

CESRAN2026

07-10 July 2026

Budapest | Hungary



13

th Annual Conference on International Studies

Conference Programme

The Annual Conference on International Studies

is organised with funding raised by registration fees and support of the following partners:

- ♦ CESRAN International
 - ♦ The University Excellence Fund and the Faculty Research Grant, Faculty of Humanities, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary (ELTE)
 - ♦ Universidade Autónoma de Lisboa
 - ♦ OBSERVARE
 - ♦ CICP-University of Minho
 - ♦ Tbilisi State University
 - ♦ Bursa Uludağ University
 - ♦ Jacob of Paradies University
-
- ♦ *The Rest: Journal of Politics and Development*
 - ♦ *JANUS.NET, e-journal of International Relations*
 - ♦ *Novus Orbis: Journal of Politics and International Relations*
 - ♦ *Journal of Conflict Transformation and Security*



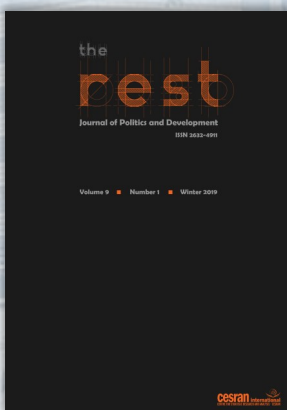
ELTE
EÖTVÖS LORÁND
UNIVERSITY



IVANE JAVAKHISHVILI
TBILISI STATE UNIVERSITY

cicp

Research Center
in Political Science



Organising Committee

- Professor Ken Booth – CESRAN International
- Professor Ozgur Tufekci – CESRAN International & Karadeniz Technical University, Türkiye
- Professor Rahman Dag – CESRAN International & Marmara University, Türkiye
- Professor Rashed Daher – Eötvös Loránd University, Hungary
- Dr Tamas Dudlak – Eötvös Loránd University, Hungary
- Professor Luís Tomé – OBSERVARE – Universidade Autónoma de Lisboa, Portugal
- Professor Sandra Dias Fernandes – University of Minho, Portugal
- Professor Ferudun Yılmaz (Rector) – Bursa Uludağ University, Türkiye
- Professor Marco Marsili – CEI-Iscte – Centre for International Studies, Portugal
- Assoc. Professor Salome Dundua – Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, Georgia
- Professor Tomasz Marcinkowski – The Jacob of Paradies University, Poland

International Scientific Committee*

- Professor Mustafa Aydın – Kadir Has University, Türkiye
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- Dr. Stuart Shields – University of Manchester, UK
- Professor Juliusz Sikorski – The Jacob of Paradies University, Poland
- Professor Oktay F. Tanrisever – Middle East Technical University, Türkiye
- Professor Frances Trix – Indiana University, USA
- Professor Ana Isabel Xavier – OBSERVARE-Universidade Autónoma de Lisboa – UAL
- Professor Stefan Wolff – University of Birmingham, UK

* The surnames are listed in alphabetical order.

