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### **Agency dynamics, autonomy and political control in the Government ICT sector - A case study**

The study targets two questions related to the politicization of agency field.

The first question relates to the inverse relationship between formal and de facto structural autonomy found to be present in the Hungarian agency fields (Hajnal, 2011). Does this “perverse” pattern appear in the GICT field too, and if yes how? In other words, in what context, in what forms and ways does it take place, and what are its major triggering factors?

The second question is somewhat broader in analytical scope than the first question. Possible explanations of the “negative correlation” between formal and de facto structural autonomy center around informal channels of political control / politicization on the one hand, and informal means and forms of organizational autonomy, on the other. Therefore the case study also seeks to identify the broader patterns – channels, means and forms – characterizing de facto, as opposed to formal, political control and organizational autonomy. By doing so it is hoped that a deeper understanding of the ministry-agency interactions can be reached and new, empirically supported hypotheses capable to explain the peculiar, idiosyncratic patterns can be built.