

// ESPON Week in Portugal 14-18 June 2021
Green and Just Recovery for all European Territories
**Online workshop: Employment and spatial dynamics
in Central Europe**

// **Wednesday 16 June 2021 / 13:30 - 14:30 (CET)**

This workshop is based on the recent findings of the ESPON [CE FLOWS](#) project and a tailor made case study for Slovakia that is based on the ESPON [EMPLOY](#) project. CE FLOWS provides insights into the spatial dynamics and existing flows across regions in Central Europe and identifies development potentials, drivers and bottlenecks in this functional area. Emphasis is placed on how transnational cooperation structures, governance mechanisms and solutions could be tailored to reduce economic and social disparities and foster integrated territorial development in Central Europe. The Slovakian case study based on the ESPON EMPLOY research includes a socio-economic country profile, an analysis of recent trends in the development of the Slovakian knowledge economy and of the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, and provides policy recommendations for national policy makers.

This workshop hence offers an opportunity for bringing the results of these two ESPON activities together. While the EMPLOY case study of Slovakia allows for a more focused look at one of the countries of Central Europe and one specific topic (i.e. employment), the CE FLOWS evidence can add context and allow for a more comparative view on the Slovakian case from the perspective of the Central Europe functional region.

5'	Welcome & setting the scene Brief introduction to the workshop // Michaela Gensheimer, ESPON EGTC
25'	Spatial and employment dynamics in Central Europe and in Slovakia in particular – the evidence // Moderator: Monika Schönerkle-Grasser, INTERREG Central Europe // Speakers: Davide Fina, VVA (lead CE FLOWS) & Martin Guzi, Masaryk University and CELSI (EMPLOY Slovakia) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are the spatial development potentials in Central Europe and in Slovakia in particular that can be tapped to transition to a more inclusive, sustainable and integrated development?• What are the expected impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on socio-economic and employment trends in Central Europe and Slovakia in particular?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How can transnational cooperation contribute to a more inclusive, sustainable and integrated development in Central Europe and in Slovakia?
15'	<p>Reaction of Central European & Slovakian Stakeholders</p> <p>// Lubica Ruzickova, Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, Slovak Republic // Andrea Rainer-Cerovska, Austrian Conference on Spatial Planning (ÖROK), Austria // Lilian Gergelyne Csintalan, Ministry of Finance, Hungary</p>
15'	<p>Open discussion & closure</p>