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Report on the scientific activities of the Institute of Ethnology in 2011

I. Main duties of the research unit in 2011

- The editing and publication of ethnographic handbooks: the final volume of *Magyar Néprajz* [Hungarian Ethnography], Volume I.1, *A Magyar Népi Kultúra Enciklopédiája / Encyclopaedia of Hungarian Folk Culture*, *Magyar Népköltészeti Lexikon* [Lexicon of Hungarian Folk Poetry]
- The project ETNOFOLK funded by the EU Structural Funds - digitized folk cultural heritage
- *An examination of triple borders in the south-western, south-eastern and north-eastern regions of Hungary* – OTKA [Hungarian Scientific Research Fund] grant
- Results in the historical research of folk culture: publications in the different series of the institute, further publications, preparations of the conference *Visual Encounters with Alterity* to be held in 2012
- Investigation of socio-ethnographic changes in local communities that differ in terms of geography and type
- Theoretical and methodological problems in contemporary folkloristics
- Modernization and cultural ideologies. The ethnological exploration of modernisation aspirations and related local cultural responses in Siberia, Mongolia and South East Asia.

II. Outstanding research and other results in 2011

- a) Outstanding research and other results
- The editing and publication of ethnographic handbooks

The final volume of *Magyar Néprajz* [Hungarian Ethnography]

The Institute of Ethnology of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, the leading institution of Hungarian ethnography, with the greatest number of researchers holding a scientific degree, considers it a central task that the most important comprehensive works of the discipline are born under its aegis. In December 2011 the final volume of the eight-volume series *Magyar Néprajz*, edited by a research professor of the institute, a member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences was published. Altogether eleven members of the institute participated in the compilation, writing, creating pictures and indexes. The volume, reviewing the regional and historical structure and periods of Hungarian folk culture, the subject, notion of time, methods, and research history of ethnography, is the final part of a unique scientific synthesis which was completed as planned, uniquely among similar volume series proposed by different institutes of social sciences of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. *Magyar Néprajz* serves as an inevitable point of reference for determining future directions of ethnographic research.

Encyclopaedia of Hungarian Folk Culture

In the past years the institute has made preparations for the publication of a new reference work series. The *Encyclopaedia of Hungarian Folk Culture* will be a richly illustrated publication in English. The representative work will be the first reference series that presents an overview of the most recent results of Hungarian ethnography, folkloristics and anthropology for a professional and non-professional international audience. The social and economic changes during the last decades make it necessary to rethink some of the basic concepts such as folk culture, popular culture, mass culture, tradition, authenticity. The series is a collaborative effort of the professional community.

The general editors are the director and deputy director of the institute and most of the editors are researchers of the Institute. In 2011 the translation and editing of volume II of the five volumes (I. Principles, Settlements, Construction; II. Farming, Crafts, Transportation, Communications; III. Society, Lifestyle; IV. Textual folklore; Religion, Customs; V. Folk Music, Folk Dance, Folk Art) incorporating 12 subject areas was finished. The editing principles and choosing the illustrations for this first volume require especially great care, since this volume will be a model for the rest.

Magyar Népköltészeti Lexikon [Lexicon of Hungarian Folk Poetry]

Researchers of the Department of Folk Poetry and Narratives of the Institute of Ethnology, Hungarian Academy of Sciences started working on the preparations of the Lexicon of Hungarian Folk Poetry. This is a medium term joint task of the folklorists of the Institute. The two most important reference works on folk poetry used by professionals and non-professionals – The Lexicon of Hungarian Ethnography volumes 1-5 (1977-82), also edited by members of the Institute with relevant entries to folk poetry, and Hungarian Folk poetry (1988) in the series Hungarian Ethnography – need a revision in their folklore definition, terminology, structure and thematic emphasis. On the one hand, folklore, just as language, is continuously changing, certain phenomena disappear, others are born. On the other hand the scientific approach of the discipline has changed and lots of new results have been achieved in the past years. As a preparation for the lexicon which will rethink the terminology and methodology of folkloristics, the participants have reviewed those previous results and sources from folk poetry repositories, structured in a traditional way and serving as historical material, which are inspiring and can be integrated in the planned research. They have identified the areas which require exploration of new sources, new collecting methodology, or a new theoretical approach. They were looking for international analogies, and possible connections. Researchers of the Department of Folk Poetry and Narratives compiled a list of the ca. 2500 entries of the planned book during their regular meetings held every two weeks. The list was sent to three (Hungarian as well as foreign) independent experts for reviewing. Seven active and two retired colleagues (employed with a contract) of the Institute, as well as the head and two former employees of the Archives of the Institute participated in the work. The research team working on the project wishes to have future meetings, also in the form of round-table talks, where also expert researchers from ethnography and related disciplines are invited. In 2012, the participants plan to apply for an OTKA grant to fund their research.

