

LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE PLANNING MECHANISMS OF THE JUST TRANSITION IN HUNGARY¹

Balázs Hegyi, Ádám Gyurkó, Zsuzsa Piskóti-Kovács

The European Union's Just Transition Mechanism seeks to address the socio-economic consequences of decarbonization in coal-dependent regions by promoting structurally transformative and territorially just development pathways. This paper examines the planning mechanisms of the just transition in Hungary, focusing on Heves and Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén counties. Interpreting just transition as a policy-driven process of economic diversification, the study assesses whether institutional structures, participation processes, and multi-level governance arrangements support the development of coherent diversification strategies.

The analysis is based on qualitative content analysis of EU and national policy documents, Territorial Just Transition Plans, and related institutional materials. Results indicate that the Hungarian model is procedurally well-developed: broad stakeholder involvement, partnership forums, and coordination mechanisms were formally established. However, their contribution to substantive economic diversification remains limited. Participation and partnership primarily reinforced communication and procedural compliance, while capacity constraints, institutional instability, and regulatory rigidities reduced the scope for integrated, long-term structural transformation.

The paper concludes that, in the Hungarian case, procedural robustness does not automatically translate into transformative capacity. Strengthening implementation capacities and project-generation mechanisms is essential to convert established governance frameworks into effective diversification outcomes.

Key words: Hungary, Just Transition, economic diversification, territorial planning, stakeholder participation, multi-level governance

Introduction

The European Union's climate neutrality goals and the implementation of the European Green Deal represent both an environmental and a socio-economic transformation. In regions dependent on fossil fuels and emission-intensive industries, the transition is not just a technological shift, but can also affect jobs, local tax revenues, supply chains, and even community identities, thus easily causing shock effects [Hermwille et al., 2023; Matern et al., 2025]. Managing these impacts is therefore not merely a question of compensation, but rather a specific planning and governance task [Jenkins et al., 2016]. The challenge is whether the transition can permanently improve the adaptability of regions, reduce their vulnerability, and open up new development paths [Breul, 2022]. The institutional response to this equity dimension is the EU's Just Transition Mechanism (JTM), which specifically addresses the social

and territorial consequences of the climate policy shift [Bujdosó et al., 2022; Bors, 2025].

The aim of this study is to apply a document-based evaluation framework to assess the planning mechanisms of the just transition in Hungary, using Heves and Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén counties as case studies. The study focuses on the compliance of the institutional structure, participation and involvement processes, and planning with the expectations of participation-partnership-multi-level governance. In line with this, the key question of the research is how and to what quality these governance and procedural frameworks are able to lay the foundations for one of the essential elements of the transition, namely economic diversification aimed at reducing fossil fuel dependency. Accordingly, the analysis draws on planning documents and planning support mechanisms and examines the suitability of the designated actors, coopera-

tion forums, and engagement solutions for the coherent designation of diversification priorities and intervention directions, as well as for strengthening the conditions for subsequent implementation.

The research gap addressed by this study stems from the limited number of analyses examining Hungary's just transition planning mechanisms through a unified analytical framework that connects institutional structures, stakeholder involvement, and multi-level governance with the substantive and implementation conditions of economic diversification. The academic contribution of the study is twofold. Methodologically, it applies a document-based evaluation framework structured around participation, partnership, multi-level governance, and a diversification test. Empirically, it demonstrates how procedurally developed participation and coordination mechanisms may coexist with a limited capacity to translate plan-

¹ Český překlad článku je uveřejněn na webových stránkách časopisu.

ning into integrated and implementable diversification pathways.

In this study, we interpret just transition not as a general normative principle, but as a policy logic guiding territorial structural change. Decarbonization can be considered "just" if, in the most affected regions, the management of losses (labor market and social impacts) is accompanied by the establishment of a new, long-term viable economic path [McCauley & Heffron, 2018; Stark et al., 2023]. It follows that the key issue for a just transition is economic diversification: what sectoral and business structures can replace fossil fuel dependency and what institutional, partnership, and planning conditions are necessary for this. The conceptual framework also leads directly to the legal framework, as diversification does not appear as a "spontaneous market process" but as a legally conditioned planning and resource allocation practice through the conditions of the JTM, in particular the Just Transition Fund, with access subject to territorial plans, designated targets, programming expectations, and partnership and multi-level governance requirements [Bujdosó et al., 2022; Bors, 2025].

The legal framework establishing diversification can be described as having a dual effect. On the one hand, it structures planning through incentives, linking subsidies to regionally equitable transitional plans, prescribing target and intervention logic, and incorporating partnership and multi-level governance expectations into programming all work towards promoting interventions that support structural change rather than short-term compensation [Peretto et al., 2025], such as business development, innovation, labor market adaptation, and expansion of the local economic base. On the other hand, the frameworks also set limits, as eligibility and support conditions, exclusions, and compliance and verification obligations can narrow the scope for action. The "disciplining" nature of the regulatory environment – the rigidity of territorial and thematic boundaries, the exclusion of investments linked to fossil fuel pathways, and the administrative burdens arising from state aid, public procurement, and control requirements – can

push planning and transformative, long-term diversification packages toward risk aversion. In the longer term, it may steer programming towards more easily justifiable, "safe" interventions rather than diversification packages that pay off in the longer term [Weckroth et al., 2025]. This duality justifies examining diversification as a goal of justice not only as a substantive priority, but also through the legally framed operation of planning mechanisms, as both the institutional structure involvement processes, and compliance with planning expectations all determine whether the legal toolkit has a dominant incentivizing or restrictive effect in the two sample areas [Bujdosó et al., 2022; Bors, 2025].

Our starting point is that, in the early stages of a just transition, success cannot be measured solely by project results, but also by the "quality of governance" of the planning process, i.e., the extent to which the system is capable of developing coherent objectives, feasible intervention logic, and legitimate decision-making processes, with particular regard to laying the foundations for diversification [Jenkins et al., 2016]. Accordingly, the analysis is literature-based and relies on document analysis, drawing on relevant EU and domestic policy materials, regional just transition plans (Heves and Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén), and related institutional and partnership documents.

The assessment is based on three inter-related dimensions:

1. institutional structure and coordination (actors, responsibilities, forums, and decision-making mechanisms),
2. participation and partnership (extent of involvement, timing, feedback mechanisms),
3. compliance with multi-level governance and planning requirements (enforcement of procedural and programming requirements, implementation capacities and constraints).

Within this, the focus on diversification examines the extent to which the above mechanisms support the substantive basis for structural change (priorities, types of intervention, target groups) and the conditions for subsequent im-

plementation (project generation, coordination, reconciliation of interests), and what institutional and procedural constraints can be inferred from the documents [Breul, 2022; Peretto et al., 2025; Weckroth et al., 2025].

Methodology

Description of the Study Area

The geographical focus of the analysis is on Heves and Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén (BAZ) counties, which are the areas most affected by the coal transition in Hungary. The official planning unit is the county, but the direct economic and labor market exposure to the transition is narrower than this, with activities related to lignite mining and use concentrated in the surroundings of Visonta (Heves) and Bükkábrány (BAZ), while the supplier networks and labor market effects may extend to the entire county.

Heves County is located in the north-eastern part of Hungary (3 637 km², 121 settlements, ~295 000 inhabitants, county capital: Eger). According to the regional plan, the transition may affect nearly 6 000 jobs, and in addition to the energy industry, the automotive, engineering, healthcare, and food industries are also significant in the economic structure. Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén County (7 247 km², 358 settlements, ~648 000 inhabitants; county capital: Miskolc) has a complex industrial profile (chemical industry, mechanical engineering, metallurgy, energy and water production) and, according to the regional plan model, several thousand jobs may be directly or indirectly affected by 2030. The combined analysis of these two counties allows us to take into account both the county-level logic of coal region planning and the local characteristics of the sub-regions actually affected (Visonta, Bükkábrány) (Fig. 1).

Materials and Methods

The empirical analysis was based on a purposively selected corpus organized into six source groups rather than

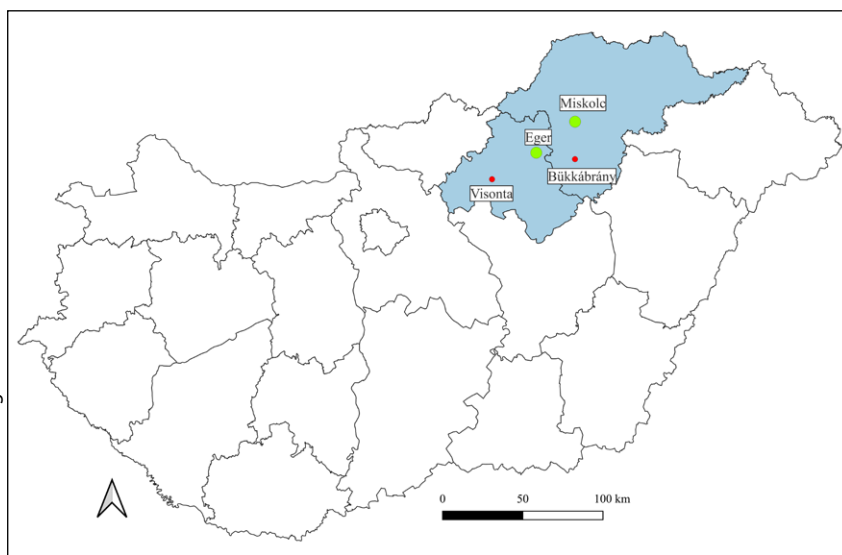


Fig. 1: The location of the study area

a fixed numerical sample of documents. This approach was applied because some institutional sources consisted of several interconnected and periodically updated web pages. The corpus included the Territorial Just Transition Plans for Heves and Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén counties, EU regulations governing the Just Transition Fund and cohesion policy partnerships, European Commission policy materials on the Just Transition Mechanism, and institutional materials describing the LIFE-IP North-HU-Trans project and the operation of the Coal Commission. Documents and web-based materials were included when they contained direct information on planning objectives, programming requirements, institutional responsibilities, stakeholder engagement, or the planned instruments of economic diversification. Academic publications and external policy evaluations supported the interpretation of the analytical categories but did not form part of the primary empirical corpus.

The documents were examined using deductive, qualitative content analysis. During coding, we treated as units of analysis those text segments that referred to actors, responsibilities, engagement procedures, coordination mechanisms, implementation capacities, or diversification interventions. We evaluated each finding according to the following system of questions and categories, which was applied consistently throughout.

- What does the plan promise?
- What does the documentation of the process indicate?
- And what does this mean for the feasibility of economic diversification?

The evaluation framework is based on making planning expectations “measurable” in three thematic pillars. In the case of participation we examine:

1. the timing and depth of involvement,
2. the composition (representativeness) of the actors involved,
3. and the traces of feedback and integration.

In terms of partnership, we review:

1. the actual mandate and role of the partnership forum(s),
2. the clarity of the system of responsibilities and coordination,
3. and the management of differences in interests and capacities.

Multi-level governance:

1. assesses vertical cooperation (national–regional–local) and horizontal integration (coordination between sectors),
2. as well as continuity and implementation capacity (project generation).

At the end of each pillar, we apply a diversification test to see whether the governance and procedural frameworks are capable of producing tangible, interrelated diversification content (e.g., business development + training + investment directions + infrastructure) or

whether they remain at the level of general objectives. The situation analysis of the target area is based on a brief synthesis of the exposure and structural indicators set out in the regional plans, as well as the economic profile and impact logic of the county.

We classified the contribution to diversification into three levels. We determined that the contribution was limited when only general objectives could be identified; partial when specific areas of intervention were present but lacked coordination, designated responsible parties, or an implementation framework; and a strong contribution was identified when interrelated measures, assigned responsibilities, and mechanisms for project generation or implementation were evident. The test evaluates the planning frameworks’ ability to support implementation, rather than the actual, ex post socio-economic impacts of JTF interventions.

Results

Institutional Structure and Planning Mechanism

The Deputy State Secretariat for Climate Policy of the Ministry of Technology and Industry was responsible for planning the Just Transition Fund and, in line with this, for developing the Territorial Just Transition Plans. The planning was supported by EU-funded technical assistance, which was implemented by KPMG. KPMG carried out the background analyses and managed the involvement of stakeholders. Their tasks also included preparing regional plans for the three counties and organizing and conducting workshops and consultations to facilitate stakeholder involvement.

The Ministry of Public Administration and Regional Development is currently responsible for policy-making, while the Environmental and Energy Efficiency Operational Program Plus Managing Authority (KEHOP Plus IH) is responsible for implementation. Responsibilities have changed significantly during the planning and implementation phases. Initially, the Ministry of Innovation and Technology was responsible for poli-

cy, but this task was taken over by its successor, the Ministry of Technology and Industry (TIM). After the TIM was dissolved, responsibility was transferred to the Ministry of Energy. However, it is important to note that the aforementioned changes were mainly administrative in nature, with the tasks remaining with the Climate Policy Department of the respective ministry and not resulting in any personnel changes. In 2025, however, policy responsibilities were transferred to the Ministry of Public Administration and Regional Development, while the tasks of KEHOP Plus IH were taken over by the National Development Center, with a completely new team of experts.

Auditing falls within the competence of the European Union Audit Directorate (EUTAF), while the certifying authority is the Hungarian State Treasury. Monitoring is the responsibility of the IH, as is the evaluation of applications. At the end of the programming period, the Central Coordination Unit (currently the Prime Minister's Office) is responsible for compiling ex-post evaluations.

The planning and implementation processes were also supported by the Coal Commission. The Coal Commission was established on 11 March 2021, as Hungary's first permanent consultative forum dealing with coal phase-out. Its task is to support the decarbonization of MVM Mátra Energia Zrt. and lignite-based electricity production, as well as the sustainable and just transition of the North Hungarian region, with the involvement of all relevant organizations. The Coal Commission has approximately 70 members, including representatives of the relevant trade unions, local, regional and central government institutions, research and educational institutions, civil society organizations, labor market and economic actors, and financial institutions. The plans were approved in December 2022.

From an analytical perspective, the institutional framework clearly allocated the main planning, implementation, monitoring, and auditing functions. How-

ever, repeated transfers of policy and implementation responsibilities weakened institutional continuity and increased coordination costs, which may constrain the long-term development of diversification projects.

Involving Stakeholders

During the planning phase, stakeholders were involved in two main ways. KPMG used a flexible, so-called "snowball" method for stakeholder engagement, which was not based on a pre-defined group of stakeholders. As the process progressed, new actors joined based on recommendations and experiences gained during the work. Involvement took place through individual interviews with key local players, such as representatives of chambers of commerce, higher education institutions, and county governments, as well as through online public consultations organized by county. A total of twelve such consultations were held in four consecutive rounds between March and July.

According to the Hungarian participants, KPMG made an effort to create a broad and inclusive group of stakeholders. The "snowball" approach created an opportunity to involve new actors, thereby increasing the diversity of perspectives that emerged during the process. At the same time, particularly vulnerable groups did not receive special emphasis or targeted attention in the engagement process².

In Hungary, the Coal Commission played a role primarily in facilitating and encouraging the involvement of stakeholders, rather than as a direct decision-maker. The emphasis was on ensuring that the partnership principle was applied in domestic planning processes and that a just transition was not decided solely at the governmental or sectoral level.

The Coal Commission was established within the framework of the LIFE-IP North-Hu-Trans project. The initial identification of stakeholders was carried

out through desktop research. This was followed by more than 40 in-depth interviews with stakeholders, in which the relevance and extent of the stakeholder's involvement, its impact on the transition, and its attitude towards the transition were assessed. The Coal Commission basically carries out its work through "high-level" and working group meetings. While the high-level meetings are broad in scope and involve all participants, the Commission's four (previously six) working groups carry out operational work with smaller groups of stakeholders, preparing for the "high-level" Commission meetings. To date, a total of 11 high-level meetings and nearly 26 working group meetings have been held.

Compliance with Planning Requirements (e.g. Participation, Partnership, Multi-level Governance)

The following results are derived from the application of the three pillars set forth in the methodology and the three-tier diversification test.

Participation – Quality of Participation and Involvement

The involvement was not merely a retrospective review but began at the stage of setting goals and priorities. KPMG organized a total of 12 workshops in four rounds, while the Coal Commission was established in parallel, and five of the high-level meetings took place during the planning phase. The two channels together resulted in the involvement of nearly 70 stakeholders, and continuous daily contact was established between the main stakeholders and the operational organization. The range of participants was broad (trade unions, state administration institutions at several levels, research and education actors, civil society organizations, economic and financial actors, and relevant local governments), but some local governments did not actively participate in the end, even though they had been contacted. All opinions received were documented, but no summary was

²https://bankwatch.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/2021-12-14-BWN-TJTP-Briefing-5_1.pdf

prepared to show exactly which of the proposals were implemented. Specific changes can mainly be identified during the mid-term review. In terms of diversification, the process was extensive in terms of volume, but the results of the involvement can be described in general terms rather than as a tangible diversification package.

Based on the diversification test, the contribution of participation can be considered limited: while the involvement was broad and multi-layered, its results were reflected primarily in general priorities rather than in an integrated diversification package.

Partnership – the Actual Role of Partnership Structures, Division of Responsibilities, and Management of Asymmetries

The central element of the partnership was the Coal Commission, which had the right to make recommendations. The body did not develop a formal, unified position, but operated as a collection of its members' opinions. The division of responsibilities was mostly clear: the Ministry of Technology and Industry Deputy State Secretariat for Climate Policy were responsible for coordinating the development, the Ministry of Public Administration and Regional Development is currently responsible for policy, and the KEHOP Plus Managing Authority is responsible for implementation. In practice, time pressure and overlapping technical assistance schemes resulted in parallelism. After the plans were submitted, the coordination of stakeholder needs was transferred to the Coal Commission Secretariat (SzBT), while another technical support program focused on calls for proposals covering three counties, in synergy with the LIFE project. The issue of dominance is also apparent, with Visonta and Bükkábrány, as well as MVM Mátia Energia Zrt., appearing as key players, while on the civil side, it was rather national organizations that were present. Based on the diversification test, the main contribution of the partnership was the continuous communication of frameworks and the presentation of international examples to facilitate joint thinking, rather than the compilation of an inte-

grated diversification package, which was not an explicit task of the commission.

The partnership's contribution to diversification can be considered partial: the institutional forum ensured that needs were conveyed and supported a common understanding, but its advisory mandate did not extend to the integration and prioritization of measures.

Multi-level Governance – Vertical Channels, Horizontal Integration, and Implementation Capacity

The Coal Commission played a significant role in vertical cooperation, regularly communicating local needs and channeling them through the SzBT using a single-channel approach. However, this was hampered by a series of institutional and personnel changes between 2020 and 2025. The process was partly stabilized by the fact that the Coal Commission Secretariat was not characterized by fluctuation, and the constructive cooperation established with the Ministry of Energy within the framework of the LIFE project provided an operational advantage. Horizontal coordination was burdened from the outset by the complexity of the just transition, but overall, a coherent plan was developed. However, due to limited resources, planning was able to focus on the most important challenges. One of the main constraints on implementation capacity was the lack of capacity at the local and national level. This was mitigated by technical assistance, capacity building and additional resource mobilization (LIFE, INTERREG, ERASMUS). In terms of diversification, this means that the coordination channels worked, but capacity constraints and institutional changes may substantially limit project generation and the development of viable diversification pathways.

The contribution of multi-level governance can be considered partial: the main channels of vertical and horizontal coordination were functioning, but institutional changes and a persistent lack of capacity limited project generation and the development of viable diversification pathways.

Discussion

Based on the results, the Hungarian just transition planning mechanism can be considered functional primarily in procedural terms. However, in terms of economic diversification, its performance is much more limited. The involvement process was very intensive, a broad partnership structure was established, and the basic channels of coordination were also developed. However, these mechanisms served more to legitimize the planning process and maintain communication between the actors than to develop a directly implementable, integrated diversification package. This does not preclude the possibility that a just transition will nevertheless take shape in the form of meaningful, practical results in the later implementation phases, as long as the planning and coordination frameworks that have already been established are built upon with actual project generation and capacity building. This result is consistent with the finding in the literature that, in a just transition, procedural justice alone does not guarantee the depth of structural transformation if participation is not accompanied by actual priority-setting power [Jenkins et al., 2016; McCauley & Heffron, 2018].

