

STRENGTHENING *UNIVERSITY* COOPERATION *OSIJEK – PÉCS*

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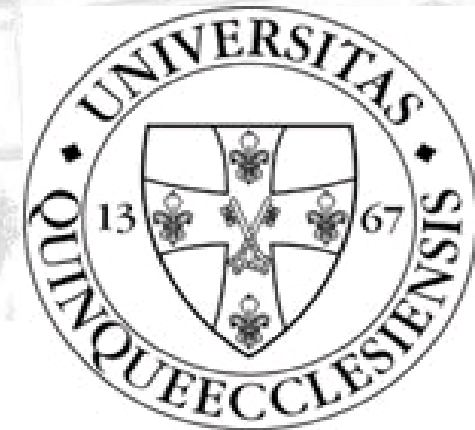


Project is co-financed by European Union



Hungary-Croatia

IPA Cross-border Co-operation Programme





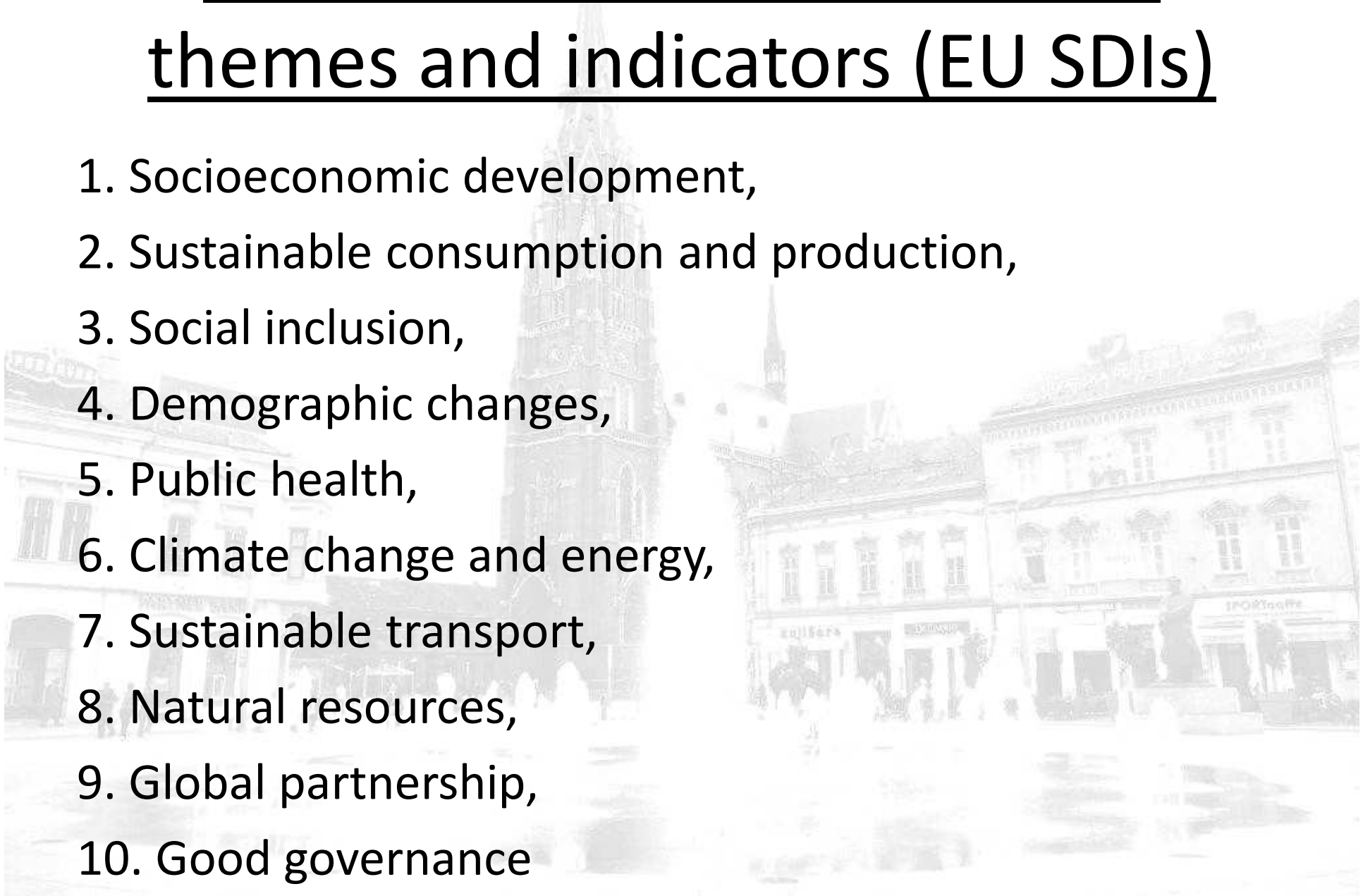
Regional and Sustainable Development

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EU sustainable development themes and indicators (EU SDIs)

1. Socioeconomic development,
2. Sustainable consumption and production,
3. Social inclusion,
4. Demographic changes,
5. Public health,
6. Climate change and energy,
7. Sustainable transport,
8. Natural resources,
9. Global partnership,
10. Good governance



Sustainable growth or sustainable development?

