

THE REFUGEE ISSUE IN SCIENCES AND ARTS IN CONTEMPORARY HUNGARY

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ABSTRACT

The overview of the Hungarian scientific literature related to the topics of migration and refugees provides and promises some findings and lessons even if the majority of these writings was published before the „new Exodus” in 2015. The picture, provided by the most frequent forms and results of scientific examination and analysis on the given topic, can not be complete, because it may take half a year or even a year until the first detailed scientific answer (contribution) is published. This nature of science forces us to look for further methods of perceiving reality that enable us to reach a more complete picture by ‘real time’ reflections concerning the issues in question. That is why an examination of the portrayal of the migration and refugee topics, drawn by contemporary Hungarian art, is also useful.

Keywords: Arts, Hungary, Refugees, Sciences, Migration.

1. INTRODUCTION

Questions related to the migration and the situation of refugees have been more or less intensively examined by the representatives of different sciences in the period since 1945. Nevertheless, it is a radical change that compared to earlier times when the vast majority of problems that arose was rather theoretical and was mainly connected with territories outside Europe or fairly confined territories within Europe (the Western Balkans in the 1990s or East German refugees in the summer of 1989), and now, since the beginning of 2015, it has become a political, fiscal and moral burden for Hungary, for most of the European countries and on the level of the EU as well, causing practical, daily challenges. The political and scientific importance of this issue is increased by the fact that though the current “exodus” is generated mainly by civil wars or other armed conflicts, the situation will be more serious because of parallel processes induced by the consequences of the climate change (Bende and Muhoray, 2014).

The increasing importance of the given topic is not merely caused by the objective weight of the problem, but – from the perspective of sciences – it also comes from the fact that the migration-issue is an „ideal” object to examine the cumulated effects of several crises of the last decade, moreover, it makes the representatives of different fields of

science face new expectations towards social sciences in general and the need for new scientific approaches to this problem.

It can be stated that social sciences are increasingly forced to start to examine the underlying meaning of things and the broader logical framework of the examined phenomenon more deeply besides or instead of descriptive questions that are inquisitive about operation. In an era of crises, when everyday experience confutes our previous expectations, legal and political theory is radicalised as well: it has to examine and rethink the validity of its presumptions that were considered stable. “This way philosophising will gain civil rights again, as it is harder and harder to exclude such questions from political theory discussion that have needs of describing professional science and are averse to philosophical questioning and that are not related to the method of the operation, but to its sense (i.e. to the frames of interpretation) (Lányi, 2012: 107).

The attention of legal science, besides others, also turns more and more to the question of morale principles penetrating into the world of law. One certain sign of this is that the forefronts of “traditional” legal positivism create their own systems of criteria systems one after another, which may allow this incorporation to happen justifiably (Kramer, 2008: 17).

The overview of the Hungarian scientific literature related to the topics of migration and refugees provides and promises some findings and lessons even if the majority of these writings was published before the „new Exodus” in 2015. The picture, provided by the most frequent forms and results of scientific examination and analysis on the given topic, can not be complete, because it may take half a year or even a year until the first scientific answer (contribution) is published. The most intrinsic feature of mainly social sciences is that from the moment the problem arises and the first scientific approach is given (and published), this nature of science forces us to look for further methods of perceiving reality that enable us to reach a more complete picture by 'real time' reflections concerning the issues in question. That is why an examination of the portrayal of the migration and refugee topics, drawn by contemporary Hungarian art, is also useful. The 'quick to respond' nature of Art and its ability to introduce the moral contexts beyond the facts enable us to detect a more complex perception of reality.

The perception of the problem in question by science, completed with the information provided by contemporary arts is able to draw such contours of reality that construe political-type standpoints that evolve within the public sphere. Moreover, these facts broaden the scope of valid reasons for any forthcoming debate.

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Within the first part of this essay which sets up a catalogue of approaches of inland science, we will group the topics in question into three aspects. The first one detects the fields of science involved, the second one lists the most frequented topics that ensure a well-interpretable catalogue of problems, and the third one examines the main methods, inner features and the relative weight of the scientific fields involved, providing some quality aspects for the evaluation of the results achieved by them.

