

The Global *Entanglement* of Central Europe

26th International Summer University, Kőszeg, Hungary

June 28 – July 2, 2021

The event is organized by the Institute of Advanced Studies Kőszeg (iASK), in cooperation with the Institute for Social and European Studies (ISES Foundation), the University of Pannonia, the UNESCO Chair in Cultural Heritage and Sustainability in Kőszeg under the patronage of the Hungarian National Commission for UNESCO.

As the world experiences waves of pandemic, with its human consequences and financial costs, other intertwined complex and unexpected threats appear. How do we deal with misinterpretations and conspiracies promoted online? And what impact do they have on our political systems and institutions? How does relying on algorithms and distrust of institutions endanger what it means to be human? The 26th International Summer University attempts to analyse these rapidly emerging complex realities in order to open the path for evidence- and consensus-based crises mitigation.

Main themes:

- **Paradoxes and Complexities of Central European Identity**
- **Can the V-4 Help in Resolving Global Conflicts?**
- **Human Security in Light of Covid: Challenges and a New East-West Divide?**
- **Challenges to and Opportunities for Democracy: Is Western Civilization Capable of Renewal?**
- **Root Causes of Corruption, State Capture, Radicalization and Emigration: The Chances for Social and Institutional Resilience**
- **Communication Strategies and the Potential of Soft Power**
- **The Future University – The Future of Education: A New Chance for Central Europe?**

Day 1, June 28 (Monday)

9:30-10:00 Online registration and technicalities

10:00-10:25 Welcome Speeches:

Ferenc Miszlivetz (Director, iASK),

Béla Básthy (Mayor of Kőszeg)

János Székely (Bishop of Szombathely)

10:25-10:45 Opening: **Judit Varga** (Hungarian Minister of Justice)

10:45-11:00 Short Break

Morning Session

11:00-12:00 Panel Discussion: **Paradoxes and Complexities of Central European Identity**

Chair: **Iván Bába** (Former Diplomat; Research fellow, iASK)

Invited Panelists: **Judit Varga** (Hungarian Minister of Justice), **H.E. Katalin Bogyay** (15th Permanent Representative of Hungary to the UN; President of UNESCO 36th General Conference; iASK), **H.E. Mladen Andrić** (Croatian Ambassador to Hungary), **H.E. Tibor Bial** (Czech Ambassador to Hungary), **H.E. Andor Nagy** (Hungarian Ambassador to Austria), **H.E. Nepop Ljubov** (Ukrainian Ambassador to Hungary), **H.E. Jerzy Snopek** (Polish Ambassador to Hungary) tbc, **Klaus Wölfer** (Former Diplomat, Special Envoy for the Western Balkans).

12:00-12:30 Q&A Session

12:30-14:00 Lunch Break

Afternoon Session

14:00-14:15 **Miklós Réthelyi** (Chair, Hungarian National Commission for UNESCO):
Welcome Address

14:15-14:35 Presentation: **Gertrúd Kenderney-Nagyidai** (Accredited Parliamentary Assistant at European Parliament): **“The Myth of Central Europe: What Divides, What Unites”**.

14:35-14:45 Q&A Session

14:45-15:45 Panel Discussion: **Can the V-4 Help in Resolving Global Conflicts?**

What role can the V-4 countries play in strengthening or weakening the cohesion of the European Union? Is the V-4 cooperation strong enough to represent the collective interests of Poland, Slovakia, Hungary and the Czech Republic in Europe; can it play a global role in political and economic conflicts? Researchers and diplomats will discuss these issues from their respective professional and national perspectives.

Chair: **Attila Pók** (Research fellow, iASK)

Invited Panelists: **Iván Bába** (Former Diplomat, Research fellow, iASK), **Petr Drulák** (Institute of International Relations, Prague), **Ljubov Shishelina** (Russian Academy of Sciences, iASK International Board), **Catherine Horel** (Director of Research at the CNRS -Le Centre national de la recherche scientifique, Paris) **Erhard Busek** (Member of the European Council on Tolerance and Reconciliation; Chairman of the Institute of Danube Region and Central Europe).

