

"The 1956 Hungarian Revolution and Its Repercussions: A Sixty-Year Retrospective"

October 13 – 14, 2016

Keynote Speakers:

Professor Géza Jeszenszky

"Did the Democracies Let Hungary Down in 1956?"

Was a founding member of the Hungarian Democratic Forum (1988), which won the free elections in April 1990, nominating him Minister for Foreign Affairs in the government of J. Antall (1990-94). Between 1994 and 1998 he was a member of the Opposition in Parliament, and active in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. Appointed Ambassador to the United States of America in 1998. In 2002 he resumed teaching history and international relations at the Corvinus University of Budapest. In 2011-2014 was Ambassador to the Kingdom of Norway and the Republic of Iceland.

Dr. Jeszenszky is the author of a large number of scholarly publications and political writings, including *An Outline History of International Relations* (Budapest, 1987); *The Changing Image of Hungary in Britain, 1894-1918* (Budapest, 1986, 1994, in Hungarian); *Post-Communist Europe and Its National/Ethnic Problems* (Budapest, 2005, 2009), also articles in journals and collective volumes published in Hungary, the United States, the U.K. and Germany. His book on Hungary's relations to its neighbours in the years of the regime change came out in April. He was visiting professor in the U.S., Poland and Romania.

Dr. Tamas Magyarics

Panelists

Professor Laszlo Borhi

Could the US and the West have Saved the Revolution of 1956?

Peter A. Kadas Chair Associate professor, School of Global and International Studies Department of Central Eurasian Studies Indiana University and Scientific Counsellor, Center for Humanities Institute of History Hungarian Academy of Sciences. Has just published *Dealing with Dictators, The United States, Hungary, and East Central Europe, 1942-1989*, Indiana University Press. Currently working on book on *Dark Decade: Hungary, Central Europe between Hitler and Stalin, 1944/1953*.

Dr. Stefano Bottoni

Professor Sandor Hites

The Revolt of Literature? Hungarian Writers in 1956

Sándor Hites studied Hungarian literature and philosophy at Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, where he earned his PhD in 2005. Since 2003, he has worked as research fellow at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and as lecturer at universities in Hungary and Romania, teaching courses on the nineteenth-century European novel, exile studies, and political and literary utopianism. He has held visiting fellowships at the University of London (2009) and the University of Edinburgh (2012). His earlier research focused on the nineteenth-century Hungarian historical novel, his recent scholarly work has engaged with twentieth century exilic literature and the nineteenth-century intersections of literature and economy. He has been a visiting professor at the University of Toronto since 2015.

Professor Janos Kenyeres

The 1956 Hungarian Revolution in Film: A Comparative Analysis

Short bio:

János Kenyeres is Director and Associate Professor in the School of English and American Studies at Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, where he teaches English and Canadian literature, Canadian cinema, and literary theory. He has several publications in these fields, including the book *Revolving around the Bible: A Study of Northrop Frye* (2003). From 2005 to 2008 he was Visiting Professor of Hungarian at the University of Toronto. He is currently vice-president of the Central European Association for Canadian Studies, head of the Canadian Studies Centre in the School of English and American Studies at Eötvös Loránd University, and co-editor of *The AnaChronisT*.

Professor Mark Kramer

"The USSR, the Communist Bloc, and Upheavals in Poland and Hungary."

Mark Kramer is a professor and director of Cold War Studies at Harvard University and a senior fellow of Harvard's Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies. In addition to teaching international relations and comparative politics at Harvard, he has been a visiting professor at Yale University, Brown University, Aarhus University in Denmark, and American University in Bulgaria.

Professor Peter Kreko

"The legacy of 1956 and its message for today"

Péter Krekó Phd. is the director of Political Capital Institute, a Budapest-based Central European political research and consultancy firm. At the same time, he is an associate professor at Eötvös

Loránd University of Sciences in Budapest, and a member of the of the EU Radicalisation Awareness Network Centre of Excellence pool of experts. He regularly serves as commentator on the leading international media. His publications include: *A Russian spy in Brussels, The Conspiratorial Mindset in Europe, Russian Influence, European far-right and Putin, a Hungarian Putin?* Krekó wrote his PHD thesis on the Social Psychology of Conspiracy Theories.

Dr. Magyarics Tamás

Dr. Magyarics is currently the Head of the North American Department at the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. He also teaches as Associate Professor at the School of English and American Studies, ELTE, Budapest. He served as Ambassador to Ireland in 2011-2015; was a Senior Research Fellow, then the Director of the Hungarian Institute for International Affairs. He has been teaching at ELTE, Budapest since 1987, and was a Guest Professor at the UCSB, the IES in Vienna besides various Hungarian universities. His fields of interest include the history of the Cold War, with special reference to the US-Central European relations, the history of US foreign affairs, and the theory of international relations. He has written and edited eleven books on these topics, and authored some 200 articles in peer reviewed and other journals. He attended some 100 conferences and read papers at most of them.

Professor Attila Pok

“Captive Minds in a Turmoil - the 1956 Hungarian Revolution as a Problem of Intellectual History.”

Prof. Attila PÓK (b.1950) is deputy director of the Institute of History at the Research Centre for Humanities of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in Budapest, vice-president of the Hungarian Historical Association, senior researcher at the Institute of Advanced Studies Kőszeg, between 1999 and 2013 spent 10 semesters as Visiting Professor of History at Columbia University in New York. His publications and courses cover three major fields: 19th-20th century European political and intellectual history, history of modern European historiography with special regard to political uses of history and theory and methodology of history. His most important books include: **Klios Schuld, Klios Sühne. Historie und Politik im Karpatenbecken.** MTA BTK TTI, Budapest, 2014. 182 p., editor with Stuart Macintyre, Juan Maiguashca: **The Oxford History of Historical Writing, Vol. 4.** Oxford University Press, 2011., **A haladás hitele.** (The Credibility of Progress) Akadémiai Kiadó, Budapest, 2010. 368 p., **The Politics of Hatred in the Middle of Europe. Scapegoating in Twentieth Century Hungary: History and Historiography.** Savaria Books on Politics, Culture and Society. Savaria University Press, Szombathely, 2009., editor with Randolph L. Braham: **The Hungarian Holocaust after Fifty Years.** Columbia University Press, New York, 1997. **A Selected Bibliography of Modern Historiography** (*Bibliographies & Indexes in World History, Number 24*) Greenwood Press, New York-Westport, Connecticut–London, 1992.

Dr. Krisztian Szabados

Veszna Wessenauer

She has completed her studies at the University of Szeged, Faculty of Law (International Relations BA, European Studies MA) and Central European University, Department of Legal Studies (Human Rights MA). During her studies she did numerous internships at Hungarian NGOs and international CSOs. She was involved in different projects and have gained expertise in the field of online human rights advocacy, human rights education and became a local consultant of international NGOs. She was the local coordinator of EU-Russia Civil Society Forum's General Assembly in December, 2015. She conducted legal research at the Center for Media, Data and Society on journalistic source protection and on the role and responsibility of social media companies in online violent political extremism. Her research interests consist of the following fields: human rights and its critical aspects; online freedom of expression and privacy; online extremism; correlation of education and democracy; contemporary role and relevance of civil society in CEE region; Russian influence .