Another lesson from the study is that participation is strong in the Hungarian model, but its impact on diversification remains mostly indirect. Local needs are reflected in the planning logic, but the limited transparency of feedback and the practice of "filling in" priorities at a later stage indicate that participation has tended to reinforce already established directions rather than opening up new avenues for development. This is close to what the just transition literature describes as the difference between formal and substantive participation. Involvement takes place, but its weight in development policy is not necessarily proportional to the organizational effort [Stark et al., 2023].

The assessment of partnership and multi-level governance also confirms this pattern. Research on cohesion policy has long pointed out that the partnership principle and multi-level governance often operate in formally

open but strongly centralized systems, where the participation of local actors does not necessarily translate into real influence. Currently, the advisory role of the Coal Commission, changes in responsibilities, and local and national capacity shortages together create a structure that is capable of communicating needs but has limited capacity to integrate and prioritize them. As a result, domestic planning practice is moving towards procedural compliance rather than truly transformative territorial governance, which is in line with international experiences related to the JTF [Weckroth et al., 2025].

Research Limitations

The results should be interpreted in light of several methodological limitations. The document corpus consisted primarily of official policy, planning, and institutional materials, which provide detailed information on formally documented processes but may underrepresent informal decision-making, conflicts, and stakeholders' subjective experiences. Since the implementation of the JTF in Hungary is still at an early stage, the study evaluates planning and governance capacity rather than the actual socio-economic impacts of the interventions. Finally, the findings are context-specific; although the analytical framework may be transferable to other transition regions, the empirical results from Heves and Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén counties cannot be directly generalized to other territorial settings.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Based on the results of the study, the planning mechanism for a just transition in Hungary can be considered to have been established primarily in procedural and institutional terms during the period under review. The frameworks for involvement, partnership,

and coordination were created, enabling planning to lay the foundations for communication and consultation between the most important actors. At the same time, from the perspective of economic diversification, these mechanisms currently create preconditions rather than ensuring the development of an enforceable, integrated structural change path.

The main lesson of the study is therefore that, in the case of the Hungarian just transition, procedural compliance and actual transformative capacity do not coincide. Participation, partnership, and forms of multi-level governance are present, but further capacity building, a more stable system of accountability, more transparent feedback, and stronger project generation capabilities are needed to lay the foundations for diversification in terms of content and implementation. Accordingly, the most important short-term challenge for the Hungarian model is no longer the creation of planning frameworks, but their translation into practical development results.

The study's methodological contribution is an evaluation framework – based on documents and adaptable to other transitional regions in their early stages – that distinguishes between procedural compliance and the actual capacity to lay the groundwork for economic diversification.

References:

- BREUL, M. 2022. Setting the Course for Future Diversification: The Development of a Regional Transformation Strategy in a German Lignite Mining Region. In: *Regional Studies, Regional Science*, 9(1): 581–599. ISSN 2168-1376. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1080/21681376.2022.2120413>.
- BORS, P. 2025. Unlock the Transition: The Role of Public Policy and Sub-National Actors in the Just Transition of Slovakia and Hungary. In: *Euromemo 31st Annual Conference on Alternative Economic Policy in Europe: "Europe Quo Vadis: Militarisation or socio-ecological transformation"*. Greece, Athens 22–23 September 2025. Available at: [\[memo.eu/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/Bors.-Pavol-Euromemo-2025-Athens-Conference-Final-Paper.pdf\]\(https://memo.eu/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/Bors.-Pavol-Euromemo-2025-Athens-Conference-Final-Paper.pdf\).](https://euro-</p>
</div>
<div data-bbox=)

BUJDOSÓ, Z.; BORDÁS, A.; HEGYI, B.; PISKÓTI-KOVÁCS, ZS.; VASZKÓ, CS.; NAGY, R.; KOVÁCS, GY.; ZÖRÖG, Z. 2022. Az érintettek bevonásának folyamata az észak-magyarországi szénrégió dekarbonizációjába. In: *Acta Carolus Robertus*, 12(2): 24–37. ISSN 2498-9312. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.33032/acr.3366>.