Day 1 - Tuesday, 7 July 2026			
10h00 - 10h30	Registration		
10h30 - 10h50	Welcome Speeches Associate Professor Dávid Bartus (Eötvös Loránd University) Professor Rashed Daher (Eötvös Loránd University) Professor Luis Tome (Universidade Autonoma De Lisboa) Professor Salome Dundua (Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University) Professor Rahman Dağ (CESRAN International & Marmara University) Professor Özgür Tüfekçi (CESRAN International & Karadeniz Tech. Uni.)	Venue:	Faculty Meeting Hall—Kari Tanacsterem
10h50 - 11h00	Family Photo		
11h00 - 12h00	Keynote: Professor Michael Cox (LSE) (Online) Title: Whatever happened to the Liberal World Order Moderation: Professor Özgür Tüfekçi (CESRAN International & Karadeniz Technical University)	Venue:	Faculty Meeting Hall—Kari Tanacsterem
12h00 - 13h30	Lunch Break*		
13h30 - 15h00	Panel 01 Venue: Gombocz Zoltán Hall	Panel 02 Venue: Faculty Meeting Hall-Kari Tanacsterem	
15h00 - 15h30	Coffee Break		
15h30 - 17h00	Panel 03 Venue: Gombocz Zoltán Hall	Panel 04 Venue: Faculty Meeting Hall-Kari Tanacsterem	
Day 2 - Wednesday, 8 July 2026			
09h30 - 10h30	Keynote: Professor Nicholas J. Wheeler (University of Birmingham) Title: On the Brink: Communication and Dynamics of Nuclear Crisis Escalation and How It Can Be Stopped Moderation: Professor Rashed Daher (Eötvös Loránd University)	Venue:	Faculty Meeting Hall—Kari Tanacsterem
10h30 - 11h00	Coffee Break		
11h00 - 12h30	Panel 05 Venue: Gombocz Zoltán Hall	Panel 06 Venue: Faculty Meeting Hall-Kari Tanacsterem	
12h30 - 14h00	Break		
14h00 - 15h30	Panel 07 Venue: Gombocz Zoltán Hall	Panel 08 Venue: Faculty Meeting Hall-Kari Tanacsterem	
15h30 - 16h00	Coffee Break		
16h00 - 17h30	Panel 09 Venue: Gombocz Zoltán Hall	Panel 10 Venue: Faculty Meeting Hall-Kari Tanacsterem	
Day 3 - Thursday, 9 July 2026			
09h30 - 10h30	Book Discussion Panel Book Title: Synthetic Reality: AI, the Metaverse, and the Ethics of a New Digital Humanism Author: Dr. Marco Marsili (CEI-Iscte, Portugal) Moderator: Assoc. Professor Ferenc Petruska (Eötvös Loránd University)	Venue:	Faculty Meeting Hall—Kari Tanacsterem
10h30 - 11h00	Coffee Break		
11h00 - 12h30	Panel 11 Venue: Gombocz Zoltán Hall	Panel 12 Venue: Faculty Meeting Hall-Kari Tanacsterem	
12h30 - 14h00	Break		
14h00 - 15h30	Panel 13 Venue: Gombocz Zoltán Hall	Panel 14 Venue: Faculty Meeting Hall-Kari Tanacsterem	
15h30 - 16h00	Coffee Break		
16h00 - 17h30	Panel 15 Venue: Gombocz Zoltán Hall	Panel 16 Venue: Faculty Meeting Hall-Kari Tanacsterem	
Day 4 - Friday, 10 July 2026			
09h30 - 10h30	Keynote Speech: Professor Istvan Tarrosy (University of Pécs) Title: The Evolving International Order from a Global South Perspective Moderation: Dr. Tamas Dudlak (Eötvös Loránd University)	Venue:	Faculty Meeting Hall -Kari Tanacsterem
10h30 - 11h00	Coffee Break		
11h00 - 12h30	Panel 17 Venue: Gombocz Zoltán Hall	Panel 18 Venue: Faculty Meeting Hall-Kari Tanacsterem	
12h30 - 14h00	Break		
14h00 - 15h30	Panel 19 Venue: Online		
16h00 - 17h30	Panel 20 Venue: Online		
* A complimentary sandwich lunch will be provided for all participants only on 7 July 2026.			

13th Annual Conference on International Studies

CESRAN2026

Participant Information Pack

A. Session times are in **GMT+2 (Budapest)** time zone.

B. Sessions will be hybrid from the first day (July 7, 2026) to the fourth day afternoon (July 10, 2026), via the provided links.

C. Links for Sessions will be sent to the participants before the conference.

D. Session Guidelines:

- Each presenter will be given 10 to 15 minutes, depending on the number of presenters on a panel.
- Session chairs will strictly limit presentations to the maximum allotted speaking time.
- After the presentations are completed within an hour, the remaining 30 minutes will be dedicated to a group Q&A discussion.
- To ask a question to the presenters during the Q&A, please use the "Raise Hand" button for online attendance, and the chair will call on you to speak.
- Presenters can screen share their PowerPoint presentation in meetings
- Please do not forget to MUTE your microphone when not speaking.
- Presenters should join the Meeting Room 5 minutes before the session time, and Chairs should join the Meeting Room 10 minutes before the Session time for the necessary technical arrangements.
- When you need assistance, contact us through the conference email

E. Social Media Tags:

Please use the hashtag #cesran2026 for all social media platforms.

