

Megatrend Index
Executive
Summary



January 2021

The Results of the Megatrend Index

- **The Megatrend Index of the Equilibrium Institute is following the trends that determine the success of European countries in the long run.** Its goal is to present where the members of the European Union – Hungary amongst them – are standing in preparation of the global changes that will determine the trajectory of the 21st century.
- The index incorporates **the indicators of five global trends**. These trends are **education, digitalisation, sustainability, healthcare and social cohesion**. Our indicators measuring each individual trend are evaluating the long-term trajectories, thus they are not concerned with the measures implemented in the year at hand, they are not showing the ruling party's success or failure.
- **The Equilibrium Institute considers the examined fields potential break-out points.** Embedding the discussions of the vast possibilities in these fields into public thinking would enable the Hungarian political discourse to become more modern and substantial. The yearly published **Megatrend Index makes the decisions, regarding the most important policy areas, traceable and transparent for evaluation purposes.**
- **According to the data provided by the latest Megatrend Index, Hungary is on the bottom of the middle league considering Europe. Social cohesion is where we score best:** here we rank 18th among the 27 EU countries plus the UK. **We achieved the second best score in the field of sustainability and education** (we rank 19th on both measures), **followed by digitalisation** (20th place). **We rank the lowest in healthcare** among the five prominent megatrends of the 21st century, **here we are only 24th.**
- On the whole, **Hungary is doing slightly better regarding the challenges posed by the next decade (except for healthcare), than the purely economic**

indicators would admit (the GDP per capita for example). Nevertheless, being the third-fourth poorest country in the European Union, this is only enough for the bottom of the middle league.

- In the fields of social cohesion, sustainability, digitalisation, even education we are doing better, than the economic situation of the country would dictate it. The bad news is however, that “a little better” is not enough anymore. At the moment we are not performing excessively well regarding any field, so that we could have the opportunity to break out of the circle of the poorest EU countries.

- At the same time, we are able to influence the trends positively with consistent hard work and long term thinking. If we start to change in time, Hungary can become a richer, more successful and happier country by 2030.

| Subindex | Hungary's place in the ranking of the 28 member states of the EU |
|--------------------------|--|
| Social cohesion subindex | 18th place (64,6 points) |
| Sustainability subindex | 19th place (48,5 points) |
| Education subindex | 19th place (56,4 points) |
| Digitalisation subindex | 20th place (55,9 points) |
| Education subindex | 24th place (41,2 points) |

Table 1: Hungary's place in the ranking incorporating the 28 member states of the European Union

The full report is available in Hungarian [here](#).