HERMWILLE, L.; SCHULZE-STEINEN, M.; BRANDEMANN, V.; ROELFES, M.; VRONTISI, Z.; KESKÜLA, E.; ANGER-KRAAVI, A. 2023. Of Hopeful Narratives and Historical Injustices – An Analysis of Just Transition Narratives in European Coal Regions. In: *Energy Research & Social Science*, 104, 103263. ISSN 2214-6296. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.erss.2023.103263>.

JENKINS, K.; MCCAULEY, D.; HEFFRON, R.; STEPHAN, H.; REHNER, R. 2016. Energy Justice: A Conceptual Review. In: *Energy Research & Social Science*, 11: 174–182. ISSN 2214-6296. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.erss.2015.10.004>.

MATERN, A.; ŠPAČEK, M.; THEUNER, J.; KNIPPSCHILD, R.; JANÁČEK, J. 2025. Strategies for Energy Transition and Regional Development in European Post-Coal Mining Regions: Ústí Region, Czechia, and Lusatia, Germany. In: *Territory, Politics, Governance*, 13(7): 1001–1022. ISSN: 2162-2671. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1080/21622671.2023.2231972>.

MCCAULEY, D.; HEFFRON, R. 2018. Just Transition: Integrating Climate, Energy and Environmental Justice. In: *Energy Policy*, 119: 1–7. ISSN 0301-4215. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.enpol.2018.04.014>.

PERETTO, M.; EICHHAMMER, W.; SÜSSER, D. 2025. Just Energy Transition in Coal Regions: Innovative Framework for Assessing Territorial Just Transition Plans. In: *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Transition*, 5, 100101. ISSN 2667-095X. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rset.2024.100101>.

STARK, A.; GALE, F.; MURPHY-GREGORY, H. 2023. Just Transitions' Meanings: A Systematic Review. In: *Society & Natural Resources*, 36(10): 1277–1297. ISSN 1521-0723. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1080/08941920.2023.2207166>.

WECKROTH, M.; KULL, M.; LEMPINEN, H. 2025. Territorial Governance of Just Transition? – A Case Study of the Just Transition Fund Process in Finland. In: *Regional Studies*, 59(1), 2559711. ISSN 0034-3404. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1080/00343404.2025.2559711>.

Balázs Hegyi
Dr. Ádám Gyurkó
Dr. Zsuzsa Piskóti-Kovács
✉ piskoti.zsuzsa@uni-eszterhazy.hu
Eszterházy Károly Catholic University

Zkušenosti z mechanismů pro plánování spravedlivé transformace v Maďarsku, Balázs Hegyi, Ádám Gyurkó, Zsuzsa Piskóti-Kovács

Mechanismus Evropské unie pro spravedlivou transformaci usiluje o řešení socioekonomických důsledků dekarbonizace v regionech závislých na těžbě a využívání uhlí tím, že podporuje strukturálně transformační a územně spravedlivé směry rozvoje. Tento článek zkoumá plánovací mechanismy spravedlivé transformace v Maďarsku se zaměřením na župy Heves a Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén. Studie nahlíží na spravedlivou transformaci jako na proces ekonomické diverzifikace řízený nastavením veřejných politik a posuzuje, zda institucionální struktury, participativní procesy a mechanismy víceúrovňového řízení podporují vytváření komplexních a vzájemně provázaných strategií diverzifikace.

Analýza vychází z kvalitativní obsahové analýzy dokumentů politik EU a národních strategických dokumentů, územních plánů spravedlivé transformace a souvisejících institucionálních materiálů. Výsledky naznačují, že maďarský model je z procesního hlediska dobře nastavený: byly formálně vytvořeny mechanismy širokého zapojení zainteresovaných subjektů, partnerská fóra a koordinační mechanismy. Jejich přínos k reálné ekonomické diverzifikaci však zůstává omezený. Participace a partnerství přispívaly především ke komunikaci a naplňování procesních požadavků, zatímco omezené kapacity, institucionální nestabilita a nepružnost regulačních mechanismů omezovaly možnosti integrované dlouhodobé strukturální transformace.

Článek dochází k závěru, že v případě Maďarska se procesní spolehlivost automaticky nepromítá do transformační kapacity. Posílení implementačních kapacit a mechanismů pro přípravu projektů je zásadní pro to, aby se zavedené mechanismy řízení promítly do konkrétních výsledků v oblasti ekonomické diverzifikace.