



NEWSLETTER 2020/3

May-June 2020/3

ISU

29 June-3 July

XXV. International Summer University 2020
Dancing with Uncertainty:
Trials and Transformations in Central and Eastern Europe,
1989 to COVID-19

25TH INTERNATIONAL
SUMMER UNIVERSITY
JUNE 29 – JULY 3, 2020

DANCING WITH UNCERTAINTY

**TRIALS AND TRANSFORMATIONS
IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE,
1989 TO COVID-19**

iASK  **ISES**  

ORGANISED BY INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDIES KŐSZEG (iASK)
INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL AND EUROPEAN STUDIES (ISES)
UNIVERSITY OF PANNONIA KŐSZEG CAMPUS

The ISU is organized by the Institute of Advanced Studies Kőszeg (iASK) and the Institute for Social and European Studies (ISES), in cooperation with the University of Pannonia.

ISU 2020 is special this year for two reasons: it is the 25th anniversary of the summer university in Kőszeg, and with the COVID-19 situation it will be the first online ISU.

The goal is to review the last three decades and the present, in order to answer the question: where are we heading?

Topics:

Europe and Central Europe

Paradoxes of Central Europe 30 Years After:
Illusions and Realities of Integration
Alternatives as Seen from Southeastern Europe
Economic Crisis and Resilience in East Central Europe

The Singapore Syndrome: Lessons for Central Europe

Russia and Central Europe

KRAFT: Introducing the Creative Cities and Sustainable Regional Cooperative Strategy
Security and Defence Cooperation in Central Europe

Systems in Distress: The Future of Europe after Covid-19

Learning from the Pandemics of Communism, Fascism, and Neo-liberalism
Pandemics and the Future

Risk Perception and Cultural Rationality

In Praise of Democracy: The Role of Diplomacy and the UN: Are International Organizations Adapting to Global Change?

The Future University

Application deadline: June 22, 2020

Participation fee: 0 EUR

<https://iask.hu/en/xxv-international-summer-university-dancing-with-uncertainty/>

NEWS

New E-learning Series for Secondary School Students by iASK

To facilitate home learning due to the Covid-19 quarantine measures, iASK and UNESCO Cultural Heritage Management Department produced an educational video series, in which e-learning material was offered to secondary school students preparing for their matriculation tests. The series was produced on the initiative of Péter Bokányi, literary historian, and literature teacher, István Sümegi, historian and history teacher, both research fellows of iASK, and Ágnes Lepold, a mathematics and English teacher at the Jurisich Miklós High School in Kőszeg. To make learning enjoyable actors and musicians also appear on the recordings, which give a comprehensive picture of each topic in a 30 minute video.

<https://iask.hu/en/new-e-learning-for-secondary-school-students-by-iask/>

iASK Proposal Part of the Interreg Europe “Good Practice Database”

An iASK good practice, i.e., the regional extension of city Veszprém's successful proposal to be the European Capital of Culture, 2023 was published in the *Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform Good Practice Database*. Policymakers around Europe are now able to contact our Institute through the Policy Learning Platform for further exchange of experiences. One of the Platform experts offered this opinion on iASK's good practice proposal:

"This is an excellent and innovative approach in valorizing the urban-regional cultural links and relations and exploiting them concretely for the European Capital of Culture award."

Visit the database to see the iASK good practice:

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/policylearning/good-practices/item/3751/regional-extension-of-city-veszprem-s-successful-proposal-for-european-capital-of-culture-2023/>

iASK Development and Project Director Named CEO of European Cultural Capital Project Company



Ms. Alíz Markovits, who has been responsible for most development projects at iASK since 2016 was recently selected to lead the 2023 European Cultural Capital project in Veszprém, Hungary.

Ms. Markovits has divided her time between iASK and Veszprém since March of this year, and came to her new post with a rich experience in finance and foreign trade. She has served as a management expert in a number of domestic and international projects. At iASK her main task was to put into practice the "Creative City - Sustainable Region" (KRAFT) concept, developed by Professor Ferenc Miszlivetz, the director of iASK in Kőszeg. This included the rejuvenation of the historic and cultural landmarks of the city. iASK was also instrumental in developing Veszprém's winning ECC bid by promoting the incorporation and participation of the entire Northern Balaton region surrounding the city.

