

A CROSS-BORDER APPROACH BETWEEN ROMANIA AND HUNGARY

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ABSTRACT

- The chosen theme tries to bring to light the various reforms that have been undertaken in the organization and financing of the healthcare system as a cross-border approach between States of the European Union.
- The reason for choosing Romania and Hungary in particular is that, they have a common past and various reforms in the organization and financing of health systems have been undertaken since the fall of communism.
- Following the evolution of the two countries, there have been identified several reforms, such as the introduction of the health technology evaluation system (HTA) and guidelines in crisis management.

OBJECTIVES

- To achieve the study purpose, several articles and books have been analysed related to the health sector.
- The goal of this study is to: analyse the collaboration between Hungary and Romania on health system reforms highlighting the changing landscape of the crisis management and its cycles (see Photo 1.); discuss and assess practices of crisis management and contribute to identifying good practice.
- Therefore, by identifying the potential shortcomings in health plans in Romania and Hungary, and by providing a higher level of preparation for the actors involved, stopping a mass outbreak in the future would become plausible.



Photo 1. Crisis Management Cycle
Source: <https://emergency.wustl.edu/programs/>

DISCUSSION

- Therefore, there is a need for education, training and research on the role of human rights in public health in Europe. Health professionals do not have a sufficient understanding of how the government organizes departments, which is why there is a need for continuous training and clearer legislation on this side. (Robyn Martin, 2010)
- As a result, the lack of connection between laws and plans leads to a lack of clarity regarding the responsibility and competence of public health authorities. A role of the law would be to provide a framework for policy and the application of competences. (Robyn Martin, 2010)
- Health reform requires changes in behaviour and attitudes in both Hungary and Romania. A common starting point must be found, because only through collaboration can the health system be improved and equal health services can be accessed by patients. (Petculescu, 2014)

CONCLUSION

- What was observed as a result of this study is that the states are in different stages of developing laws on the outbreak of infectious diseases.
- Following the study, there was an insufficient connection between the pandemic plans and the laws on public health. The interventions proposed in the case of plans do not have the necessary legal basis and there is also a gap between planning and coordination. (Robyn Martin, 2010)
- In conclusion, crisis managers need to adapt their approaches to deal with a variety of different stakeholders that all have different interests, priorities, logics and values. Preparing for the new landscape of crisis, requires adapting approaches that enable preparation for response to the unknown. (Olsson, 2009)
- International co-operation in the area of risk assessment could be further developed in a variety of domains.
- Sharing methodologies and tools for risk assessment, developing a common view on cross-border risks, and ultimately developing common tools at the international level could increase the quality of risk assessments and potentially reduce costs. (Olsson, 2009)
- Regarding the HTA system, it has been successfully implemented in both Romania and Hungary, although the size and importance of decision making differs. Given the similarities between the two countries, sharing of duties, joint training of staff and disclosure of data would lead to a more rapid development of countries. It can be expected that this collaboration will be increasingly tightened because only this way can patient-centered health policies be reached giving maximum results and minimal costs. (László Gulácsi, 2014)

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