- *"(...) development that satisfies the needs of present generations without jeopardizing the ability of future generations to meet their own needs" (1987),*
- Sustaining the process of improving human well-being
- What is the real meaning of sustainability?
- Three 'pillars': economy – society – environment,
- "If I have three children and one of them is ill, of course I focus on that one, but that does not mean I love the others less." *(José Manuel Barroso)*

"Green economy"

- An economy that
 - generates "growth",
 - creates jobs and
 - eradicates povertyby investing in and preserving the natural capital,
- Future economic growth in emerging economies can help lift people out of poverty(?)
- *"while progress has been made many challenges still exist, in particular to make growth more sustainable"(???)*

- "An economy that can secure growth and development, while at the same time improving human well-being, providing decent jobs, reducing inequalities, tackling poverty and preserving the natural capital upon which we all depend"

- "Blue economy" can be a solution(?)

→ *the 'invisible hand' exists!*

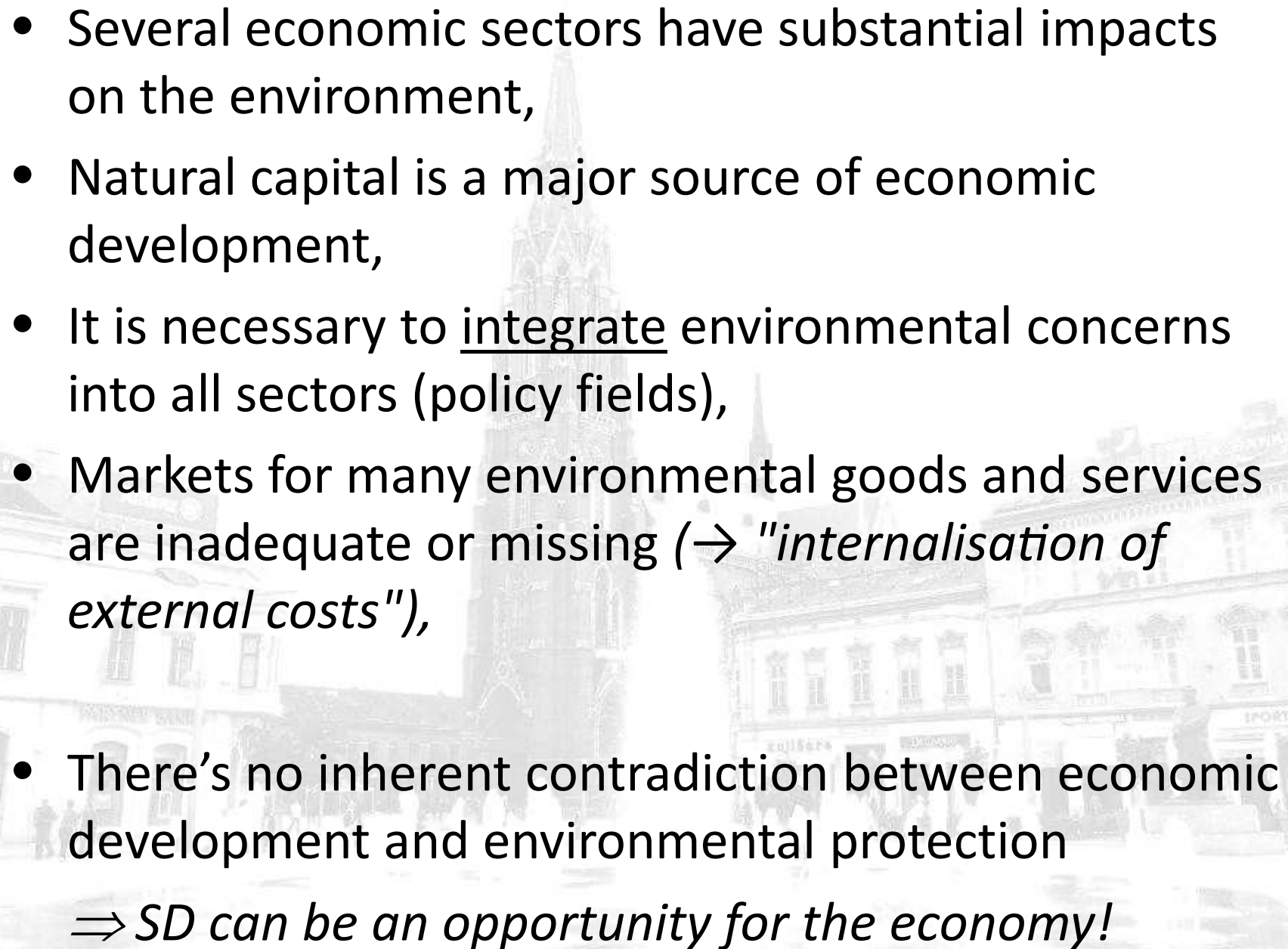
- Resources such as water, energy, land, forests as well as materials constitute the foundations of any economy!

- Many challenges require a global and regional response \Rightarrow *national efforts alone will not be enough to green the global economy*

- Rio+20 was a significant opportunity to advance SD:

"Together, we need to ensure tangible, effective action that can have real impact across the world."

