

Safe and Inclusive Border between Slovakia and Ukraine (SIBSU)

Final Conference

June 19, 2023

University of Prešov, Aula č. 103 (Hall No. 103), Ul. 17. novembra č. 1, Prešov

Organizers Bureau of Border and Foreign Police of the Presidium of the Police Force of the Slovak Republic, Chop Border Detachment of the Western Regional Directorate of the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine, Research Center of the Slovak Foreign Policy Association (Bratislava), Regional Risk Analytics Center (Uzhhorod), Åpenhet (Oslo) in cooperation with the Uzhhorod National University and the University of Prešov

Support EEA Grants (project code: GGC01005) and co-financed from the Slovak government funding

Aim The overall goal of the project was, first, to facilitate sharing of the best practices between the border police and customs services of Slovakia and Ukraine as well as to explore prospects for the deepening of the integrated border management; second, to increase public awareness and understanding of the work of border services in the bordering regions and municipalities of Slovakia and Ukraine; and three, to transfer the knowledge of the impact of the border on socio-economic development of border regions as well as opportunities for cross-border cooperation between local and regional policy and decision-makers on both sides of the border. The project also focused on the provision of humanitarian aid.

Aim of the final conference:

- presentation of the results of the project;
- presentation of the results of the research carried out within the project with the participation of a broad research team including experts from the University of Prešov and the Uzhhorod National University;
- exchange of best practices on the introduction and teaching of the subject 'Border Studies' and related subjects related to cross-border cooperation between the Institute of Political Science of the Faculty of Arts of the University of Prešov and the Faculty of Social Sciences of Uzhhorod National University.

Languages Slovak and Ukrainian (with simultaneous translation)

Program

09:30–09:45 **Welcome & Introductory remarks**

Chair **Alexander Duleba**, Research Center of the Slovak Foreign Policy Association, University of Prešov

Speakers **Marek Šafin**, Ambassador of the Slovak Republic in Ukraine
Svitlana Mytryayeva, Director, Regional Risk Analytics Center (main project partner from Ukraine)

09:45–10:45 **Panel I. Safe and Inclusive Border between Slovakia and Ukraine**

Chair **Peter Brezáni**, Research Center of the Slovak Foreign Policy Association

Speakers **Svitlana Mytryayeva**, Director, Regional Risk Analytics Center (Uzhhorod)

Natalia Khoruzha, Chop Border Detachment of the Western Regional Directorate of the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine

Mykola Botosh, Head of the department for ensuring customs control and clearance, Zakarpattia Customs

Ladislav Chabreček, Director, Department of Border Police, Bureau of Border and Foreign Police of the Presidium of the Police Force of the Slovak Republic

Video message **Kleng Brátveit**, Director, Åpenhet

Lena Geving, Researcher and National Expert, Åpenhet

Thibault Rabussier, Project Manager, Åpenhet

10:45 – 11:15 **Coffee Break**

11:15 – 12:15 **PANEL II. Research on factors influencing cross-border cooperation I.**

Presentation of the results of the public opinion surveys conducted from December 2021 to January 2022 on the Ukrainian and Slovak sides of the border

Moderator **Martin Lačný**, University of Prešov

Speakers **Olesia Benchak**, Uzhhorod National University

Hanna Melehanych, Uzhhorod National University

Veronika Oravcová, Research Center of the Slovak Foreign Policy Association (online)

Mykhaylo Shelemba, Uzhhorod National University (online)

Oksana Sviezhentseva, Uzhhorod National University

Q&A

12:20 – 13:30 Luncheon

13:30 – 14:45 **PANEL III. Research on factors influencing cross-border cooperation II**

Presentation of the book and the results of analytical work

Moderator **Michal Cirner**, University of Prešov

Speakers **Alexander Duleba**, Research Center of the Slovak Foreign Policy Association, University of Prešov

Myroslava Lendel, Uzhhorod National University

Q&A

14:15 – 15:00 **Concluding remarks and next steps**

Milada Bucseková, Department of Border Police, Bureau of Border and Foreign Police of the Presidium of the Police Force of the Slovak Republic