15:45-16:15 Q&A Session

17:00-19:00 Reception at Festetics Palace

Day 2, June 29 (Tuesday)

9:30-10:00 Online registration and technicalities

Morning Session

10:00-11:00 Panel Discussion: **Covid-19 and a New Dimension of Governance: The Role of the State**

Contact tracing apps, vaccine passports and other innovative systems and technologies that have been developed to control the pandemic are possibly imposing new standards of surveillance and new restrictions on human rights and freedoms. How is the current crisis transforming the world today by establishing new borders between the private and the public? Has Covid-19 accelerated processes of digitalisation and introduced new surveillance practices that are here to stay?

Chair: **Ivana Stepanović** (Research fellow, iASK, Institute of Criminological and Sociological Research in Belgrade, Serbia)

Invited Panelists: **Christian Eichenmüller** (Friedrich Alexander University of Erlangen Nürnberg, Institute of Geography, Germany), **Ortwin Renn** (International Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies, Potsdam, Germany), **James M. Skelly** (Research fellow, iASK), **Attila Szigeti** (Research fellow, iASK, Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania).

11:00-11:15 Short Break

11:15-12:00 Q&A Session

12:00-13:30 Lunch Break

Afternoon Session

13:30-16:00 Panel Discussion: **Human Security in Light of Pandemics: Are New Challenges Increasing the New East-West Divide?**

The current COVID-19 pandemic is much more than a health crisis. If there is indeed an aftermath to it, any sort of future needs to consider the contradictions between science and policy, including communication and mis-information, to ensure the protection of individuals as well as the sustainability of our biosphere. This challenge faces many threats from technology, the escalation of military confrontations and conflicts, and increasing distrust in democratic institutions. What scenarios for the future can be based on a new paradigm centered on global human security?

13:30-13:50 Keynote: **Pavel Palazhchenko** (Gorbachev Foundation) “**Towards a New Concept of Security**”

13:50-14:50 Panel Discussion

Chair: **Ferenc Miszlivetz** (Director, iASK)

Invited Panelists: **Dan Brooks** (Professor Emeritus, University of Toronto; iASK), **Sean Cleary** (Founder, Future World Foundation; iASK International Board), **Lydia Georgieva** (University of Skopje), **James M. Skelly** (Research Fellow, iASK)

14:50-15:30 Q&A Session

Discussant: **Ahmet Evin** (Sabanci University; iASK International Board)

15:30-16:00 Cultural Event: Sounds of Pannonia

Bartók Universe – music improvisations, Improvisation and composition by the **Binder-Borbély duet**, Bartók and his homeland by the **Mizsei quintet**

Day 3, June 30 (Wednesday)

9:30-10:00 Online registration and technicalities

Morning Session

Chair: **Jody Jensen**

10:00-12:00 Panel Discussion: **Challenges to and Opportunities for Democracy: Is Western Civilization Capable of Renewal?**

While the social and political reactions to the root causes of global change have transformed the functioning of democracies globally, those appearing in the space of Central and Eastern Europe have experienced a particular type of development. Their specificity has been mostly explained in terms of the proliferation of “illiberal democracies” characterized by the politics of Euroscepticism. The panel aims to address three main questions: 1) What factors have contributed to the specific populist developments within the region? 2) What explains the particular importance of “Euroskepticism” in the formation of regional populisms? 3) How has regional populism addressed the COVID-19 pandemic and has populism itself “mutated” in the context of this novel socio-political situation?

10:00-10:20 Keynote: **Philippe Schmitter** (European University Institute, San Domenico di Fiesole)

10:00-12:00 Panel Discussion

Invited Panelists: **Emil Brix** (Director, Diplomatic Academy of Vienna), **Manuela Caiani** (Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa/Firenze), **Marko Lovec** (University of Ljubljana), **Pavel Palazhchenko** (Gorbachev Foundation), **Rafal Smoczyński** (Polish Academy of Sciences), **Igor Stipic** (Research fellow, iASK), **Ravid Taghiyev** (iASK fellow)

11:15-12:00 Q&A Session

12:00-13:30 Lunch Break

Afternoon Session

14:30-15:30 Panel Discussion: **Understanding the Root Causes of Corruption, State Capture, Radicalization, Resilience, and Emigration in Central and Southeastern Europe**

The panel will present research conducted in Bosnia and Herzegovina and North Macedonia by the Democratization Policy Council from Berlin and the Center for European Strategies Eurothink from Skopje.