- There is no potential of action at global level,
- We have to rethink the conventional model of economic progress
 \rightarrow *Do we always have to compete??*

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- Several economic sectors have substantial impacts on the environment,
 - Natural capital is a major source of economic development,
 - It is necessary to integrate environmental concerns into all sectors (policy fields),
 - Markets for many environmental goods and services are inadequate or missing (→ "*internalisation of external costs*"),
 - There's no inherent contradiction between economic development and environmental protection
⇒ *SD can be an opportunity for the economy!*

The Europe 2020 Strategy

- 2000 – The Lisbon Strategy (→ 2001 – *EU SDS*),
- "An effective tool for delivering on sustainable development" (SD),
- It aims to transform the EU into a knowledge-based, resource efficient, climate resilient and low-carbon economy,
- A response to the challenges facing the EU up to 2050(!),
- It establishes the mutually reinforcing priorities of "*smart, sustainable and inclusive growth*"(?)
→ *EU cohesion and regional development policy has a pivotal role in delivering the Strategy*

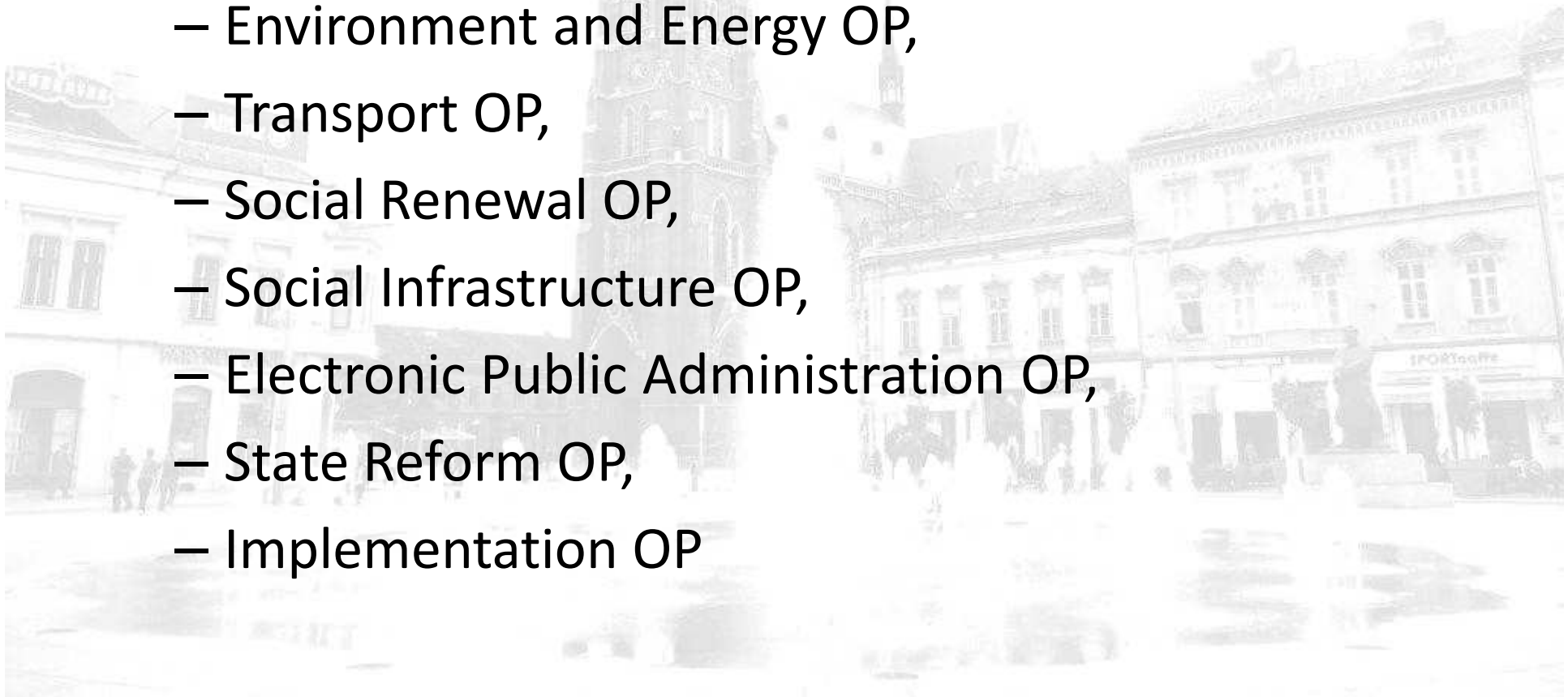
Regional development in Hungary

- Environmental protection is a long-term activity,
- Regional policy plays an essential role in achieving sustainability,
- Only long-term processes can close the development gap,
- National Development Plans (NDPs):
 - 2000-2006,
 - 2007-2013 → *'New Hungary Development Plan'*

- EU funds derive from 3 development funds:
 - Cohesion Fund (CF – transport, environmental protection, energy),
 - European Regional Development Fund (ERDF – physical infrastructure, supplies, R&D, etc.),
 - European Social Fund (ESF – human development, training, public administration),
- Total HUF 8000 billion is available: EU funds + Hungarian central budget (15%)
⇒ EU funds largely determine the development of Hungary in the future,
- Budapest-dominance can be observed at nearly all fields

The operational programmes (OPs)