– The project ETNOFOLK funded by the EU Structural Funds - digitized folk cultural heritage

The Institute of Ethnology of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic (IEASCR) together with the Institute of Ethnology of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (IEHAS); Institute of Ethnology of Slovak Academy of Sciences (IESAS); Scientific Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts (SRCSAS); the Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica (MBU); and the IT Company AiP Beroun s.r.o applied successfully for a consortial grant for the Central Europe Programme of the European Regional Development Fund. The common goal is to build a uniform database system and a web portal for the folk cultural heritage of the region. The aim of the project

is to make available the Central and Eastern European folk culture traditions within the common cultural heritage of the former Austro-Hungarian Monarchy to both professional and non-professional audiences. The cooperation started in May 2011 and lasts for three years. During the project the institute digitizes manuscripts, photographs, slides, films, audio materials, maps found in its archives, and this collection will be extended by documentations of recent fieldworks. The kick-off meeting held in Prague on May 19, 2011 focused on the coordination of the project administration and financial management. The arising technical and professional issues were discussed by the partner institutions in a meeting in Ljubljana on October 12-13 which closed the first phase of the joint work. Since the start of the project the structure of a new, uniform metadata system accompanying data sheets for the digitized records, was worked out by the participants. As a follow up of the Ljubljana meeting there are ongoing discussions between the partners about the

addition and catalogization of the records and other contents to be uploaded in a uniform way that can be adapted for all involved cultures. The directorate (director, deputy director, head of the finance office) and three further researchers of the institute initiated the research and created the strategy.

– An examination of triple borders in the south-western, south-eastern and north-eastern regions of Hungary

The research, supported by OTKA (2011-2015), focuses on the triple borders of Hungary, on its border regions, and on the relations that reach across the borders. On this wide range, Hungary has three types of borders and thus maintains relationships with its neighbours in three ways: Hungary's connection to the former EU, the so-called Western Europe, Hungary's connection to new EU member states, Hungary's connection to non-EU member states. The historical antecedents and the political nature of the border that, moreover, changed several times during the past decades, significantly define the type, stratification and intensity of the relations. We will investigate how the neighbouring regions affect each other: what principles bring them closer or alienate them to/from each other, and what dynamisms operate the interferences in time and space. The projected research analyses three dimensions of keeping relations in the borderland regions: (1) within the cultural dimension the following issues will be highlighted: identity, creating and preserving traditions, educational institutions, cultural organisations, (2) in exploring the social dimension we will discuss the transformed/revitalized/loosened relations as result of the transformation of the character of the borders (the iron curtain of 1989, the Schengen border, visa liberalisation), as well as the movements of population, the new strategies for establishing relations, and the new communities, (3) in analysing the economic aspects, we focus on the following issues: borderland trade (formal and informal economy, black market traders), economic migration, other individual and communal strategies for exploring borderland existence in order to make profit.

In 2011 a questionnaire was prepared for future surveys, research points were selected and their data sized up. The team prepared the research questionnaire for the following three years, building on the experience of earlier Hungarian as well as international questionnaires used for the study of cross-border relations, and produced a series of questions that is adequate to explore the economic, social and cultural problems of the selected triple borders. Local experts were also consulted for the selection of key issues, and the project will build on their competence in the future, too. A database was created on the historical data of the chosen settlements (demographic, statistical and historical descriptions). The fieldwork has begun, expert interviews were conducted to explore and interpret cross-border economic and social relations, and in-depth interviews with those participating in forming the above relations. The research is led by the director of the institution, one researcher of the institute coordinates it, and one of the five further participants is also researcher of the institute.

– Investigation of socio-ethnographic changes in local communities that differ in terms of geography and type

Researchers from the Institute's Department of Social Anthropology are analysing the living and adaptation strategies of individuals and local communities in a variety of local societies that differ in terms of geography and type. The analysis also covers new forms of communal organisation, issues of local and ethnic identity, and relationships in local politics and power. The demographic processes taking place at the turn of the 21st century — changes in the age structure of the population, increased life expectancy, and the rise in the number of old people — necessitate an examination of inter-generational relationships and the place of the elderly in society and social relationships, as well as research into family and institutional models for the care of the elderly and an investigation of the role of migrants in the system of social support for the elderly. The research associate carrying out the research won the János Jankó Prize of the Hungarian Ethnographic Society. She compares the nature of services provided by migrants in eldercare: the services

existing in the state, non-profit and market sectors, and in the civil and informal spheres. She examines the interpersonal relations of the migrants participating in the eldercare in the sending country as well as in the receiving countries, the successful and unsuccessful forms of integration, and the different types of integration. She focuses on the migration of Eastern European women into the domestic industry for a shorter or longer periods.

The Institute regards the research carried out into lifestyles and urban culture in large cities as highly important. A researcher of the institute studies - within the framework of a János Bolyai Research Fellowship - changes in nutrition culture in terms of values and value systems in a contemporary urban environment.

A senior research fellow of the Department of Social Anthropology studies everyday customs, everyday life and manifestations of identities. She studies the culture of the body and cleanliness in a historical, comparative as well as contemporary perspective. She explored numerous international relations of the subject with the help of research, fieldwork and conference participations within the framework of bilateral academic agreements in Bulgaria, Turkey, Estonia, Poland, Russia and Ukraine in the reporting year.

An area of particular importance for the institute is the presentation and interpretive analysis of the processes that took place during the second half of the 20th century within the socio-economic relationships of Socialism, as well as after the change of regime and as a result of joining the European Union. A sponsored research fellow of the Department of Social Anthropology carried out research into the analysis of lifestyle changes within peasant society after 1945. Within the framework of her research topic, *Restructuring employment in villages in the vicinity of Leninváros under the impact of industrial investments*, she reviewed the restructuring occupational patterns of the youth just entering marriage with the help of marital registers. With the help of personal interviews she captures the presence of this process in personal memory, and explores the possible career-alternatives, career decisions and different motivations behind personal ways of life.

The other sponsored research fellow of the department, who was one of the organizers of the international *2nd Eastern European Ethnobiology Workshop. Methodology and Methods* held in Hungary, examines popular knowledge on vegetation dynamics in Ghimes. Aspects of nature conservation play an especially important role in the evaluation of results.

Within the framework of an OTKA postdoctoral research entitled *Material culture, ethnic identity and the politics of difference among Gabor Roma of Transylvania* manuscripts and publications were prepared in Hungarian as well as in English. Preparatory work was performed to turn the dissertation examining the prestige item economy of the Gabor Roma of Transylvania into a monograph. The Hungarian Scholarship Board sponsored a six month long anthropological fieldwork.

The deputy director of the institute has been carrying out a computer analysis of the regions of Hungarian folk culture for years. He studies the possibility of computer elaboration of ethnographic maps. Last year his DSc dissertation was published as a book entitled *A magyar népi kultúra regionális struktúrája I-II* [Regional structure of Hungarian folk culture I-II.] Budapest: MTA Néprajzi Kutatóintézet, 2011. 563 + 354 pp. The author has processed the data of the nine-volume *Magyar Néprajzi Atlasz* [Hungarian Ethnographic Map], illustrating the spatial structure of the Hungarian folk culture, using computer cluster analysis. With the help of this technique he projected the different maps onto each other so that more than 600 ethnographic phenomena could be seen simultaneously. His method makes it possible to outline an exact picture of the spatial organization of culture, to determine large, medium and small cultural regions as well as micro-regions of the Hungarian language area. The two volume work proves, refutes or clarifies previous knowledge on the rich regional and cultural structure characteristic to Hungarians. He is also the author of another volume which is closely related to the above study, *A magyar népi kultúra régiói I. Dunántúl, Kisalföld, Alföld* [Regions of Hungarian Folk Culture I. Transdanubia, Little Alföld, Great Alföld]. (Budapest: M-érték Kiadó, 2011. 406 pp.). Another senior research fellow of the institute is the author of the second volume, *A magyar népi kultúra régiói. II. Felföld, Erdély, Moldva* [Regions of Hungarian Folk Culture II. Upper Hungary, Transylvania, Moldavia]. (Budapest: M-érték Kiadó,

2011. 424 pp.).