2. MAIN FIELDS OF SCIENCE DEALING WITH MIGRATION AND REFUGEE ISSUES

The main sciences dealing with the migration and refugee issues are historical sciences, archaeology, medicine, theology, science of religion (independent of theology), philosophy, legal science, sociology, political science, statistics, demography, economics, military science, regional studies and climatology (climate science) as well. Beyond these fields of science and within the major disciplines several further interdisciplinary (sub)fields evolve, such as administrative sciences, administrative legal science (the meaning of this term is narrower than that of administrative sciences), management science, police science¹, financial sciences, international studies, science of labour, futurology, development economics, (social) psychology and archaeogenetics.

We can state without any exaggeration that the number of related works within the territory of legal sciences is quite high, the relative majority of them uses partly or exclusively legal approaches. Besides the methods of some dominant legal disciplines (such as the science of criminal law, administrative legal science etc.) the emergence of approaches based on the inner multidisciplinary of law or interdisciplinarity can be seen: on the one hand, a particular problem is presented and illuminated from many aspects, or on the other hand, the same volume consists of several works, the authors of which separately try to introduce the relevant – legal and non-legal – aspects (*A világ menekültjeinek helyzete...*, 2001). The book titled '*A világ menekültjeinek helyzete...*' is a comprehensive collection of essays that gives a general overview of current wars, civil wars and other conflicts, providing detailed data about the main directions of the migrants and about international and country-specific programs on migrants.

Historical research and research in the broad field of legal history can rely on the rich material of the past in regard to the fact that scuttles, returns and migration in general are not new or unique phenomena in Hungarian history (Ablonczy, 2008; Keresztes, 2009). The monography of Iván Halász, which undertakes to show the most important turning points of the political and administrative measures taken by different regimes concerning refugees from the beginnings until 1989 (concentrating mainly on the 20th century), is a valuable contribution to the scientific literature in question (Halász, 2011: 117-143). This literature also nicely determines the boundaries of the eras: e.g. Boldizsár Nagy elaborated the history of the period of time between the fall of the iron curtain and the EU accession (Nagy, 2012). Nagy Boldizsár's book is – already in its title – an intentionally essayistic one; traditionally dominant legal approaches are supplemented by the narrowly interpreted approaches of political science and also by mere philosophic interpretations.

Publications related to economics often reflect the fact that the migration has become a 'transnational subsystem' which seems to be an independent and fairly important economic factor by its stable structures (Nyusztai, 2011).

The importance of police science, which is a common territory of criminal sciences and administrative sciences (Kondorosi, 2010), will presumably grow in the near future – mainly because of the radicalisation of the issue in question (Gaál and Hautzinger, 2013).

Moreover, *communication science* is also a field the importance of which certainly increases since within the political sphere and the territory of social needs the significance of conscious communication about crises connected with law enforcement grows (Fodros, 2008; Barlai and Kóvágó, 1996).

Statistics and demography do also seriously contribute: the data-based introduction of the territories from which the migrants come and the main directions they choose was completed by the Hungarian Demographic Research Institute (KSH Népegyetem Kutató Intézete) in several edited collections (Illés and Tóth, 1998; Tóth and Illés, 1999).

Searching for the peculiarities of (social) psychology, Terézia Nagy's approach is quite typical of the methods of the given field, inasmuch as she made narrative interviews with third-world refugees, examining the dynamics of the 'relational nets' (how they are built up or destroyed), actually, the models of relational successes and failures among refugees (Nagy, 2013). In other cases we are faced with the scientific elaboration of real physical

and psychological torture and pain (Kroó and Hárdi, 2012).

Searching among 'mixed' fields of sciences, archaeogenetics comes into sight; it was born by linking genetics and archaeology and the most interesting results of it throw new light upon early human migrations, in some cases even confuting former assumptions related to those migration periods (Horváth, 2014).