F. Certificate of Paper Presentations:

The certificates will be sent to online participants via email after the conference and will be handed to physical attendees by the moderators right after the panel completes.



SOCIAL MEDIA

www.cesranconference.org

#CESRAN2026

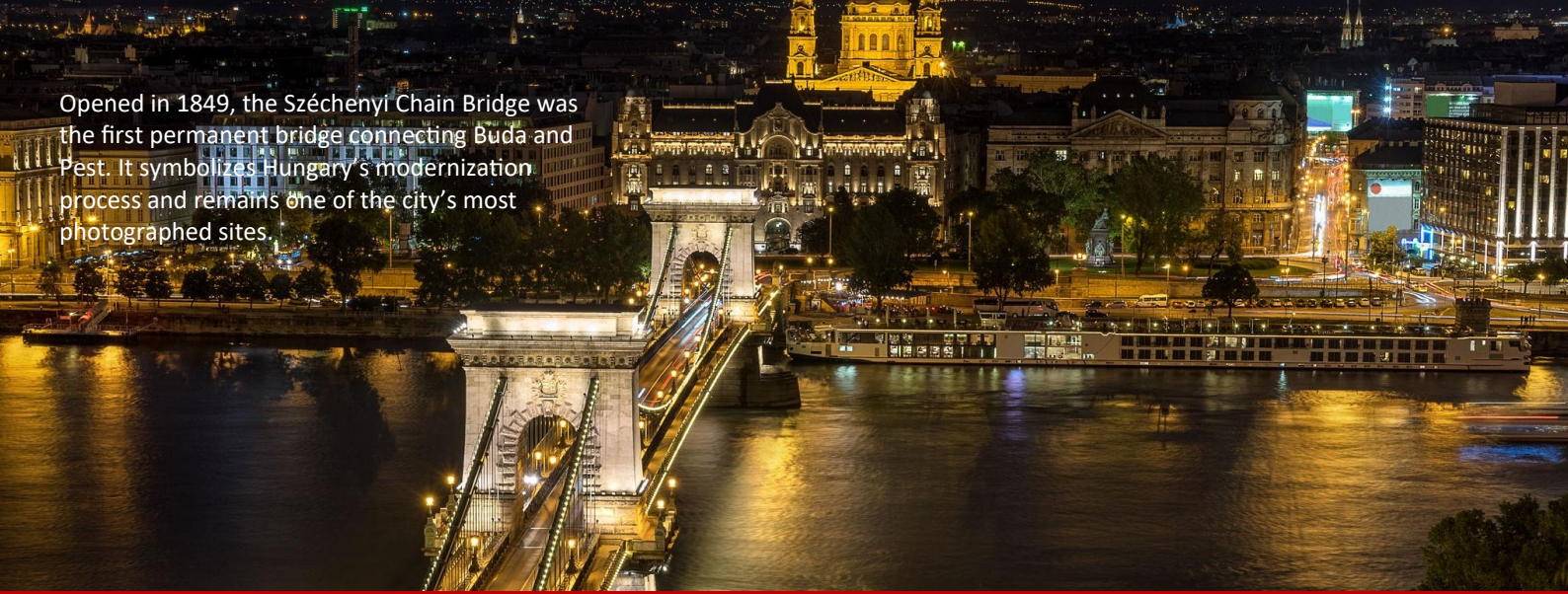
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Opened in 1849, the Széchenyi Chain Bridge was the first permanent bridge connecting Buda and Pest. It symbolizes Hungary's modernization process and remains one of the city's most photographed sites.