A researcher of the institute participates in the OTKA project *Examples of ethnical equipoise, local models of coexistence in two small regions of mixed ethnicity (Tövishát, Zobor region)*, lead by another institute of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. He analyses the construction of the Zobor region, a Hungarian ethnographic region of referential importance.

– Results in the historical research of folk culture

The collected works of Márta Belényesy has been published in the series *Documentatio Ethnographica* entitled *Fejezetek a középkori anyagi kultúra történetéből* [Chapters from the History of Medieval Material Culture] vol. I (Budapest: L'Harmattan – Institute of Ethnography, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, 2011. 201 pp. Documentatio Ethnographica, 26.), edited by the researchers of the institute. Republishing the essays written by the author mostly in the 1960s is justified on the one hand by the fact that many of them are hard to access. On the other hand, her works, also used and often cited by historians with great interest, can be more inspiring for future historical and ethnographic research in such a collection.

The Head of the Department of Historical Ethnology, director of the Hungarian Cultural Center in New York from September 2011, and two research fellows and a senior research fellow of the institute organize the international conference *Visual Encounters with Alterity*, together with the Institute of Archaeology and Ethnology of the Polish Academy of Sciences. Primarily researchers of the Visegrád countries will participate in the conference.

A young researcher was awarded an OTKA postdoctoral fellowship in the institution. Her project is entitled *Clothes and Clothing in Seventeenth and Eighteenth Century Transylvania in the light of clothing ordinances*. She studies the influence of normative sources on the clothing practices in the period: how those who were concerned tried to circumvent the regulations, and how the authorities tried to enforce them. For the investigation she studies written sources: moralistic literature, preaching, and contemporary descriptions; pictorial sources: primarily costume series and portraits; as well as artefacts: remained articles of clothing from the period.

A sponsored research fellow of the Department of Historical Ethnology studies the history of the wheelwright guilds and craftsmen's associations in Hungary on the basis of archival sources and recent fieldworks, and examines the tools and products of the wheelwright trade and its changes to in the 19th and 20th centuries. On the basis of 20th-century sources and interviews the researcher will also outline the process of modification and decline of the wheelwright and tinsmith crafts.

Two members of the Institute are currently carrying out research that will result in major publications on the subject of Reformed denomination identity and collective memory. The doctoral dissertation of a research fellow of the Department of Historical Ethnology was published in the series of the institute entitled *Néprajzi Tanulmányok: Egyház és közösség a kora újkorban a Küüllői Református Egyházmegye 17–18. századi iratainak tükrében* [Church and Community in the Early Modern Period Based on the Documents of the 17-18th Century Calvinist Diocese of Târnava] (Budapest: Akadémiai Kiadó, 2011. 297 pp.).

A researcher of the Department of Social Anthropology uses methods of ethnography, cultural anthropology and sociology for his empirical research in order to outline the elements and functioning of contemporary Reformed identity. In his dissertation in progress he examines the discourse around the new church festival *Magyar Református Egység Napja*, and the processes of the construction of Reformed confessional identity.

Within the framework of the research exploring, publishing and analysing sources of ecclesiastical history continued the exploration of 18th century visitation documents, and the collection of sacral remnants of Burgerland.

A researcher of the institute, also a doctor of the Academy, compiled a 20 sheet long volume entitled *A mezőváros és a paraszti kultúra – Történeti-néprajzi dolgozatok az alföldi mezővárosokról* [Market town and peasant culture – historical ethnological studies on the market towns of the Great Alföld], a collection of his studies based on historical sources as well as recent

fieldworks, previously published in diverse periodicals and occasional publications on the market towns of the Great Alföld. He also prepared for publication a 5 sheet long volume entitled *Emléklapok Ceglédről – Tanulmányok és cikkek a városról és a Kossuth Múzeumról – régmúltamból* [Historical Reminiscences of Cegléd – Studies and articles on the city and the Kossuth Museum – from my past]. He published in the series of the institute *Folklór Archívum* a monograph entitled *Finesszel köll élni – A háború és a hadifogság a szóbeliségben* [To live with Finesse – War and War Captivity] (Budapest: MTA Néprajzi Kutatóintézete, 2011. 198 pp.) together with the notes of his folklore textual collecting.