3. MAIN SUB-TOPICS AND ASPECTS OF THE REFUGEE AND MIGRATION ISSUES

The most general directions (i.e. directions not primarily related to particular fields of science) of researches concerning European migration and the refugee phenomena can be systematically catalogued according to

- a) geographical and territorial aspects (where migrants come from, which countries they pass through, where they want to go, etc.) (Komáromi and Oltmer, 2014; Kovács, 2014);
- b) the types of events or reasons causing or provoking the migrations (war, civil war, ethnic or religious conflicts, natural disasters, economic reasons); or
- c) consequences that can be grouped by
 - ca) the levels on which those effects appear (individual level, community level, societal level, EU-level, etc.). From a substantial point of view we can also observe that besides the introduction of homogenizing integrational politics controlled and directed by central governments, descriptions of politics aiming at inserting layer-specific, strategic and decentralized programs by means of positive discrimination do also exist (Castel, 1998: 379-380). The analyses of the recent past on the possible forms of political (i.e. suffrage) and further societal integration (Örkény and Székelyi, 2010) of migrants are exciting readings even if it is visible that the features, the intensity and the extent of the latest sequels strongly differ from that of the previous ones (Halász, 2014). Moreover, the role and effect of entities belonging to the civil society or the religious sphere – that prevail mainly through certain situations or processes – are also constantly present (Czakó, 1992).
 - cb) the fields of consequences; we can distinguish legal, discriminational, economic, political, demographic, security (Lóviné, 2015; Szabó, 2006), military (Buda et al., 2015; *Refugee Crisis...*, 2015)

and other consequences.² Furthermore, the fields of research concerning special or multiple disadvantages are also detectable (Kiss, 2011). Some aspects of migration do have feministic approaches as well; the intrinsic and European value of mobility is often propagated in such writings (Passerini et al., 2008).

The focus of examinations is also more and more put on the reactions of particular members or groups of the society, especially on reactions related to prejudice and xenophobia (Bóhm, 1992).

Naturally, among such effects (consequences), mentioned above, we can separate those which refer to processes that have already taken place and those which have not occurred yet.

The number of scientific writings raising questions of internal and international security risks (threats) had increased already before the enormous wave of migration of 2015 (Gaál and Hautzinger, 2014; Póczik and Dunavölgyi, 2008). These works typically try to gain further information for setting long term prognoses by detecting regional factors that exercise power and also cultural peculiarities (Háda and Tálás, 2014).

Reviewing works dealing with border policing we do experience that – beyond some traditional aspects of the given field – they deal with the requirements of the Schengen Area and with corruption issues to a large extent (Varga and Verhóczky, 2013).

There are also some books, the writers of which were mere clairvoyants; they had predicted the extent and the important substantive elements of the prospective phenomena - several years ago (Milborn, 2008). In addition, forecasts and academic risk analyses concerning further and accelerating migration generated by climate change have also appeared (Bukovics, 2006).

- d) country and region specific features beyond general trends, as particular states have to face also *specific* migration phenomena that – at least partly - differ from the problems of other states (Urbán, 2015; Dézsi and Tömöry, 2010; Csatlós, 2014; Komáromi, 2014; Németh, 2015;

Berta, 2013). The importance of this approach is also shown by the fact that the Hungarian scientific literature does contain several essays examining migrants coming from certain countries, areas or continents. These works tend to introduce the political, territorial and cultural (multi-cultural) aspects simultaneously – introducing perspectives, methods and results of disciplines connected with the topics in question in an integrated, complex way (Tarrósy et al., 2012; Tarrósy et al., 2014).

The Hungarian Roma (Gypsy) migration (Klimová, 2009), the immigration of (ethnic) Hungarians living outside Hungary (mostly in the neighbouring countries) to Hungary and their migration to Western-European countries (Cseresnyés, 2004; Móré, 2013a: 35; Móré, 2013b) and also the *en masse* migration of Hungarians to Western-Europe as an employee migration process (Girasek et al., 2013; Honvári, 2012) are definitely such questions – as it has been proved by several researches.

Immigration of (ethnic) Hungarians living outside the borders, the responses of the homeland society given to this issue and also the transformation of Hungarian minorities as a result of that migration have been the most frequent topics for several years in the majority of social sciences (Gödri, 2013; Nagy and Tátrai, 2013). Several questions, such as nationalization or the legal handling of the diaspora issue have been evolved (Tóth, 2000).

All four approaches mentioned above do have a historical aspect which can be sketched as a process-like context, besides the fact that these approaches address living, contemporary political, practical and scientific problems even nowadays.

4. METHODOLOGICAL ISSUES: FEATURES OF RECENT RESEARCHES AND POSSIBLE DIRECTIONS OF THE FUTURE ONES

In spite of the inner multidisciplinary of law and the interdisciplinary approaches (both mentioned in the second chapter), the dominance of approaches

based on law and fundamental legal conceptions and that of partly academic studies (surveys) on the content of different human rights (Naszladi, 2012) can be still observed.

