

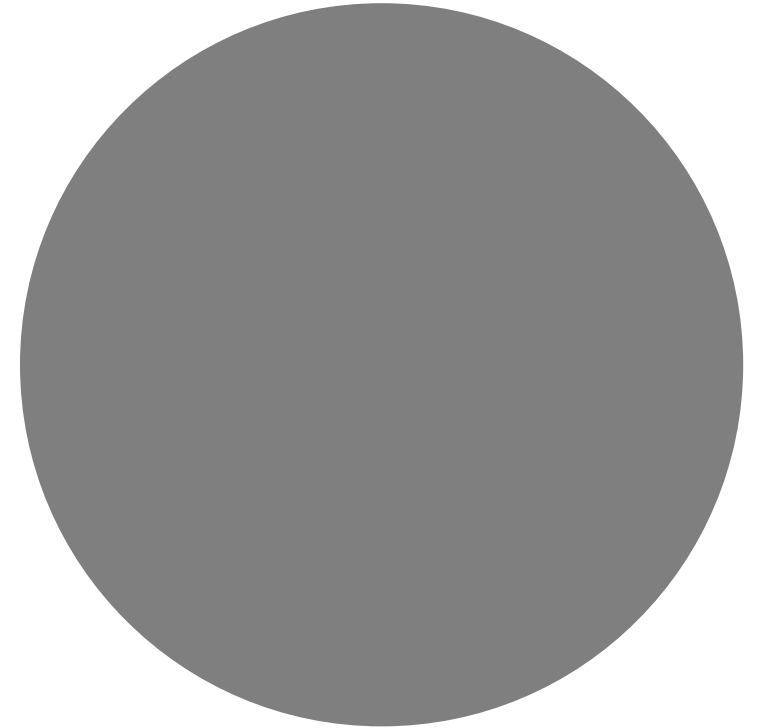
# A GEO-POLITICAL SCORE TABLE FOR POLAND AND HUNGARY AND ITS CONSEQUENCES FOR THE 16+1 COOPERATION

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**CSABA MOLDICZ**

**Phd, Head of Research, Oriental Business and  
Innovation Center**

**Budapest Business School, University of Applied  
Sciences**



Starting point of the  
paper:  
The revival of  
geopolitics in the  
region

# The geopolitical moment

- After the political and economic transformation in the 90s, the region became swiftly abandoned by major powers after the countries of the region completed their reintegration process
  - in the European political, economic and military frameworks (NATO, EU)
- The situation changed due to
  - the Great Recession (2008-2009)
  - the ensuing eurozone crisis (2010-2012)
  - This uncertainty in the political and economic development of the EU
  - The rise of other geopolitical powers (China, Russia)
  - The changing approach of the current American administration to its global role in world politics

