## CONTRIBUTIONS OF INSTITUTE FOR EUROREGIONAL STUDIES ORADEA-DEBRECEN TO SHAPING THE BORDER INTO A SPACE FOR KNOWLEDGE AND DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract. Using the Hungarian-Romanian border as a solid example, this paper will attempt to prove how borders have changed from the hard, close, exclusive border to the soft, open, inclusive frontier. We have highlighted the Hungarian and Romanian authors' scientific contributions, with a special emphasis on the members of the Debrecen-Oradea Euroregional Studies Institute (IERS), the "Jean Monnet" European Centre of Excellence, as well as on the developed joint projects. These contributions have created a certain level of expertise in the development of cross-border cooperation that could be transferred for the benefit of similar situations, arisen with the EU enlargement eastwards, such as the EU's eastern frontier on the Slovak-Hungarian-Ukrainian-Romanian-Moldovan section.

**Keywords**: Hungarian-Romanian border, frontier, IERS, EU's eastern frontier, cross-border cooperation

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