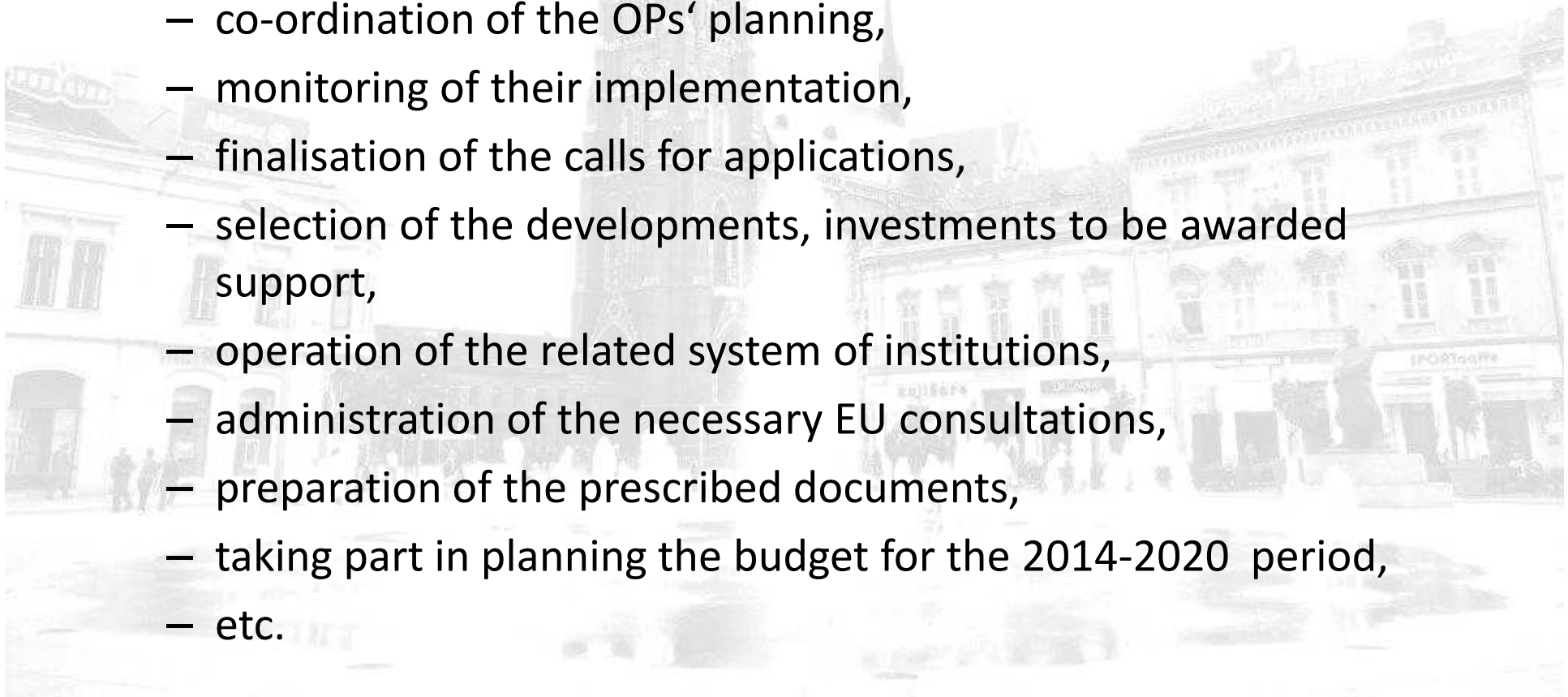
- Seven sectoral areas (→ *cca. 75%!*):
 - Economic Development OP,
 - Environment and Energy OP,
 - Transport OP,
 - Social Renewal OP,
 - Social Infrastructure OP,
 - Electronic Public Administration OP,
 - State Reform OP,
 - Implementation OP



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- Seven regional areas (Central Hungary + 6 "convergence regions"):
 - Central Hungary,
 - Central Transdanubia,
 - West Pannon,
 - South Transdanubia,
 - North Hungary,
 - North Great Plain,
 - South Great Plain
 - Planning and statistical regions only (→ *Act XXI of 1996*),
 - Regional Development Agencies since 1996,
 - Regional development councils since 1999,
 - Regional Operative Programmes (ROPs) since 2007,
 - Action plans: detailed multiannual documents (→ *2007/2008, 2009/2010, 2011/2013*)

The National Development Agency (NDA)

- A central office under the management of the minister for National Development,
- It is responsible for:
 - co-ordination of the OPs' planning,
 - monitoring of their implementation,
 - finalisation of the calls for applications,
 - selection of the developments, investments to be awarded support,
 - operation of the related system of institutions,
 - administration of the necessary EU consultations,
 - preparation of the prescribed documents,
 - taking part in planning the budget for the 2014-2020 period,
 - etc.