Keynote Speech

Venue: Faculty Meeting Hall-Kari Tanácsterem

TUESDAY // 7 July 2026 // 11:00–12:00 // (Budapest, GMT +02:00)

Keynote Speech

Professor Michael Cox*

London School of Economics (LSE)

Title:

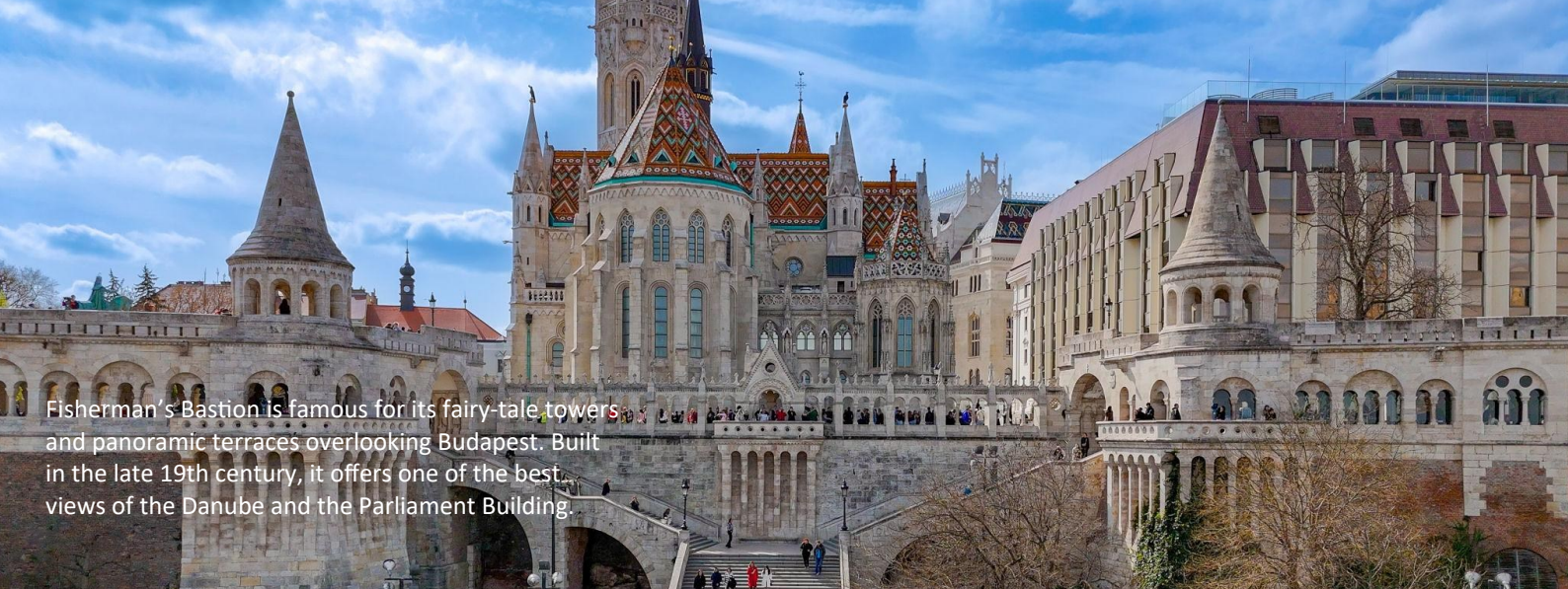
Whatever happened to the Liberal World Order

Moderation:

Professor Özgür Tüfekçi

CESRAN International & Karadeniz Technical University **(In Person)**

** His speech will be online*



Fisherman's Bastion is famous for its fairy-tale towers and panoramic terraces overlooking Budapest. Built in the late 19th century, it offers one of the best views of the Danube and the Parliament Building.

Panel 01 // Venue: Gombocz Zoltán Hall Geopolitical History, Imperial Practice and Regional Orders

TUESDAY // 7 July 2026 // 13:30–15:00 // (Budapest, GMT +02:00)

CHAIR: Rahman Dag, CESRAN International & Marmara University, Türkiye **(In Person)**

