Education, Design and Practice – Understanding skills in a Complex World

• Paper / Proposal Title:
Geofusion: Cities, regions, nations in the Geoeconomy Age
The Power of Geography

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• Abstract (300 words):
The study behind this presentation is based on a thorough investigation regarding the recent global, social and geographical processes. The presentation ‘Geofusion’ guides the audience with the help of maps in the global world of the 21st century through the quest for the winning nations, communities, leaders and powers of this age.

The findings of the study include a significant recognition that the scientists who are taken as explorers geostrategists of this century in this case, are expected to present guidelines of our connected world full of global social and economic challenges. In 2017 the author issued his book in Hungarian and English alike titled Geofusion: Mapping of the 21st Century. This paper presents the basic message of his book involving the following statements: We have to redraw our conventional maps replacing them with maps of questions making up objectives. Creativity and geo-knowledge is the pledge of a winning position in global economic competition. In
the future’s economic competition, if taken as a race, creativity is the fuel, connection networks and knowledge represent the safety belt. Local resources help us to go international. We can enter international geo-fusion networks only via our local community’s values. Positive effects of co-operation, cultural diplomacy, knowledge and talent have to be trusted.

**New Global Cities – Powerhouses in the 21st Century:**

According to various research and forecasts, the main economic concentration will be in 40 megacities and global centers. Based on various competitiveness analyzes and indices, global city centers and city networks are outlined, but if we look at other aspects of urban development like complexity, connectivity, creativity, technological development, viability, green cities, pedestrian and child friendly cities, creative and cultural centers, cultural spaces and knowledge centers, we get a city competitiveness index with quite new complex indicators. The research shows this result. In addition to the megacities and the global centers, with the investigation of functionality we got 64 so called ‘fusiononopolis’ (i.e. fusion-polis) which stand for the most decisive economic power centers of the 21st century. In this city competition Asian centers considerably rise, as the world’s functional city competitiveness index is being formed.

Using the lately discovered geographic and economic interrelations, the presentation tries to give a prognosis of the global processes. The methodology contains the survey and analysis of many recent publications worldwide, regarding geostrategic, cultural, geographical, social and economic surveys structured into global networks.

In conclusion the author presents the result of the study which is a collage of the global map of the 21st century as mentioned above. In summary the presentation displays the results of a several year long study giving the audience an image how economic navigation tools can help the investors and travelers to get along in the changing new world.

**• Author(s) Biography (200 words each):**

Mr. Norbert Csizmadia is a geographer, economic strategy, regional and urban development, geopolitical, geo-economics expert. Since 2000 he is the head of the Secretariat of the Ministry of Economic Development for Regional Economic Development. Since 2004, he has been a member of the Team Europe Expert
Committee on Regional Policy launched by the European Commission. In the fall of 2005, he is the secretary of the Economic Consultation. He is the co-author and Coordinator of the Vision Discussion Paper. As well as the Coordinator for the development of the New Széchenyi Plan. From 2010 he is the head of the Strategic Workshop of the Ministry of National Economy, then the Deputy State Secretary for Economic Planning, and from 2012, State Secretary for Planning Coordination. 2013–2016 Managing Director of the Hungarian National Bank responsible for economic strategy and planning. Currently he is the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Pallas Athene Innovation and Geopolitical Foundation.