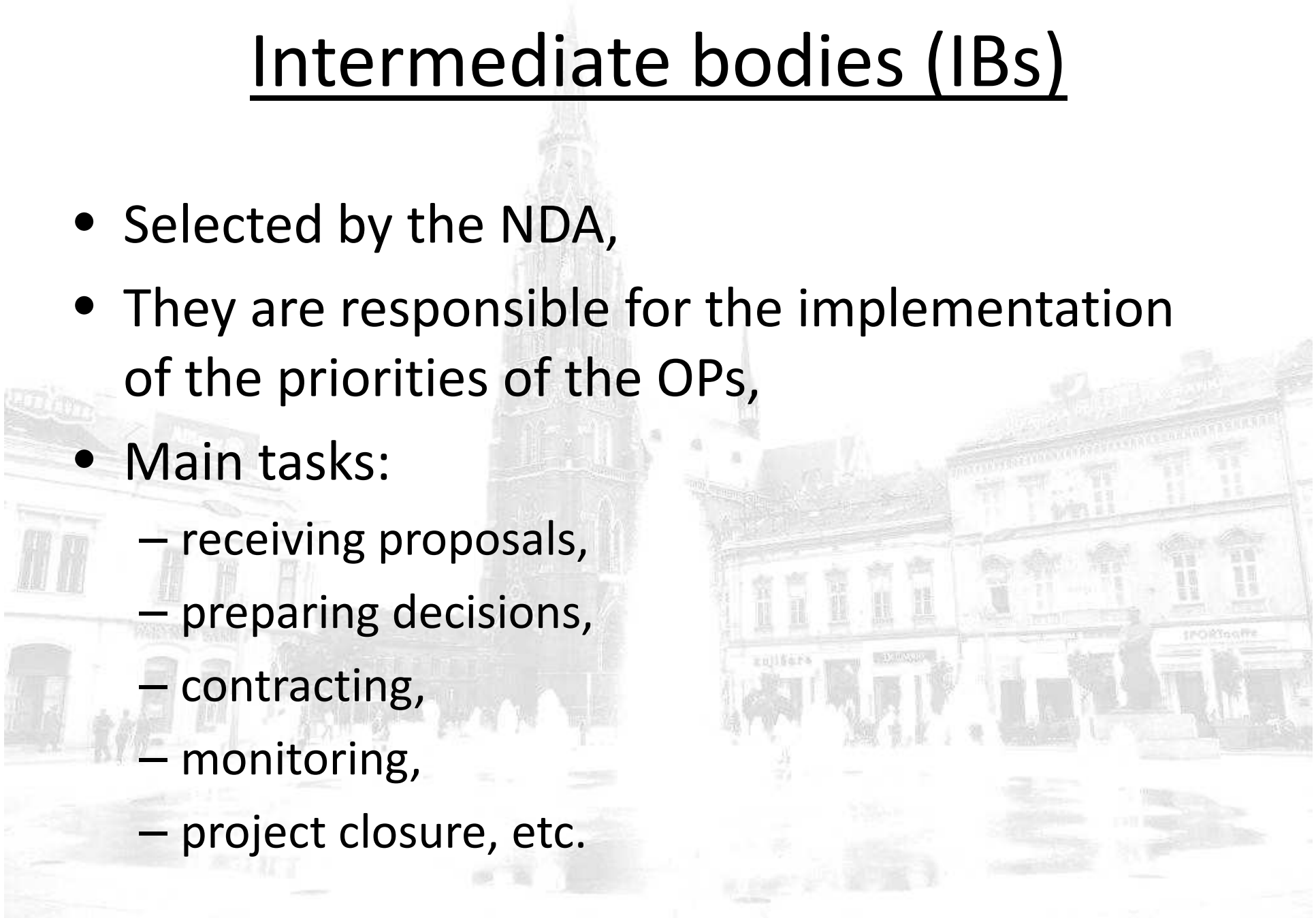


Managing authorities (MAs)

- Independent departments of the NDA,
- MAs are responsible for the strategic tasks regarding the implementation of the OPs,
/→ Intermediate bodies (IBs) are responsible for the implementation of specific operational issues/
- MAs coordinate the planning of OPs,
- Ensure the application of EU and national legal provisions,
- Approve calls for proposals,
- Endorse financing decisions,
- Participate in the evaluation of OPs, etc.