– Theoretical and methodological problems in present-day folkloristics. The collection, digitization and extension of the archive of folklore texts (tales, legends, proverbs and customs).

Papers presented at the interdisciplinary Elek Benedek Conference in 2009 were published as a collection of essays by the institute. The volume entitled *A népköltészet terített asztalánál* [At the Set Table of Folk Poetry] (Budapest: MTA Néprajzi Kutatóintézete, 2011. 312 pp. + CD annex) was edited by a researcher of the institute, and also contains essays of six other colleagues of the institute. The works of Elek Benedek are often excluded from literary canons, and they are similarly scarcely studied by folklorists, although he is still one of the most popular authors based on publishing industry statistics. The authors choose their topics from the lesser-known parts of the legacy of Elek Benedek, consisting of literary and folklore genres, literary translations, educational publications in history, readers, textbooks, pulp fictions and calendars, and pointed out whole new aspects of his oeuvre.

Folklorists of the institute, besides working on the collection, organization and digitization of folklore texts and the expansion of the archives of the institute, worked primarily on entries for the Lexicon of Hungarian Folk Poetry.

– Modernization and cultural ideologies. The ethnological investigation of modernisation efforts and local cultural responses to those efforts in Siberia, Mongolia and South East Asia.

Ethnologists of the institute analyse the responses given locally or regionally to the challenges of modernization affecting the ways of life as well as the ways of thinking in the globalizing world, based on earlier traditions or ideologies learned in the school system in different parts of the world. Their starting points were the fieldworks carried out in Siberia, Mongolia and South East Asia, and their experiences in the United States of America and East Africa. Mindset formations in Siberia (Evenkis, Yakuts, Samoyeds), Central Asia (Kyrgyz), and among people in Mongolia are taken into consideration: besides the revival of shamanism, consolidation of Pan-Indian consciousness, African conflicts during the nation-building processes, and surviving strategies of small ethnic groups in Vietnam during the war-ridden 20th century history of the country. The OTKA postdoctoral project entitled *Culture contacts in the borderland of taiga and steppe* (2009—2012) fitted well in these studies. The book entitled *Az evenkik földjén. Kulturális kontatusok a Bajkál-vidéken* [In Evenki land. Culture contact of the Baikal Region] was published as a part of the above project (Budapest: Balassi Kiadó, 2011. 237 pp., + photo annex, 10 original maps, DVD appendix - Dzsirga - Spring 2006 (movie, 23 minutes).

A doctoral dissertation entitled *Inner Asia power conflict. The neighbouring big powers and the Buddhist church's part in making of the Mongol state* was defended.

Within the framework of the series *The Encyclopaedia of Uralic Mythologies* – which is a multi-volume dictionary of the belief systems of linguistically related peoples – the volume on Mordvin mythology was finished: translated into English, peer reviewed, prepared for publication and edited. The head of the Department of Non-European Studies of the institute, who was awarded the István Györfly Medal of the Hungarian Ethnographic Society in 2011, prepared a comprehensive study on the relations of Hungarian ethnography and cultural anthropology, with regard to research trends, development of institutions within the policy framework that defined the subject matter.

Hungarian and foreign language conference presentations and publications were prepared on the topic the history of anthropological ways of thinking between the 16th and 19th centuries (Hungary-Europe).

b) Relationship between science and society

Researchers of the institute had numerous book presentations, gave scientific educational lectures throughout the year, gave statements to the press on scientific topics, organized and opened exhibitions.

A research advisor of the institute organized a successful exhibition entitled *Istenek, ősök és sámánok. Egy vietnámi hegyi törzs, a brúk vallása* [Divinities, Ancestors and Shamans. Religion of a Vietnamese Hill Tribe, the Bru], first presented in the Matyó Museum in Mezőkövesd. In 2011 the exhibition was presented at five different locations: the Sopron Museum, the Szatmár Museum in Mátészalka, the Jakobinus [Jacobite] Hall of the Academy's Social Research Centre in Budapest, the Janus Pannonius Museum in Pécs and the Town Museum in Nagyatád. Besides the 75 field photographs, the exhibition was completed with artefacts at some of the locations. The photographs were taken among the Bru tribe, one of the ethnic minorities in Vietnam, during 18 months between 1985 and 1989 in the course of ethnographic and cultural-anthropological fieldwork that involved participatory observation; and during a further six month long research in 2007 among another resettled Bru community, representing three major themes. In relation to the exhibition, a high-quality bilingual catalogue with colour photographs was produced. The researcher gave numerous presentations to the public on his fieldwork among the Bru.