**created a new geopolitical moment in Central Europe (re)evaluating the region geopolitically.**

## The reaction and the answer

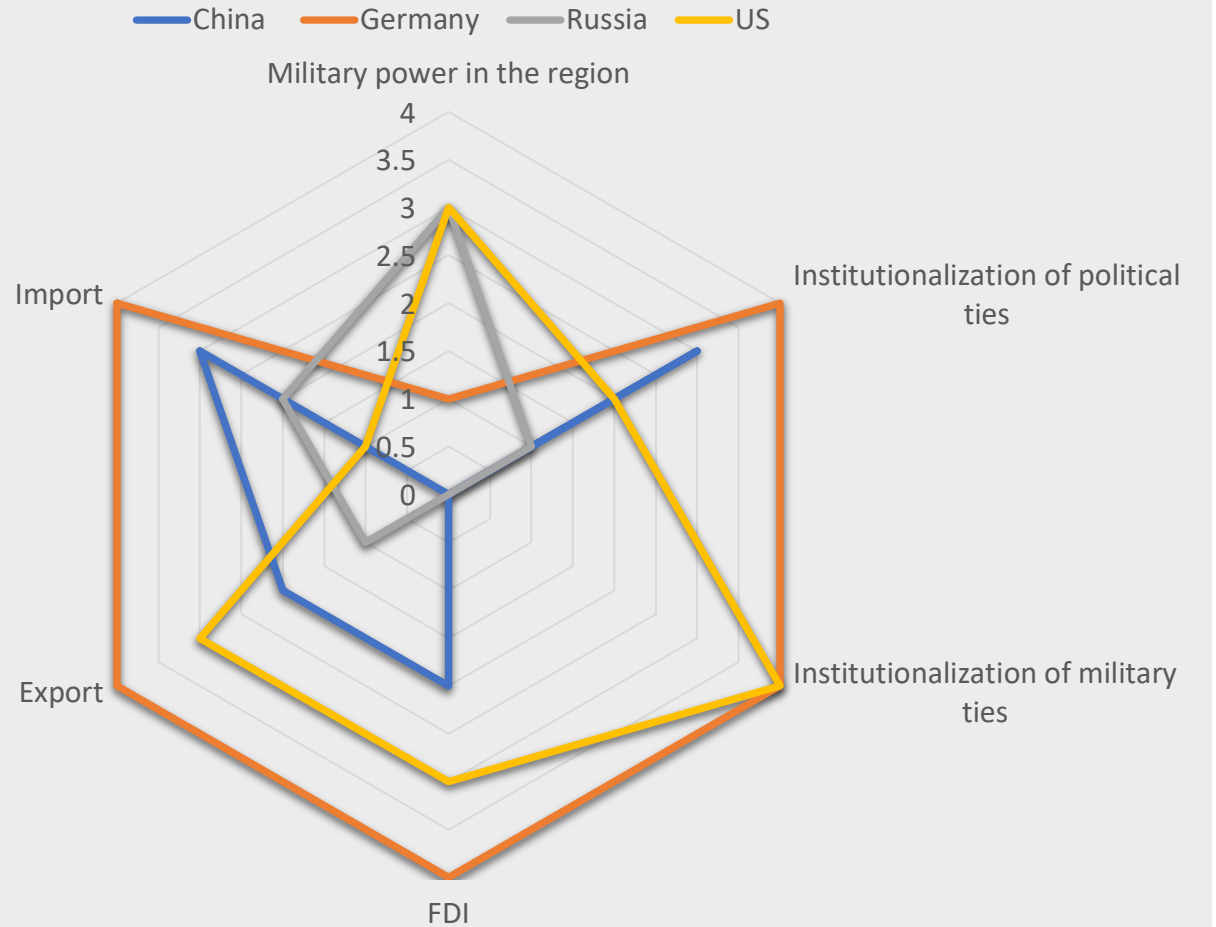
- Central European countries realized the decreasing importance of Western European economies and political powers in the long-term.
- One good example is the formulation of the Hungarian Eastward Policy in 2011.
- 16+1, BRI from the other side, from China
- Still, there is a long way to go .....
- Communication traps

# The score table for Hungary and Poland

- Elements of the geopolitical leverage indicator:
  - Military power in the region
  - Institutionalization of military ties
  - Institutionalization of political ties
  - FDI
  - Export,
  - Import,
- Four powers: China, US, Russia and Germany