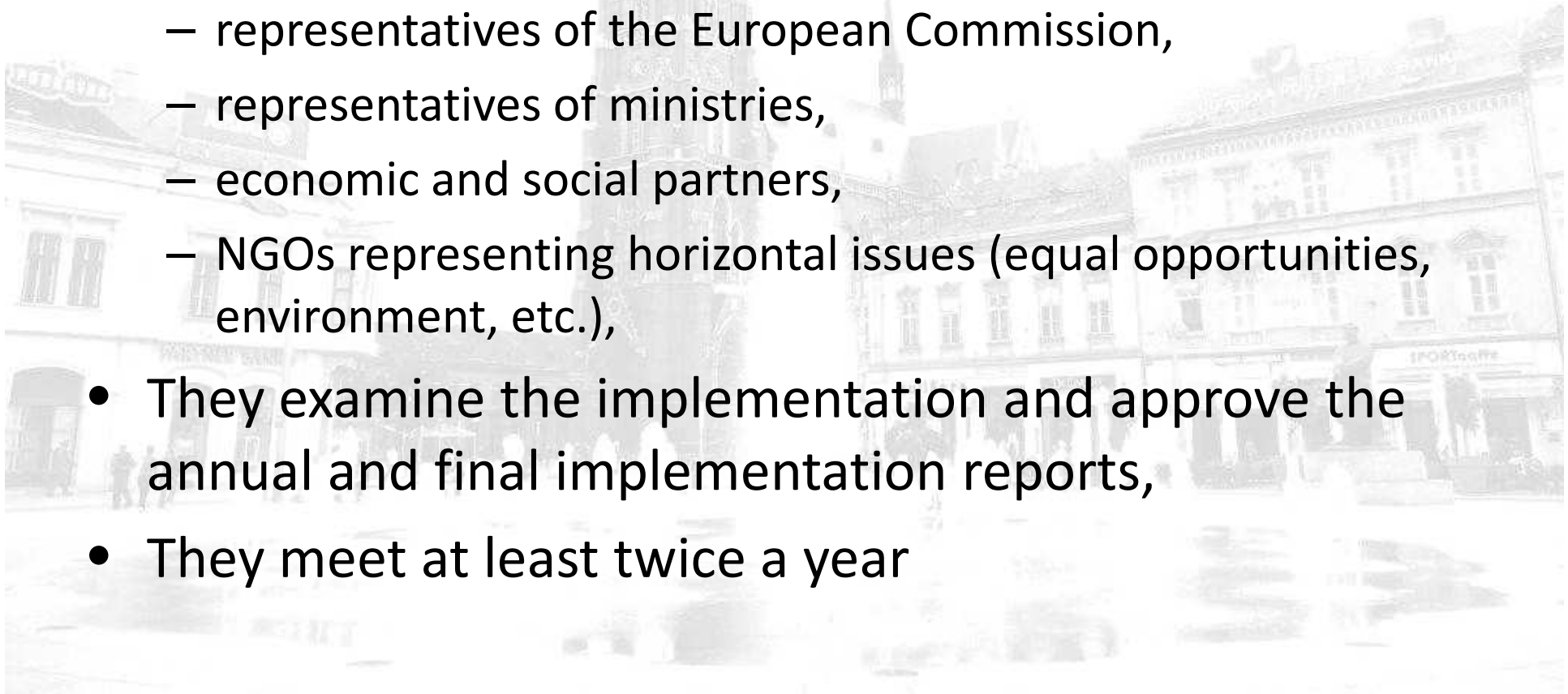
Intermediate bodies (IBs)

- Selected by the NDA,
- They are responsible for the implementation of the priorities of the OPs,
- Main tasks:
 - receiving proposals,
 - preparing decisions,
 - contracting,
 - monitoring,
 - project closure, etc.