The starting point of the report is Sarah Chayes' book *Thieves of State: Why Corruption Threatens Global Security* and seeks to answer whether systemic corruption and state capture fuel popular resentment that feeds into radicalization, including (but not limited to) violent extremism. The research strongly reflects the voices of ordinary people in localities that are often ignored in political discussions. A set of 18 community snapshots provides a deeper look at lived impact on a generation of upheaval and stagnation, reflecting on issues of polarization, corruption, migration, opportunity, dignity, solidarity and vision.

Chair: **Dimitar Nikolovski** (Eurothink – Centre for European Strategies Skopje, iASK)

Invited Panelists: **Valery Perry** (Democratization Policy Council), **Sasa Kulenovic** (Democratization Policy Council), **Kurt Bassuener** (Democratization Policy Council - Sarajevo), **Ljupcho Petkovski** (Eurothink - Center for European Strategies - Skopje).

15:30-16:00 Q&A Session

Day 4, July 1 (Thursday)

9:30-10:00 Online registration and technicalities

Morning Session

10:00-12:00 Panel Discussion: **Global Communication Strategies and the Potential of Soft Power**

There is life beyond the pandemic, and there is nothing harder than soft power diplomacy. Experts will discuss how to ethically communicate, through soft power strategies, on issues related to climate change, sustainable societies, social solidarity and cohesion, international and cultural exchange. As we face an increasingly complex future with the potential for growing conflicts, discussion will address mitigation strategies and best practises in the field.

10:00-10:20 Keynote: **Ambassador Katalin Bogyay** (15th Permanent Representative of Hungary to the UN; President of UNESCO 36th General Conference; iASK) **“Soft Power Diplomacy in Action”**

10:20-10:30 Q&A Session

10:30-10:45 Short Break

10:45-11:30 Panel Discussion

Chair: **Ambassador Katalin Bogyay** (15th Permanent Representative of Hungary to the UN; President of UNESCO 36th General Conference; iASK)

Invited Panelists: **H.E. Sheikha Alya bint Ahmed Al Thani** (Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations), **Mark C. Donfried** (Director General, Institute for Cultural Diplomacy, Berlin), **Leida Ruvina** (Research fellow, iASK, PhD Candidate University of New York Tirana), **Rubin Zemon** (Center for Advanced Researches- Skopje).

11:30-12:00 Q&A

12:00-13:30 Lunch Break

Afternoon Session

13:30-14:30 Panel Discussion: **Institutional Resilience During Crises: Global, Regional and Local Perspectives: The Creative Cities Perspective**

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted key dimensions of national institutional systems that will have a lasting effect. At the same time, institutions (related to healthcare, education, the economy, etc.) are critical to providing a resilient response to the crisis. Some countries and some institutions and civil society did better to innovate to mitigate institutional disruptions. What we learn about the resilience of national and international institutions will be crucial moving forward. So what have we learned?

Chair: **Ferenc Miszlivetz** (Director, iASK)

Invited Panelists: **Ilan Chabay** (International Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies in Potsdam, Germany), **Katalin Galambos** (Research fellow, iASK), **Ryszard Praszquier** (Ashoka Poland, University of Warsaw).

14:30-15:00 Q&A

15:00-16:00 Cultural Event

Zoltán Mizsei (Research fellow, iASK): The Soft Power of Music: Consolation and Strengthening Identity in Hard Times (oral and musical performance)

Day 5, July 2 (Friday)

9:30-10:00 Online registration and technicalities

Morning Session

10:00-12:00 Panel Discussion: **The Future University – The Future of Education: A New Chance for Central Europe?**

What does it mean to be a university in the 21st century? What weaknesses have been revealed during the pandemic in institutional structures? How can you change the educational and institutional paradigm to meet the needs and challenges of contemporary and future students in an uncertain world? What should the university become? And where are the roadblocks to and possibilities for transformation?

Chair: **Jody Jensen** (Director of the Polányi Centre, iASK)

Invited Panelists: **János Bogárdi** (University of Bonn; Research fellow, iASK) tbc, **Maria Pilar Lorenzo** (PhD candidate, Ghent University), **Szabolcs Márka** (Columbia University), **Arjan Shahini** (PhD Candidate, Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg), **Ivana Stepanovic** (Research fellow, iASK; University of Belgrade), **Igor Stipic** (Research fellow, iASK), **Sanja Tepavcevic** (Research fellow, iASK).

11:30-12:00 Q&A Session

12:00-13:30 Lunch Break

Afternoon Session

13:30-15:00 Feedback session and wrap-up