- **The CMEA and Iraq in the 1970s and 1980s**
Attila Joos
Eötvös Loránd University **(In Person)**
- **British Geopolitical Schools and the 'Persian Question' (1872–1922):
Cosmologies, Strategic Logics, and Imperial Practice**
István Dávid Váczi
Eötvös Loránd University **(In Person)**
- **Key Concepts of Discourse on "Nation" in Georgia in the 19th and the Beginning of the
20th Century**
Zviad Abashidze
Ivane Javakhihshvili Tbilisi State University **(In Person)**
- **Towards a New Yalta?**
**Prospects for Russian Cooperation with Trump's United States in Creating a New
Security Architecture in Europe: An Analysis of Russian Political and Media Discourse**
Marcin Składanowski
The John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin **(In Person)**
- **Status Partners:**
Reimagining Indian-Russian Relations in terms of Status Attribution and Recognition
Aaryaman Nijhawan
Shiv Nadar University **(Online)**
- **The Geopolitics of IMEC:**
U.S.-Led Efforts to Reshape the Middle Eastern Order
Yeghia Tashjian
American University of Beirut **(In Person)**

Discussant: Erzsébet N. Rózsa, University of Public Service **(In Person)**

Founded in 1837, the Hungarian National Museum is one of the country's most important institutions preserving national history and identity. Its neoclassical architecture and historical collections played a symbolic role in Hungary's revolutionary movements.

Panel 02 // Venue: Faculty Meeting Hall-Kari Tanácsterem Indo-Pacific and Asian Strategic Orders

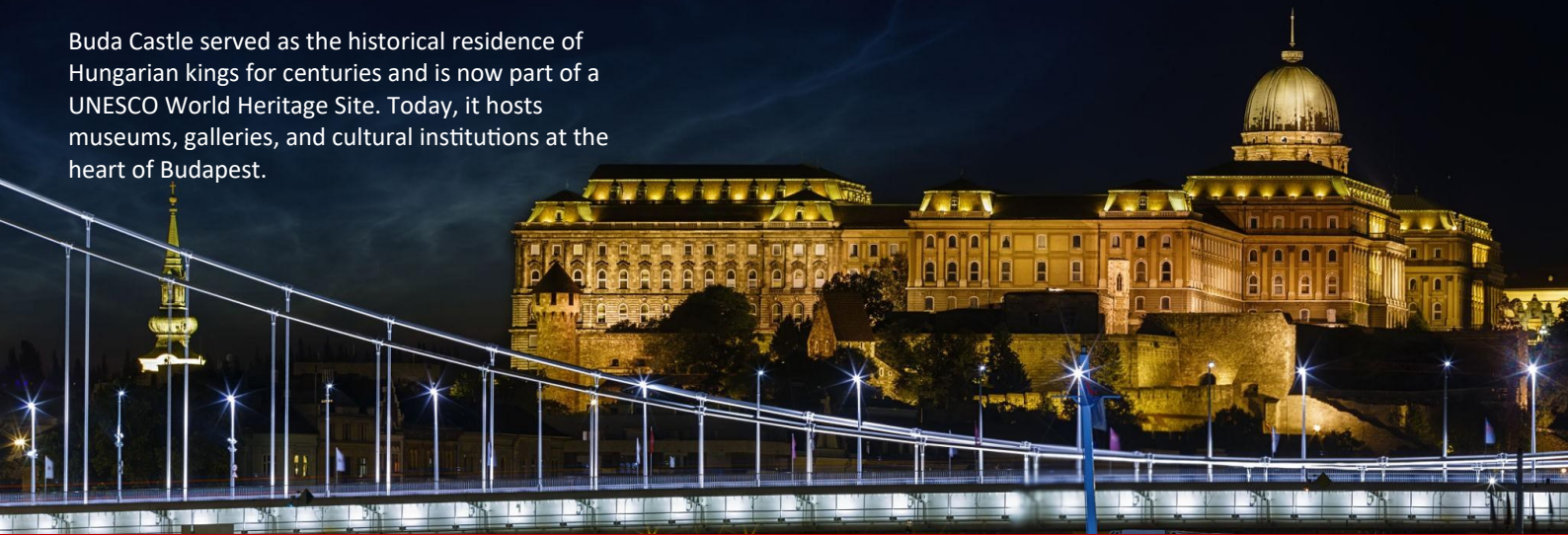
TUESDAY // 7 July 2026 // 13:30–15:00 // (Budapest, GMT +02:00)