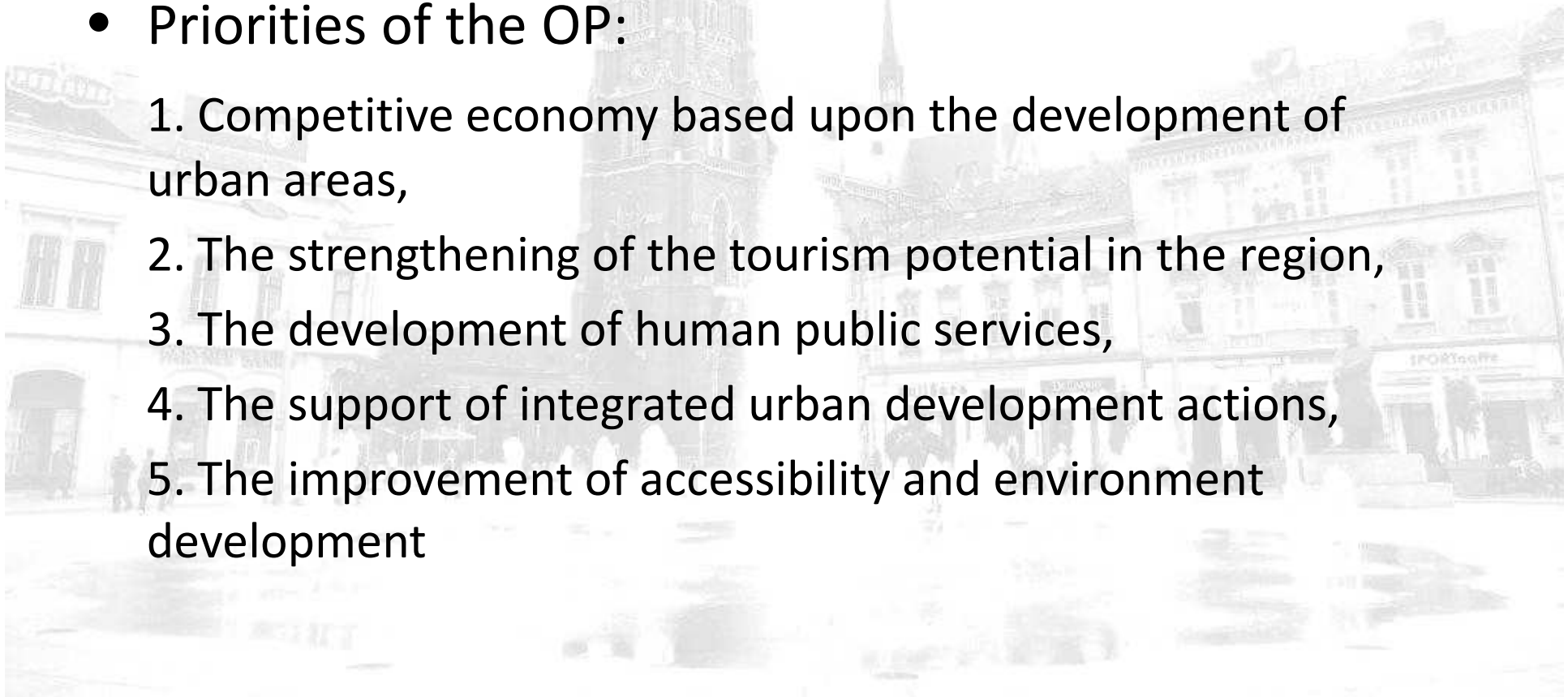
Monitoring committees

- Chaired by a person appointed by the NDA,
- Members of the committees:
 - representatives of the European Commission,
 - representatives of ministries,
 - economic and social partners,
 - NGOs representing horizontal issues (equal opportunities, environment, etc.),
- They examine the implementation and approve the annual and final implementation reports,
- They meet at least twice a year



The South Transdanubia Regional Operational Programme

- The region is one of the 20 less developed regions of the EU,
- Priorities of the OP:
 1. Competitive economy based upon the development of urban areas,
 2. The strengthening of the tourism potential in the region,
 3. The development of human public services,
 4. The support of integrated urban development actions,
 5. The improvement of accessibility and environment development



Experiences

- Significant delays at the application system,
- Tender calls issued since 2007,
- Formal and professional evaluation of the applications ('evaluation committees'),
- Remaining gaps and increasing inequalities,
- Prestige investments,
- Slow transfer of resources,
- Slow proportion of supports at regional level

+ The impacts of the financial and economic crisis

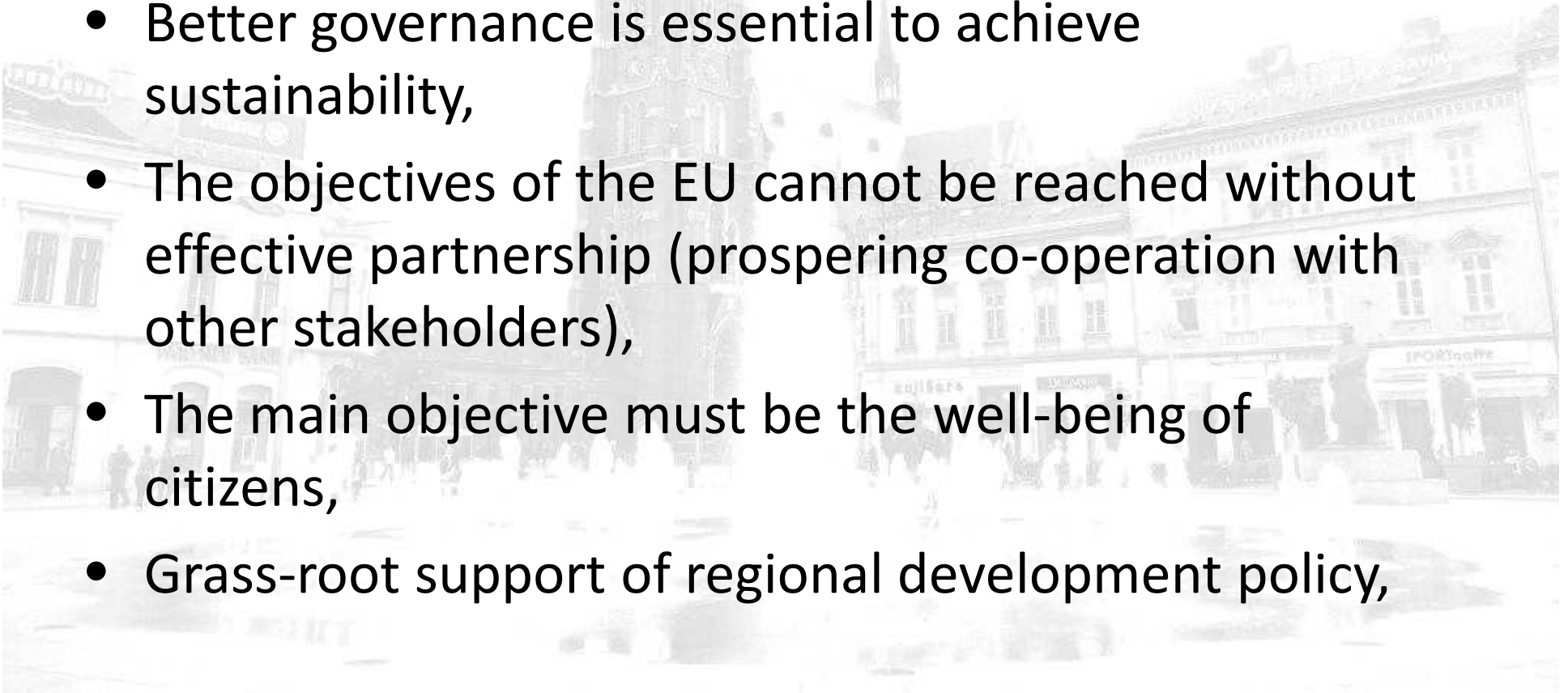
New Széchenyi Plan

- The first Széchenyi Plan launched in the period of 1998 to 2002,
- Launched on 14 January 2011,
- To place Hungary among the most competitive countries,
- Seven 'break-out points' of economic breakthrough:
 1. Healing in Hungary – Health industry,
 2. Renewal of Hungary – Green economy development,
 3. Home project– Housing,
 4. Enterprise promotion – Development of the business environment,
 5. Science – Innovation – Growth,
 6. Employment,
 7. Transport – Transit economy,
- Creating a million new jobs in 10 years??