The director and a leading researcher of the institute have been doing fieldwork in the villages of Țara Călatei (Kalotaszeg) for years. A successful exhibition entitled *Kalotaszeg rejtőzködő arcai* [Hidden faces of Kalotaszeg] was organized of their field photographs in the Jakobinus (Jacobite) Hall of the Academy's Social Research Centre.

A researcher of the institute had a photo exhibition *Arcok, helyek, hangulatok* [Faces, places, moods] within the framework of the 2011 Zemplen Festival.

At the National Táncház Festival & Fair the institute ran an information desk to present its publications in 2011 as usual.

A researcher of the institute participated in the round-table talk about ageing and old age within the framework of *Mindentudás Egyetemem*.

III. A presentation of national and international relations

The Institute of Ethnology of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences considers its responsibility to coordinate the ethnographic studies in Hungary. In 2011, ten researchers were involved in regular teaching activities in higher education institutes in Hungary (at the Departments of Material Ethnography, Cultural Anthropology and Inner Asia of the Eötvös Loránd University; the Departments of Ethnography – Cultural Anthropology and Modern History at the University of Pécs; the International Study Programme of the Corvinus University; Institute of Cultural and Visual Anthropology, University of Miskolc; the Department of Communications and Media Science at the Faculty of Arts of the University of Szeged; the Vilmos Apó Catholic College; Budapest Business School's College of Commerce, Catering and Tourism and the Sárospatak Reformed Theological Seminary). Researchers of the Institute are frequently invited to speak as guest speakers by foreign universities. In 2011, seven such invitations were received by researchers. Several members of the institute participated in DSc doctoral evaluation procedures, many of them contributed to the work of university graduate schools by giving courses, supervising students or participating in comprehensive exams or doctoral procedures.

In 2011 researchers of the institute spent a total of 266 days at foreign partner institutions, foreign colleagues spent 104 days at our institute and there were four talks given by invited guests within the framework of the Ethnology Workshop.

The director of the institute was invited to several important international events and conferences.

He presented a paper at the international scientific conference *Cultures and Borders* of the Ethnographic Institute of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts in Vršac, he was an invited speaker at the symposium *Contemporary Artistic and Ethno-Cultural Processes of Polyethnic Surroundings in Ukraine* in Kiev. He was the chairperson of the international conference *Szórvány és nemzetépités* [Diaspora and Nation-Building] in Timișoara.

A delegation of the institute participated in the 7th International Congress of Hungarian Studies in Cluj-Napoca. Eight researchers of the institute presented a paper.

Researchers of the institute took part in the organization of three international conferences. A research advisor of the institute, also the president of the Hungarian Association for the Academic Study of Religions, coordinated the 10th conference of the European Association of the Study of Religions (EASR) *New Movements in Religion*. A researcher of the institute organized the conference *Etno-foto-gráfia 2. A digitális etnográfus A digitális fotográfia problémái és lehetőségei a társadalomkutatásban* [Ethno-photo-graphy 2. The digital ethnographer. Problems and possibilities of digital photography in the social research]. One keynote speaker and four further speakers of the conference are researchers of the institute.

A research fellow of the institute participated in the ERAB (European Research Area Board) Stakeholder Conference, European Commission (Brussels, Belgium) *Young Researchers Workshop* as an expert.

Several colleagues are participating in international collaborations. An ethnologist of the institute, doing fieldwork in South East Asia, represent the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in the European Consortium of Asian Field Studies (ECAF). The ECAF Consortium was founded in 2007 at the initiative of the French School of Asian Studies – Ecole française d'Extrême-Orient (EFEO). This Euro-Asian research network comprising thirty-three member institutions in ten EU countries as well as eleven associate members in nine Asian countries and Russia. Its principal aim is to provide field access and study facilities to European scholars through the sharing of a network of twenty-three existing research centres across Asia and to encourage joint interdisciplinary research programmes in the humanities and social sciences.