CHAIR: Salome Dundua, Tbilisi State University *(In Person)*

- **Space in International Relations, generating geopolitical narratives versus regional space: Indo-Pacific concept compared to BIMSTEC and ASEAN**
Christian Ploberger
Rajamangala University of Technology, Tawan OK, Bangkok (Online)
- **Security Realignment in the Indo-Pacific: Middle-Power Choices Between Trump's America First and China's Neo-Tributary Vision**
Dean Karalekas
University of Lancashire (In Person)
- **Wind in China's Sails? Assessing Beijing's Expanding Strategic Presence in the Indian Ocean Region**
Amrita Jash
Manipal Academy of Higher Education, India (In Person)
- **A Three-Level Game: Regional Leaders and Middle Power Strategy in the US-China Competition**
Xiaowen Zhang
National University of Singapore (Online)
- **Trump's Tariffs and Their Geopolitical and Economic Repercussions: A Study of China's Counter-Strategy**
Amr Mansour
Zhengzhou University (Online)

Discussant: Pelin Sönmez, Kocaeli University *(In Person)*

Buda Castle served as the historical residence of Hungarian kings for centuries and is now part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Today, it hosts museums, galleries, and cultural institutions at the heart of Budapest.



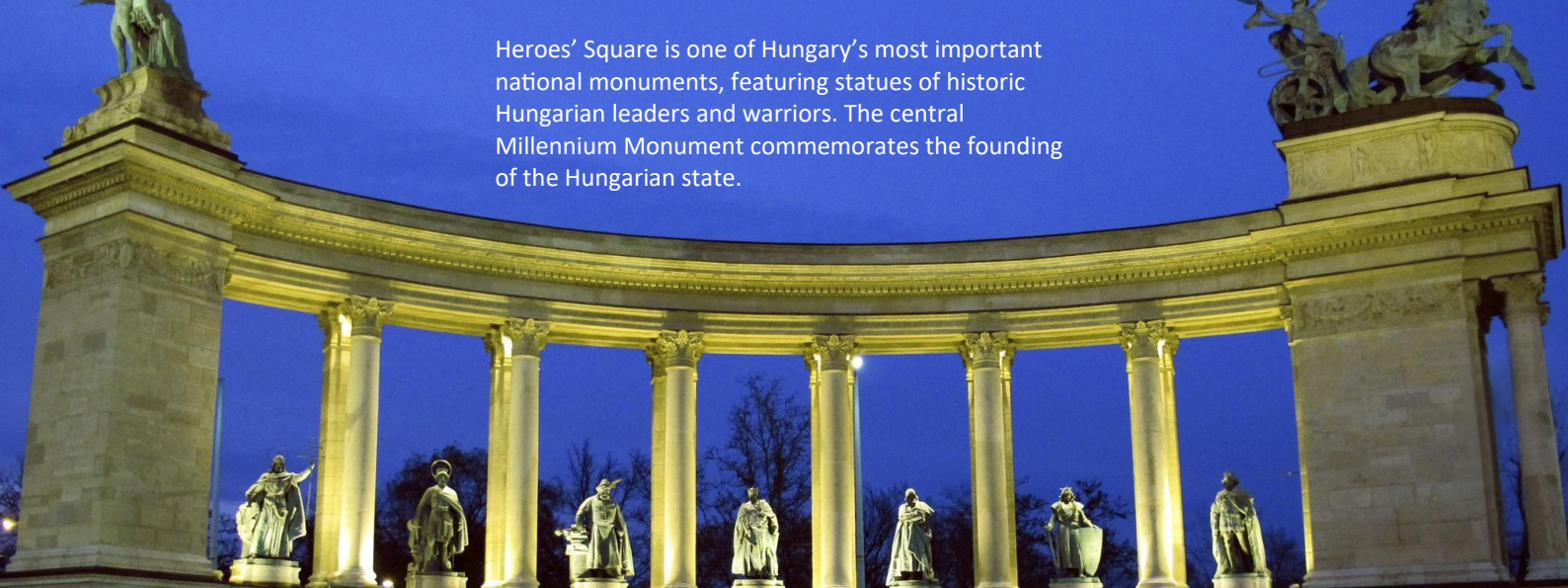
Panel 03 // Venue: Gombocz Zoltán Hall **Postcolonial Critique, Knowledge Production and Identity**