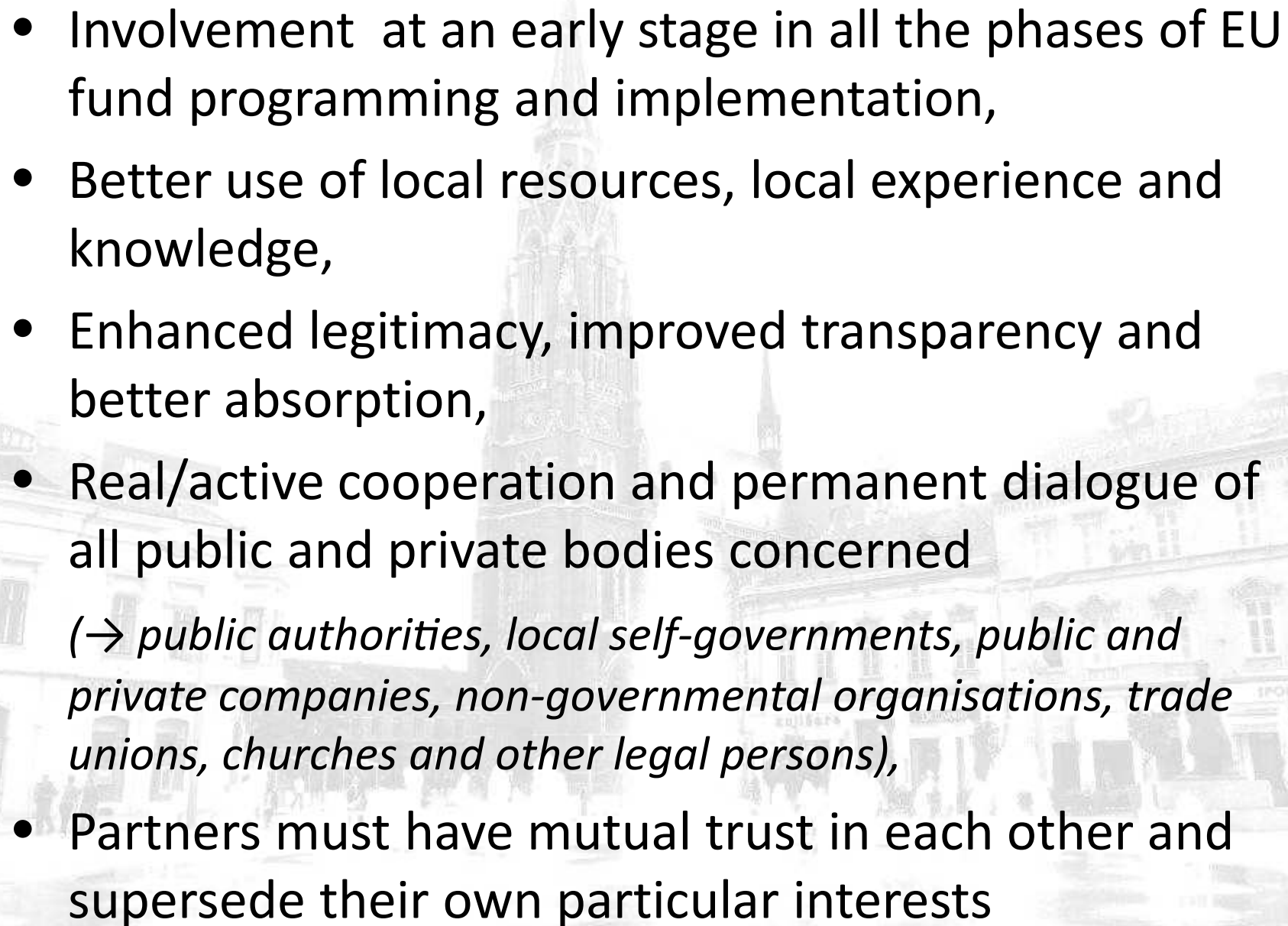
The importance of partnership

- Partnership is a horizontal principle of EU cohesion and regional development policy,
- Better governance is essential to achieve sustainability,
- The objectives of the EU cannot be reached without effective partnership (prospering co-operation with other stakeholders),
- The main objective must be the well-being of citizens,
- Grass-root support of regional development policy,



- It is the competence of the EU Member States
(→ *no EU model*),
- Different traditions,
- Low political support is general,
- No financial support,
- In Hungary, it is more satisfactory:
 - at national level than at EU level,
 - at regional level than at national level,
 - at regional and national level than at local level
- Representation in the monitoring committees alone is insufficient,



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- Involvement at an early stage in all the phases of EU fund programming and implementation,
 - Better use of local resources, local experience and knowledge,
 - Enhanced legitimacy, improved transparency and better absorption,
 - Real/active cooperation and permanent dialogue of all public and private bodies concerned
(→ *public authorities, local self-governments, public and private companies, non-governmental organisations, trade unions, churches and other legal persons*),
 - Partners must have mutual trust in each other and supersede their own particular interests



*Thanks for your
attention!*