

Budapest, 31st of December 2024

Dear Colleagues,

As the Hungarian Presidency of the European Public Administration Network (EUPAN) comes to an end, we reflect with gratitude and pride on the achievements made together. We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to all who contributed to this successful journey.

We extend our gratitude to the Directors-General, colleagues, and guest speakers whose active contributions made our events and projects a success. We are equally thankful for the support and collaboration of the European Commission, as well as all member and observer states, whose efforts were instrumental to the achievements of this presidency.

The Hungarian EUPAN Presidency programme was realised through the combined efforts of the Ministry of Public Administration and Regional Development and the Ministry of Interior. Esteemed experts from Hungarian universities, related agencies, and international partners – including DG HR, DG Reform, the European Commission’s Joint Research Centre, the European Institute of Innovation and Technology, EIPA, and ReSPA – greatly enriched our activities.

During our term, we prioritised fostering collaboration and innovation across four key areas:

1. HR Policy Development and Generational Research
 - Addressing the ageing civil service in Europe through research and workshops, focused on recruitment, generational management, and employer branding.
2. Digital Public Services and AI Integration
 - Highlighting advancements like life event-based public services and omnichannel solutions for citizens. Discussions emphasised AI's potential to transform public administration, focusing on transparency, trust, and adaptability.
3. Greening Public Administration
 - Leading sustainability efforts through the study *“Towards Green Public Administration: Goals and Principles”* and workshops encouraging inclusivity and eco-conscious practices in governance.
4. HR-Supported Government Decision-Making
 - Introducing the Hungarian Governmental Personnel Decision Support System, a groundbreaking tool integrating HR data from over 260,000 public sector employees. It supports strategic decision-making by automating data collection and analysis, enabling efficient workforce planning.

Through surveys, research, workshops, and discussions, we fostered the exchange of experiences and best practices across the network, emphasising the importance of European cooperation in tackling shared challenges and advancing administrative excellence.

We are proud of the progress made in deepening dialogue within EUPAN, and we hope that the insights gained will inspire future efforts to keep the network a catalyst for innovation, sustainability, and inclusivity in public administration.

A key milestone of our term was Albania's successful accession to EUPAN as a permanent observer state. This achievement strengthens ties with the Western Balkans, a region of strategic importance, and underscores our commitment to fostering regional stability, collaboration, and integration into European frameworks. This step reflects our mutual dedication to advancing shared progress and closer partnerships in the region.

As we conclude our semester, we extend a warm welcome to our Polish colleagues, who will lead the next EUPAN Presidency. We are confident their expertise and vision will steer the network towards new milestones and further advance our shared mission.

We would like to thank you for your trust, engagement, and support throughout the Hungarian Presidency. It has been an honour to serve this dynamic community. Together, we have set the stage for continued collaboration and excellence in public administration, and we look forward to building on this momentum in the years to come.

As we pass the torch - notably the bell, we also wish you and your loved ones a joyous holiday season filled with peace, happiness, and success in the year ahead.

Sincerely,



Katalin Uzsák

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