TUESDAY // 7 July 2026 // 15:30–17:00 // (Budapest, GMT +02:00)

CHAIR: Dean Karalekas, *University of Lancashire* *(In Person)*

- **Same Brand, Different Standard:**
A Cross-National Analysis of Multinational Food Product Quality Through a Postcolonial Lens
Alperen Türkmen and Sude Bayram
Karadeniz Technical University *(In Person)*
- **Decentering Knowledge or Reproducing Hierarchy?**
Questioning Epistemic Hierarchies in the Turkish International Relations Discipline
Pelin Sönmez and Zehra Yılmaz
Kocaeli University and Van Yüzüncü Yıl University *(In Person)*
- **The Social Function of Indigenous Surveillance:**
Security, Territory, and Collective Life in the Javari Valley
Nicole Grell Macias Dalmiglio
São Paulo State University (UNESP) *(In Person)*
- **Reawakening Silenced Trauma:**
Comparative Mnemonic Framing of War Crimes Memories among Abkhazian IDPs in the Context of the War in Ukraine
Tamar Karaia
Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University *(In Person)*
- **The Angry Modern: The Rise of Hindu Nationalism in India**
Anwar Alam
Alatoo International University *(In Person)*

Discussant: Yeghia Tashjian, *American University of Beirut* *(In Person)*



Heroes' Square is one of Hungary's most important national monuments, featuring statues of historic Hungarian leaders and warriors. The central Millennium Monument commemorates the founding of the Hungarian state.

Panel 04 // Venue: Faculty Meeting Hall-Kari Tanacssterem **Small States, Foreign Policy and Strategic Adaptation**

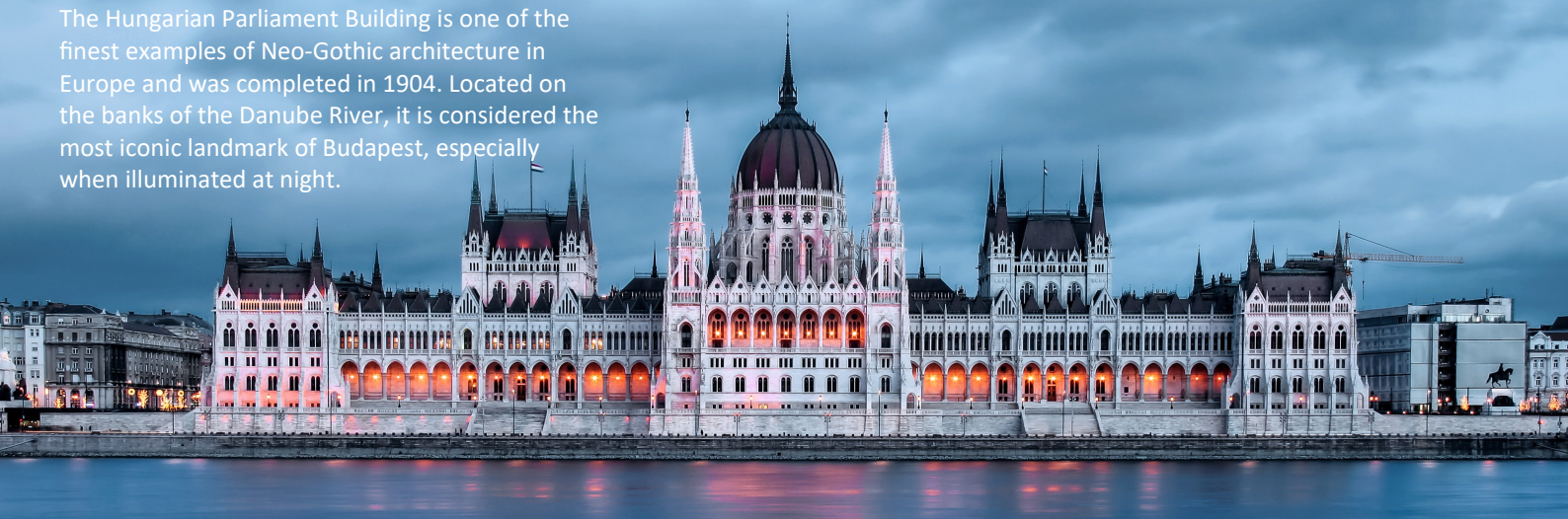
TUESDAY // 7 July 2026 // 15:30–17:00 // (Budapest, GMT +02:00)

