



Creating a sample of census-type micro-data (Kingdom of Hungary, 1869)

The **MOSAIC project** aims at recovering remaining census micro-data in order to reconstruct the population, economic, and cultural history of continental Europe. The project has been initialized, supported and coordinated by the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (MPIDR). Besides integrating wellknown, elaborated and already analysed sources, the planned data-base will rely on lesser-known and non-utilised or newly discovered censuses. The project focuses first of all on continental Europe, particularly on the 'white spots' of historical demographic research, e.g. on the Central and Eastern parts of the continent. Relating to the territory of historical Hungarian Kingdom, an inventory of the surviving archive material has been prepared and a sample that is representative of historical Hungary has been created at the Demographic Research Institute in Hungary, in collaboration with the experts of MPIDR. The sampling procedure was based on data from census 1869 – individual data has been preserved from this census in the largest amount. The data-base is currently under construction; digitalization is almost ready for two regions.

Census 1869 was the first one which was carried out by the independent Hungarian Statistical Office. It recorded the name, sex, denomination, profession or character of employment/profession, place of birth, status (resident or foreigner), presence or absence (longer than 1 month or not), and literacy. Moreover, notes could be added into the column of remarks on physical disability, military service, place of residence (in the case of foreigners), and place of stay (in the case of absent persons). A very large amount of individual data can be found, sometimes for whole regions, counties or towns.

From the surviving material first a rural sample was taken, the size of which was 3 per thousand (around 30,000 people and 5-6,000 households). A stratified random sampling was constructed, with regions and counties within regions representing the geographic diversity of the country as far as it was possible. Geographic diversity reflects economic plurality, the different locations and possibilities of livelihood which appear to be important factors behind the varied demographic conditions that had often been observed and described. At the same time, denomination was a cultural factor available for all settlements which may assure the representativeness of the sample in this respect.

**Denominational distribution of the country and different sample populations,
Kingdom of Hungary, 1869**