A young researcher of the institute participates in the international program *Mountain hay meadows – hot spots of biodiversity and traditional culture* funded by the UNDP GEF Small Grants Programme, the Barbara Knowles Fund, the European Forum on Nature Conservation and Pastoralism with funding from the European Commission (DG Environment) from September 2009 to February 2011.

In 2011 the Bulgarian journal *Blgarski Folklor* had a thematic issue on Hungary. Five researchers of the institute published studies in this issue. Volume 28 of *Ethno-Lore*, the yearbook of the institute, contains fourteen studies, the most recent results of researchers of the institute (*Ethno-Lore* XXVIII. Budapest: MTA Néprajzi Kutatóintézet, 2011. 284 pp.). The greatest thematic chapter of the volume comprises of the essay versions of the conference papers presented at the centennial conference *Magyar néprajztudomány a 20. század derekán* [Hungarian Ethnography in the Middle of the 20th Century], in memory of outstanding figures in Hungarian folklore research: Gyula Ortutay, István Tálasi and Edit Fél, organized by the Section of Linguistics and Literary Scholarship of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in 2010.

In 2011, a total of 348 items were added to the book and CD stock of the Institute's library, as well as 125 foreign and Hungarian periodicals. At the end of the year, the library's stock comprised of 43,578 registered items (books, periodicals, special editions, CDs, maps etc.). The library has 160 exchange partners. Some 285 copies of publications produced by the Institute were given away in the form of exchanges, complimentary copies and gifts (at conferences and other events).

In the Archives of the institute Hungarian as well as foreign scholars conducted research, especially materials related to the *Magyar Néprajzi Atlasz* [Hungarian Ethnographic Atlas]. The digitization of the audiovisual collection was carried on, within the framework of the agreement with the Hungarian Heritage House.

IV. Brief summary of national and international research proposals, winning in 2011

- The project ETNOFOLK - digitized folk culture heritage. The Institute of Ethnology of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic (IEASCR) together with the Institute of Ethnology of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (IEHAS); Institute of Ethnology of Slovak Academy of Sciences (IESAS); Scientific Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts (SRCSAS); the Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica (MBU); and the IT Company AiP Beroun s.r.o applied successfully for a consortial grant for the Central Europe Programme of the European Regional Development Fund. The goal of the project is the building of a uniform database system and a web portal for the folk cultural heritage of the region. The directorate (director, deputy director, head of the finance office) and three further researchers of the institute initiated the research and created the strategy.
- *An examination of triple borders in the south-western, south-eastern and north-eastern regions of Hungary.* K84283 OTKA grant (2011-2015). The director of the institute is the principal investigator of the project, a member of the institute is its coordinator, one of the five further participants is also a member of the institute. The research focuses on the triple borders of Hungary: on its border regions as well as relations that reach across borders.
- NKA 1808/267 sponsored by the Hungarian National Cultural Fund. The organization of the conference *Etno-foto-gráfia 2. A digitális etnográfus A digitális fotográfia problémái és lehetőségei a társadalomkutatásban* [Ethno-photo-graphy 2. The digital ethnographer. Problems and possibilities of digital photography in the social research]. One keynote speaker and four further speakers of the conference are researchers of the institute.

V. List of important publications in 2011

1. Paládi-Kovács, Attila (gen. ed.) – Flórián, Mária (ed.): *Magyar néprajz nyolc kötetben. I.1. Táj, nép, történelem* [Hungarian Ethnography I.1. Landscape, People, History]. Budapest: Akadémiai Kiadó, 2011. 1080 pp.
2. Balogh, Balázs – Ispán, Ágota Lídia – Magyar Zoltán: *Ethno-Lore. A Magyar Tudományos Akadémia Néprajzi Kutatóintézetének évkönyve XXVIII* [Ethno-Lore. Yearbook of the Institute of Ethnology of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences]. Budapest: MTA Néprajzi Kutatóintézete, 2011. 284 pp.
3. Borsos Balázs: *A magyar népi kultúra regionális struktúrája I-II* [The Regional Structure of the Hungarian Folk Culture I-II]. Budapest: MTA Néprajzi Kutatóintézet, 2011. 563 + 354 pp.
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