Online Events

Future of Europe 27 April 2020



H. E. Kirsten Geelan, Denmark's Ambassador to Hungary: *"Trust – an Integral Part of the Welfare State"*

<https://iask.hu/en/trust-an-integral-part-of-the-welfare-state-in-denmark/>



11 May 2020

Professor Stefan Troebst, Professor of East European Cultural Studies at the University of Leipzig:

Eastern Europe's Imprint on Modern International Law

<https://iask.hu/en/eastern-europes-imprint-on-modern-international-law-lecture-by-stefan-troebst/>

26 May 2020, at 2 pm



Europes Future: Ivan Vejvoda, Philosopher, Social Scientist, IWM Austria: "Whither Europe in a tumultuous world?"

<https://iask.hu/en/whither-europe-in-a-tumultuous-world-lecture-by-ivan-vejvoda/>

03 June 2020, at 3 pm



Amb. Katalin Bogyay, Permanent Representative to the UN: *The UN is Tested- Commemorating the 75th Anniversary*

<https://iask.hu/en/the-un-is-tested-commemorating-the-75th-anniversary-by-katalin-bogyay/>

08 June 2020, at 5 pm

Science in the Pub Series: Orsolya Molnár, Evolutionary Biologist: *Covid-19 and the DAMA Protocol*

(The lecture will be in Hungarian)

COVID-19 and the DAMA Protocol the latest Science in the PubTopic

The COVID-19 epidemic has sensitized the public to the fact that climate change may lead to the emergence of unforeseen diseases and the re-emergence of others. Increased human activity, mass travel, and rapid urbanization cause significant health, economic and social damage as pathogens are transferred from animal to humans or infect other species. Dr. Orsolya Molnár, a researcher at the Ecological Research Center, spoke on this topic and the current state of research in the most recent iASK series of public lectures. The central theme of the presentation was the DAMA Protocol that addresses the serious challenge to identify and manage potential threats at an early stage. The DAMA Protocol was developed jointly by Hungarian and American research fellows at iASK and informed the Hungarian government's response to the crisis.

(The lecture will be held in Hungarian): <https://iask.hu/en/science-in-the-pub-evolution-of-epidemics-whos-next-by-orsolya-molnar/>

Upcoming books

Lethal Solidarity

András Nagy

The book is based on several decades of archival and historical research on what happened and why after the 1956 Hungarian Revolution at the UN and beyond. Documents classified for 60+ years recently became accessible and reveal the background of clashes between secret services, the pragmatism of the great powers, the involvement of cynics and of fanatics. The story of the Danish diplomat Povl Bang-Jensen is also told, as he gave his life trying to solve the "Hungarian Question" and the illusion that many people nurtured about the role of the UN and its principles.

Natural and Artificial Intelligence

György Csepeli

Can artificial intelligence, which has developed rapidly in the 21st century, merge with human intelligence and be able to reproduce itself without human intervention? If yes, the real question is whether the intelligence of a potential superhuman will be sufficient to adapt to the changes that threaten the human race in its very existence. For the author, human existence is far more than an intelligence problem, because empirically graspable, algorithmic problems, say nothing about what is good, what is evil, or what is the meaning of life. Quoting E. Hankiss: one can only survive in the world if one believes and trusts in a common enterprise for a spiritual and cultural place in the material world. The conclusion is that artificial intelligence cannot replace human perseverance and creativity that allow humankind to transcend what is visible to see truth in its totality.

Complexity in Nature and Society From Dancing Molecules to Collapsing Societies

Dezső Boda

What is common in complex systems in nature and society? The book presents, in a popular format, how simple rules control the behavior of the agents that constitute the system which, in turn, leads to an emergent behavior in the whole system.

Pannonian Values - the Jewish Community of Körmend

Edit Szántó

The results of the author's previous and most recent research on the history of the city of Körmend's Jewry enriches the literature on the history of Western Hungary. She presents the history of the Jewish community in the typical market town of Körmend protected by the aristocratic Batthyány family, the community's significance in the economic life of the town, she traces the origin of nationally and internationally renowned scientists and artists who started their careers in Körmend, and finally traces the events that led to the total annihilation of the community.

Central Europe from a Hungarian Point of View in 2020

Bába Iván – Gyurcsík Iván – Kiss Gy. Csaba:

Three noted authors review serious issues like the "bumpy road" from the end of the Cold War to the era of integration, the question of borders, the oppressive shadow of large neighbors, nationalism, the role of religion, and migration. This is a work by committed Central Europeans, written on a liberal ideological basis, and a response that to book by Emil Brix and Erhard Busek, *Mitteleuropa Revisited: Warum Europas Zukunft in Mitteleuropa entschieden wird* [Rethinking Central Europe: Will the Future of Europe be Decided in Central Europe?].