These examinations, even if they use some court cases, uphold the principle of a closed, self-referential (auto-referential) system, that is they intentionally use exclusively legal-type reasons supporting their statements. The examination of the large service providing systems (pension system, health care system etc.) by other fields of science is just residual compared to the legal approaches.

Extreme legal positivism related to the topic in question is especially 'dangerous', because – as we have seen in year 2015 – the Schengen-system and other related international systems collapsed or became seriously deformed (damaged) within a few days or weeks. Consequently, those studies that exclusively search for the content of certain legal sources (instruments) (Windt, 2014) remain fragmentary concerning their value.

Theoretically, we can even predict that changes related to the migration indicate paradigm shifts far beyond the field of the migration phenomena.

The academic literature of police science did not treat the migration issues as if they were among the most serious problems (Böröcz, 2014): Hungarian handbooks and monographies written in the near past still reflected the main „trends” that resulted in a more aerial policing and propagation of certain forms of community policing within the framework of a decentralisation process (Danielisz and Jármy, 2008). Nowadays we can see that political and legal efforts are just the very opposite; they point to a powerful centralisation.

Similarly, amongst the substantial elements (and provisions) of various cross-border cooperations there was hardly anything concerning migration (Soós and Fejes, 2009). What is more, the requirement of „aerialisation” of the state borders (Sallai, 2004) has been forcefully presented earlier by various fields of science, but now, on the contrary, physical borders are newly set up and there are some unique developments redefining even the borders within the EU (between the member countries of the Schengen-Area).

Affairs of the recent past newly put the dilemma of the civilian control of the military forces – the importance of which was decreasing on the surface - in the centre of scientific debates as well. The relevant academic literature on that topic has been quite scanty until the recent past (Szabó, 1997): we can predict that growth within this field of research will continue also apace.

Here, amongst the topics examined, we must mention that there is a growing need within Hungarian and international literature (Lőrincz, 2013) for an international treaty which expansively contains the rights of migrants – because nowadays we can find only isolated provisions related to the given issue within distinct international legal instruments. The preparation of the most important elements of such a treaty is, at least partly, an intrinsic task of sciences.

Whilst some issues become of great importance, others lose their importance in the course of time. Such a, less and less important issue is the integration of native German immigrants into Germany in the 1990s and at the very beginning of the new millenia (Cseresnyés, 2005); up to now this topic has been eliminated, it has almost vanished (Schmidt-Schweitzer and Dömötörfi, 2009).

Actually, the methodological renewal of particular sciences can even gather speed due to the special nature of the migration issue, which can not be handled with traditional means and solutions: e.g. the renewal of the methodology of administrative legal science has become unavoidable (because of many reasons): this topic in question also evidently requires classic case studies and participant observations on the one hand, and the launch of new pilot-projects on the other hand.³

There is also a new phenomenon: traditional genres, usually used for debates concerning migration and refugee issues, have become more aerial as well; namely, borders wear off, the representatives of science are moving towards publicists. Nowadays this shift towards publicists is detectable even in journals strongly dedicated to social sciences (Lángh, 2015). The reason behind this new tendency can be the fact that we are forced to react immediately to those radical, elementary changes that have evolved lately.

These questions, as it has already been mentioned above, are not totally new ones, but their intensity and weight makes researchers and institutes who/that have been present for a long while more visible.

Amongst the most visible entities we must mention the HAS Centre for Social Sciences Institute for Minority Studies (MTA Társadalomtudományi Kutatóközpont Kisebbségkutató Intézete), which has published several books (and complete sets of books) repeatedly answering the most urgent and problematic issues, such as the immigration of the ethnic Hungarians living in Romania and in other neighbouring countries, and the migration of the Hungarian Roma to Canada and to other western countries in the last two decades (Örkény, 2002;

Kováts, 2002). We must also mention the Division of Border Protection of Hungarian Association of Military Science (Magyar Hadtudományi Társaság Határőr Szakosztálya), the publicational activity of which has been outstanding in the last few years. Unfortunately, it is also inevitable to ingrain that the visibility of some institutes, dealing with similar issues, is quite low [see e.g. the activity of the Research Institute for National Strategy (Nemzetstratégiai Kutatóintézet) in the given field of research].

