Reviewer's report

Title: Risk Factors for Suicide in Hungary: a Case-control Study

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Reviewer: Gernot Sonneck

Reviewer's report:

This is one of the few studies that investigated risk factors of suicide in an Eastern European country. The results are in line with previous international research and replicate findings that are available from other countries. The authors adequately address the limitations of psychological autopsy studies, most importantly recall bias and selection bias. Still, the paper can be strengthened:

- minor essential revisions:

• The authors link their results to societal changes in post-communism era. However, the identified risk factors are also present in other countries. The study design does not allow to establish a causal link between societal change and suicide.
• The authors should state the selection criteria of the 262 suicide cases that were investigated.
• The authors state that suicide rates are elevated in Northern Europe. This is only true for some northern countries (Finland, Baltic countries and parts of Russia).
• There are several spelling mistakes, which should be corrected.

On the whole, this is a useful study which is appropriate to advance the field of suicide research.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests