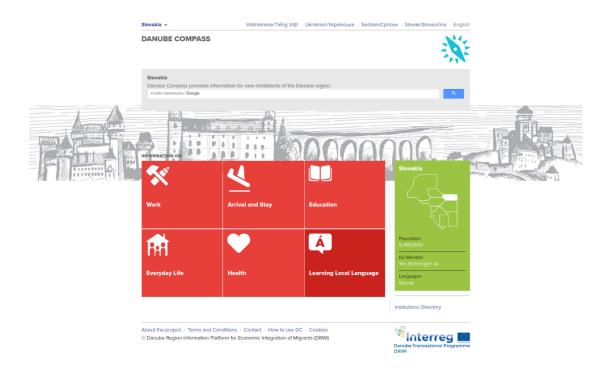


**INFORMATION PORTAL AS A TOOL TO IMPROVE LABOUR MIGRATION – DANUBE COMPASS** (EU Interreg Danube Transnational Programme 2014–2020, Danube Region Information Platform for the Economic Integration of Migrants (acronym: DRIM, DTP No. 1-1-183-4.1)

**Summary of the impact:** The Danube Compass is an innovative website for new citizens of Slovakia or of any other country of the Danube region (http://sk.danubecompass.org/). The internet portal concentrates in a single place information about residence, education, business, job seeking, or learning in the official language of the new country from among all eight countries involved in the project – SR, CZ, DE, AT, HR, SRB, SLO, HU. The website also contains easy-to-understand guides on how to proceed while communicating with the authorities or what forms to use. The information about Slovakia is available in Slovak, English, Vietnamese, Serbian, and Ukrainian. In six chapters, the Danube Compass clearly and simply presents up-to-date information which has traditionally been much sought for by migrants and employers, such as arrival and residence, the labour market, forms of business, education, daily life, healthcare services, and Slovak language teaching. Foreigners can learn, for instance, whom to contact in the event of discrimination at the workplace or how to join social life in the mainstream society. Employers can get first-hand information on the processes and forms of employing foreigners.



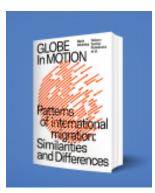
Underpinning research: The IESA SAS has a long tradition of migration studies, and currently has a team of experts dealing with mobility and migration issues (Martina Sekulová, Miroslava Hlinčíková, Daniel Škobla, Tatiana Zachar Podolinská, Ľubica Voľanská). Its experts are enrolled in national (SRDA projects) and international (COST Action) projects focused on the topic. The IESA SAS experts are also contacted by NGOs and governmental bodies regarding intercultural communication or detection of migrant needs in terms of their inclusion to the mainstream society. At present, the IESA SAS coordinates an international project for UNESCO in five countries (Slovakia, Poland, Hungary, Ukraine, and Moldova) with the aim to map the needs of refugees from Ukraine due to the war conflict with Russia).

## Details of the impact:

On 28 September 2018, the Institute of Ethnology and Social Anthropology of the Slovak Academy of Science officially launched the Slovak pages of the Danube Compass international information portal, whose role is to serve as a virtual intermediary of information to foreigners and providers of public services to immigrants in Slovakia. The official launch of the Danube Compass took place on the International Right to Know Day, whose key objective is to increase awareness and defend the right to a free and just access to information. On this occasion, the Institute of Ethnology and Social Anthropology SAS presented the Danube Compass to media representatives at a press conference and to the general and expert public by means of the one-stopshop centre during the LINGVAFEST festival which was held in the University of Economy in Bratislava on 28–29 September 2018. At other accompanying events, such as the "National Workshop" and the "Expert Seminar", the IESA SAS experts met potential users of the Compass in Slovakia. On 12 October 2018, the thematic experts from the IESA SAS, S. Katrincová and G. Terzieva, attended the 5th Colloquium of the Information Centres Association in Nitra. Together with the AiCES President, I. Fraňová, they discussed the use of the Danube Compass within the physical network of centres, thus extending not only their offer by a new agenda, but also the focus on a new target group - new citizens of Slovakia. The Association decided to place the Danube Compass on its website http://www.aices.sk/ on a permanent basis and recommended their staff that they start using this tool in their routine practice. Likewise, an expert meeting titled "The Danube Compass as a Tool for the Economic Integration of Migrants in Slovakia" took place in Bratislava on 14 November 2018. The organiser of the event, the IESA SAS, invited the representatives of the public and private sector to discuss the current infrastructure of the provision of information to migrants and to jointly seek possibilities to enhance its effectiveness also by applying the Danube Compass tool. The IESA SAS experts, S. Katrincová, G. Terzieva, B. Divinský, and T. Zachar Podolinská, discussed together with the representatives of the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with the representatives of the Aliens Police of the Slovak Republic. President of the Information Centres Association of Slovakia, staff member of the Labour Office in Nitra, project manager of EURAXESS Slovakia (SAIA), and representatives of the Trexima and Slovakia Invest companies. One of the outcomes of the meeting was the placement of the Compass on the information website of the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs, and Family of the Slovak Republic, under the "Foreigners' Mobility" section. The IESA SAS experts actively disseminated the information about the Danube Compass among its potential users in Slovakia, addressing 1,078 migrants (individuals as well as through community organisations), 83 institutions with nationwide coverage, and 45 institutions with international coverage – altogether 394 institutions representing various segments of the decision-making sphere (ministries, embassies, chambers of commerce, labour portals and agencies, the aliens police, the third sector, universities and research centres, local authorities, higher territorial units, information agencies, etc.). In terms of

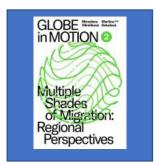
media coverage/popularisation of the Compass, we have recorded 19 media reports and responses in total (in radio, TV, and printed media).

## References to the research outputs:



DIVINSKÝ, Boris—ZACHAR PODOLINSKÁ, Tatiana et al. (2018). *Globe in Motion: Patterns of international migration: Similarities and Differences.* Bratislava: IESA SAS, Marenčin PT, spol. s. r. o., 216 pp. Ethnological Studies 34. ISBN 978-80-970975-7-8. DOI: <u>https://doi.org/10.31577/2018.9788097097578</u>

In 2019 the continuing volume addressing the migration in Slovakia was released in English



HLINČÍKOVÁ, Miroslava—SEKULOVÁ, Martina (Eds.). (2019). *Globe in Motion 2. Multiple Shades of Migration: Regional Perspectives.* Bratislava: IESA SAS, 154 pp. Ethnologic Studies 36.ISBN 978-80-970975-9-2. DOI: <u>https://doi.org/10.31577/2019.9788097337209</u>

The project was awarded the **Prize of the SAS Presidium as an excellent** international cooperation outcome.