We could find more and more typologies related to migration within academic literature (Rédei, 2007: 384-386); as the weight of this problem is growing and new phenomena do evolve, the grouping of such phenomena setting up a more rigorous catalogue of them becomes more urgent as well.

There is also an inevitable ambition for launching comprehensive and complex writings that trace historical, legal and practical contexts and facts at the same time (Wetzel, 2011).

Books that give a general (comprehensive) picture, but do not aim at influencing the public at large, are mostly written for distinct groups of professionals, such as social workers, immigration officers, decision makers, politicians. These books both collect useful data and broaden the field of vision of such professionals (*Szakszerűen segíteni...*, 2011; *Állampolgárság és hontalanság...*, 2007; Lékó 2009; Kőszeg, 2001).

As an example, a profound brochure published by the Scientific Council of the Office of Immigration and Nationality (Bevándorlási és Állampolgársági Hivatal Tudományos Tanácsa) undertook the review of the valid norms and actual practices (Ördög, 2013). Moreover, besides handbooks there are several teaching materials and printed notes (Jóhárt, 2011; Tóth, 1998).

And lastly, let us take one more aspect into account: the handling of migration phenomena by law-making and executive entities is part of an organisational learning process, an element of a valuable set of experiences within immigration administration and policing.

As Existentialism also presumes, the real character of any person often reveals itself only in extreme life situations; parallelly, the substantive commitment to the democratic values of persons belonging to certain administrative structures, can be measured only in non-plannable, cataclysmic situations that require immediate reactions.

To reach a complete and developed institutional memory we need intentional efforts; to work out

such a memory within immigration administration and policing is undoubtedly the task of the near future.

5. THE PRESENTMENT OF THE MIGRATION AND REFUGEE ISSUES BY CONTEMPORARY ARTS IN HUNGARY

It can be a working hypothesis of an essay which introduces the representation of new migration phenomena in arts that the given issue has become not only the part of the thematised public speech but also of contemporary art. In Hungary, 25 years after the change of the regime, migration is an important issue and we can observe that it interests artists more than 10 years ago or just after the fall of the Iron Curtain. Detailed data also show that the number of exhibitions, books, documentary films and movies related to this topic has increased lately.

But this all – as we can recognise it with some surprise - is largely not connected with the current migration wave of 2015 or with the period of time between 2010 and 2014, which also saw some migrants come to Hungary. Actually, the majority of artistic works or exhibitions presenting these works tries to introduce exoduses that happened decades earlier (such as the one after the Trianon Treaty, migration waves under and after WW II, the one after the 1956 Revolution and the migration from Romania via Hungary before and after 1989): mainly the sufferings of Jews⁴, Gypsies or Polish people⁵ and the resettlement of ethnic Hungarians living outside the new borders of Hungary.

There is a twofold reason behind that: on the one hand, not all the branches of art are able to react immediately by shocking or setting free the audience concerning the given topic, and on the other hand, there is a period of time that is needed for the society for the successful elaboration of the past or for a completed grieving process. One of the most popular fields of current psychology is the introduction of the stages of mourning and grief. The authors of such books all agree that setting up a catalogue of deficiencies behind the losses and the consummation or completion of the failed relationship even without the other party, can be helpful if we would like to face the past or better understand the present.

Supposedly, the newest migration wave of 2015, which strongly influenced Hungary, will be represented in more and more complete forms by artists, even though, parallelly, the interpretation and elaboration of the past has not been finished yet. We can also presume that these two aspects

converge somehow enhancing each other and even new forms of the artistic representation of migration can occur as a result of these processes.

The term 'collective memory' was introduced by Maurice Halbwachs, who stated that remembrance is a merely collective, social interpretation, that is a reconstructive process. In relation with the migration topic it is visible that this reconstruction comes off with delays and is not always and exclusively determined by the facts of the present.

5.1. The Holocaust Issue

Within the scope of the Holocaust Issue we can observe that during the last two decades not only the survivors have come up with new books (Sándor, 2006) and memoirs, but other, previously written but earlier unpublished documents have also been published in Hungary: just after her husband, Miklós Radnóti, the great Hungarian poet, was taken to Labor Service for the third time, Fanni Gyarmati had to hide for months. As she confessed, she began to write because she wanted to perpetuate what had happened to them (Gyarmati, 2015). Moreover, the facts and important connections of the era in question have become more important also for the second and third – mainly Jewish – generation (Márton, 1999).

There are still some authors and books that have not found their place within Hungarian literature. A good example is the internationally well-known and highly appreciated János Nyíri and his book *Madárország* (Nyíri, 1990).

The Roma Holocaust is a very specific topic because of the fact that before 1990 it was forbidden to write about this aspect of the Holocaust in Hungary. This topic is represented by Choli Daróczy József's poems, *Elvitték a cigányokat* [The Gypsies were taken] and *Csend, 1944* [Silence] (Choli, 1999a; Choli, 1999b); Nagy Gusztáv's poem, *Auschwitzcesko sikado* [Visiting the Auschwitz-exhibition] (Nagy, 1994) written in Lovari; Szolnoki Csanya Zsolt's poem, *Auschwitz, 1944*; Száva Vince's poem, *Holokauszt*; Lakatos Menyhért's poem, *Holocaust. Még mindig siratunk* [We are still mourning] (Lakatos, 1999); and also in the novels of Farkas Kálmán (e.g. in *Feldmann*) (Farkas, 1998) and Orsós Jakab (*Átok*) (Orsós, 1992).

Two main features of this Roma Holocaust literature are the lack of fiction as a genre and that none of the authors directly witnessed those years.

5.2. Artistic Representation of Current Phenomena

Reviewing the fields of art it is better to begin with the genre of *documentary film*. Among these works there are constantly several ones introducing the fate of native Hungarians leaving those territories that were expropriated from Hungary earlier. These films show both migrants choosing Hungary and those going to Western countries.⁶

Parallely, the artistic representation of the newest migration wave of 2015 is also an item on the agenda, e.g. the Palantir Film Foundation was supported by the European Integration Fund for making a short documentary film.⁷ Otherwise, Palantir Film Foundation has a borrowable collection of 34 documentary films that can be used for educational goals.

Concerning these works, both the documentary ones and the *movies*, there is a further and unavoidable aspect; the possibility of the creation of such films is determined not only by the intents of the authors, nor by the financial background, but also by the prospective receptivity of the social milieu too. '[The film] is the visible aspect of a certain period of time, an interpretation of the movie-makers and at the same time something that is accepted by the audience because the 'spectators' do think that the given thing and its introduction is a feasible solution to the representation of the problem' (Casetti, 1998). That interaction between the social environment and films is usually more direct, the relationship is closer than between any work of social sciences and its audience:

As opposed to the films produced by the bigger European countries⁸, amongst the Hungarian movies of the last decade we can not find specific works on the migration issue; there is only one among the film proposals supported by the Hungarian National Film Fund [Magyar Nemzeti Filmalap]: the story of 'The Citizen' (Az állampolgár) tries to address the issue of migration.⁹

A movie adaptation, however, is a huge responsibility. The difference between documentary films and movies also comes from the fact that a movie can not avoid the delineation of the broader contexts and even the introduction of certain cultural differences; on the contrary, a documentary film can concentrate on the essentials, leaving several less important facts in shade: there is no need for direct comparison.

Contrary to the aforementioned tendencies, we have to state that the basic motive of the best Hungarian films of the last few years was to portray different forms of 'escape' or at least the intention of escape. These films show ways of physical escape and – where this form is not possible – methods of escape

from reality as well. The *Bibliothèque Pascal* (directed by Hajdú Szabolcs, 2010), the *Aglaja* (directed by Deák Krisztina, 2012), *A nagy füzet* (directed by Szász János, 2013), the *Fehér isten* (directed by Mundruczó Kornél, 2014.), the *Saul fia* (Son of Saul, directed by Nemes Jeles László, 2015¹⁰) were probably the most remarkable films in the last few years.

These films have a common feature: the defencelessness of the main characters is a general phenomenon. Jews, women, children, or even dogs are coerced and degraded by physical outrage or by psychological extortion. As to putting into these movies into shape, the phrases used are almost always rude, unparliamentary, insensible. The dialogues are short, ruffled and tough (Sellei, 2014: 2). The conflicts are angry, often barbarous and insoluble ones: rigidity is general. The persons shown are not able to change and they directly march towards their fate. These films do not contain elements of „successful” films: there is no personality development (the only exception is the Son of Saul), repentance, forgiveness or 'happy ending' at all (Sellei, 2014: 3). As if they were Greek tragedies in which actors unsuccessfully fight against their fate...