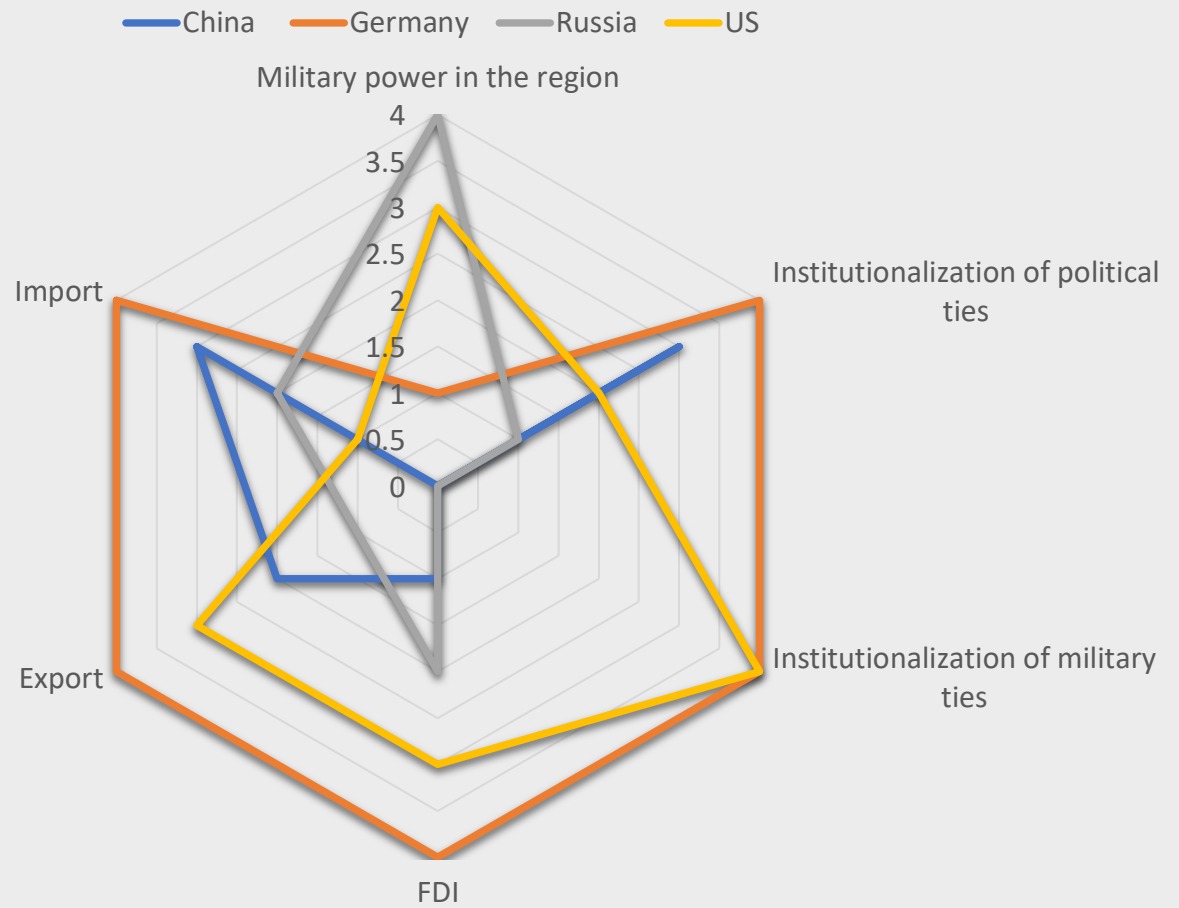
# Hungary

## Geopolitical Leverage in Hungary



# Poland

## Geopolitical Leverage in Poland



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Fine-tuning needed

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The main conclusion: a geopolitical dominance of Germany, but it won't be able to fill the vacuum of power left behind by the United States

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The weak commitment of the US to the region is not new. (If there is any reason to keep the Americans in the regions, this must be the strategic containment of Russia.)

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Russian weaknesses are trade (both export and import) and the institutionalization of relations with Poland and Hungary.

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**China's relative strengths lie in trade and FDI, and in recent years China has established the 16+1 cooperation which is an important initial step in the institutionalization of political ties with these 16 countries.**

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The conclusions



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China can boost its relations with Poland and Hungary, and the other 14 countries by establishing and institutionalizing its political ties to the region.

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The institutionalization would help in outlining an agenda, clarifying the goals of the 16+1 cooperation.

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This way, European, in particular German fears could be dispersed or German attacks could be averted more easily.

The conclusions