The *theatre* – thanks to its 'real-time' form of self-expression – always carries the possibility of making things up-to-date: there is a chance to 'bring' the intrinsic problems of the given era into the play: either through the settings, or through monologues, conversations, through caricaturing some phenomena by changing moves within a dance play or even through rewriting some texts. Exactly this happened by a rewriting of Eugène Ionesco's play, *Makbett*, using indirect and even concrete (direct) references related to the Government's migration policies (it was directed by Róbert Alföldi – the premiere was held on 24 September 2015 at Átrium Film-Színház, Budapest). Naturally, the 'experimental theatre' also 'grabs' the issue in question: a good example is the play, named *Elveszettek – A hiányzó pillanat* [The Lost – The Missing Moment], performed by KÁVA company (KÁVA/MU Színház, 2015).

It is worthy of note that the ways migration related issues appear are closely connected with the contemporary presentment of poverty, misery and situations 'outside society'.

Contemporary Hungarian (fine) *literature* tends to confront utopias that present a breakout from poverty, the erosion of peripheries and social upheaval as if they were real possibilities in current Hungarian society. Among well-known authors

especially László Krasznahorkai, Szilárd Borbély (Borbély, 2013) and Tibor Kiss (Kiss, 2014) represents this firm point of view.

Nowadays we can meet the presentment of the migration topic in Hungarian literature mainly in genres like poetry (Molnár, 2015), and also in transitional genres, like publicistics (Ágoston, 2015). Novels also present this important issue but they are exclusively books by foreign authors, translated into Hungarian (Tokarczuk, 2015).

Photo Art is also a branch of art which reacts rapidly to new social phenomena. This field, on the one hand, directly helps us to become more conscious concerning our social responsibilities¹¹, and on the other hand, it also shows that the migration and the refugee question can not be separated from the context of modern consumer society: e.g. Norbert Baksa's fashion photo series in 2015, named *Der Migrant*, introduces the newest fashion collection using models who – for the sake of some artistic impact – are holding onto the fence while some policemen (also played by well-paid models) are trying to catch them...

In addition, the importance of the issue of native Hungarians living outside Hungary has also been enlarged by the Exodus, the new wave of migration, mainly because the constant topics of fine arts of the given minority group are questions of identity and the border-issue. In 2015 the

Hungarian Cultural Institute in Vojvodina [Vajdasági Magyar Művelődési Intézet, VMMI] and the Association of Hungarian Artists in Slovakia [Magyar Alkotóművészek Szlovákiai Egyesülete, MaMsze] procreated a joint project, named *Beyond two borders* [Két határon túl], the aim of which was to introduce a contemporary artistic material of Hungarian artist living in Slovakia in Serbia, and also to introduce a contemporary artistic material of Hungarian artist living in Serbia in Slovakia. 28 representatives of arts and crafts, sculptors, painters, architects, graphic artists were involved; the exhibition in Slovakia was held in Révkomárom, and in Serbia in Zenta and Szabadka.

6. CONCLUSION

Concerning such an important question of public politics as the migrant-issue, science has to break with the mockery of 'objective science', and has to admit that in the examination of governmental activities it is impossible to separate goals and means and also values and techniques from each other (Gulyás, 2002: 69).

Moreover, it is also untenable that the examination of those elements of the legal system which are closely related to the migration issue, is mainly simplified to an exclusive evaluation by constitutional law, based on the provisions of the current constitution. The examinations made by the representatives of constitutional studies are of great importance, but this aspect can not stay alone: a complex scientific approach to this problem requires the presentation of the political side of the given norms as well (Szigeti, 2011: 53). Consequently, a broader approach toward the regulation of the migration issue can be suggested: methods of several fields of science must be applied to reach any substantive results (Szigeti, 2011: 53).

This 'basic context' of sciences is completed by the elaboration and cataloguing of artistic performances. It must be mentioned even related to the arts that – based on already traditional approaches – sciences of history serve social interests, mental demands and power requirements; history for postmodernism is a non-interpretable category, it accepts only phenomena like narrative, interpretation or dialogue. *In accordance with such a starting situation what can be the real value of artistic narratives of the migration or refugee issues?*

The answer to this question is, definitely, that by these narratives we are forced to percept the broader contexts and to more soundly traverse and re-catalogue the values behind the facts.

The leisurely erudition of a third party is not enough: any more we are challenged by the need for active participation, moreover, by the need for compassion within arts, sciences and also in other fields.

One of the main goals of the modern Western-type education is to teach the skills of avoiding pain; the frontal and provoking appearance of issues related to the migrants and refugees is also a vivid critique on certain social consensuses and current social practices.

It is evident concerning several fields of art that the Western-European tradition has an edge over the Hungarian one: either concerning how it relates to the past, or on the immediacy of reactions of certain artistic fields.

Even so, through the migration crisis a huge chance has been presented to Europe: the European and – in our case – Hungarian identity can be strengthened. Moreover, the crisis brought about a demand for questions that were not formulated and asked earlier, and also for setting up a newly defined catalogue of values.

Within Hungarian arts it is extremely obvious that the general effects of migration crises are long-drawn-out stories. Moreover, the tardiness of artistic answers and presentments can be observed, and these works of art often present situations, conflicts that happened decades ago, instead of showing the contemporary phenomena.

We must also weight up the 'scuttle periods' of our history, because without facing the experiences of our past, current challenges can be hardly handled by the same society.

Notes

1 Studies and research in criminology, forensic science, jurisprudence, community policing, criminal justice, correctional administration and penology all come under this umbrella term 'police science'.

2 The questions of the common defence policy and common foreign and security policies have come to the front in Hungarian scientific literature as well.

3 The methods of modeling should be used preferably because within the complex and adaptive system of public administration the distinct examination of certain elements weakens the verity of possible explanations.

4 The exhibition, named 'Gateway to Shanghai' was organised and performed by the Jewish Museum of Shanghai and the Budapest History Museum in 2014 – in memory of the victims of the Holocaust. During World War II the Japanese authorities set up a 'residential area for stateless fugitives', and many Jews who escaped from Hungary lived there that time.

5 The Hungarian Polish Museum in Kőbánya (Budapest) in 2015 launched an exhibition which introduced the Polish refugees of the World War II. Hungary opened its borders and provided a shelter (an asylum) for Polish soldiers and also for families even with children in September of 1939. The exhibition, which was displayed in several places throughout the country, shows the lives of those Polish people in huge photographs. The documentary film, named *Węgierskie serce* (Hungarian Heart, directed by Gzegorz Lubczyk, 2013) also deals with the Polish – Hungarian relations, holding Henryk Slawik's and József Antall's (senior) names in remembrance.

6 See e.g. *Kárpátaljai szappanopera*. [Soap-opera in Kárpátalja] Documentary film, directed by Dezső Zsigmond, 2007.

7 The 10-30-minute long documentary films tends to introduce the sentiments and integrational problems of migrant youngsters, presenting the differences based on linguistic, religious and cultural features, the hardships and successes related to the integration, and identity changes as well.

8 Mentioning only the well-known examples: Samba (French, directed by Olivier Nakache and Eric Toledano, 2014), Dheepan (French, directed by Jacques Audiard, 2015), and Meditteranea (Italian, 2015). Each movie tries to introduce the hardships of Asian or African illegal migrants in Europe.

9 The movie, named The Citizen, takes place in Budapest. It is about the hardships of integration through a love-story that is a refugee-story at the same time. Roland Vranik's (director) movie, which will first be shown in January 2016, works with amateur actors, in a minimalist style and with a lot of humor. The main character of The Citizen, the Black-African Wilson who is in his late fifties, has lost his family in the war, got to Budapest because of political reasons, works as a security guard in a food store for many years, and his goal is to obtain Hungarian citizenship. Mary, a teacher of Hungarian language and history helps him to prepare for the exam on civics, while Shirin, the young Persian girl can stay in Hungary if she marries somebody, actually by a fake marriage.

10 The film won the award (Oscar) for Best Foreign Language Film at the 88th Academy Awards (2016).

11 See e.g. Balázs Mohai's photos on the *World Press Photo* exhibition in the Museum of Ethnography (Néprajzi Múzeum), in October of 2015.

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