CHAIR: **András Varga**, *University of Public Service (In Person)*

- **Small State Foreign Policy Strategy in a Fragmenting World Order
The Case of Hungary-US Conservative Relations**
Bálint Timár
University of Public Service (In Person)
- **The Examination of 'Keystone State' and 'Economic Connector' Concepts
in the Case of Italy**
Adam Sashalmi
University of Pécs (In Person)
- **Diplomatic Relations Between Brazil and the United States in the Context of Lula 3 and
Trump 2 – An Analysis Based on Peter Burke's Book Ignorance**
Carlos Augusto Martins
Universidade Autónoma de Lisboa (In Person)
- **European Integration Process in the Western Balkans and the Dynamics of
Europeanization**
Müge Palancı Keskin
İstanbul University (In Person)
- **Centralised and Still Autonomous?
City Diplomacy Beyond Western-centric Approach**
Fedor Zolotarev
University of Pécs (In Person)
- **Observer Status as an Institutional Visibility Strategy for Small States: Hungary's
Experience with the Organization of Turkic States**
Ali Kılıçarslan Topuz
University of Public Service (Online)

Discussant: **Ekrem Ok**, *Ağrı İbrahim Çeçen University & Cesran International (In Person)*

The Hungarian Parliament Building is one of the finest examples of Neo-Gothic architecture in Europe and was completed in 1904. Located on the banks of the Danube River, it is considered the most iconic landmark of Budapest, especially when illuminated at night.



Keynote Speech

Venue: Faculty Meeting Hall-Kari Tanacsterem

WEDNESDAY // 8 July 2026 // 09:30–10:30 // (Budapest, GMT +02:00)

Keynote Speech

Professor Nicholas J. Wheeler

University of Birmingham (In Person)

Title:

On the Brink:

Communication and Dynamics of Nuclear Crisis Escalation and How It Can Be Stopped

Moderation:

Professor Rashed Daher

Eötvös Loránd University (In Person)

Named after Hungary's first king, St. Stephen's Basilica is one of the largest churches in the country. Its impressive dome and richly decorated interior attract millions of visitors every year.

Panel 05 // Venue: Gombocz Zoltán Hall

Populism, Identity and Belonging in Comparative Perspective

WEDNESDAY // 8 July 2026 // 11:00–12:30 // (Budapest, GMT +02:00)

CHAIR: Tamar Karaia, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University *(In Person)*

- **Populist Expression in Sub-Saharan Africa:
An Archetype Analysis of New Generation Populists**
Neo Sithole
University of Szeged (In Person)
- **Reimagining Belonging:
Hungary, Populism, and the Turkic World**
Mustafa Burak Şener and Büşra Özyüksel
Eötvös Loránd University and Independent Researcher (In Person)
- **Right Populism from A Bibliometric Perspective: 1994-2025**
Meltem Hasançebi and Tuncay Odabaş
Haliç University and Giresun University (In Person)
- **Patriots for Europe:
Rebranding the Far-Right and Reshaping Power in the European Parliament after the 2024 Elections**
Vladimer Grdzelişvili
Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, Institute of Political Sciences of Ilia State University (Online)
- **Common Goods and the Global Governance of Essential Resources:
A Goods Legal Theory Perspective on Fundamental Rights**
Alessandra Camaiani
Università della Campania (In Person)

Discussant: Tamás Dudlák, Eötvös Loránd University *(In Person)*



Matthias Church is renowned for its colorful tiled roof and Gothic architectural style. It played a major role in Hungarian royal coronation ceremonies throughout history.

Panel 06 // Venue: Faculty Meeting Hall-Kari Tanacssterem **Global Governance, International Law and Environmental Security**

WEDNESDAY // 8 July 2026 // 11:00–12:30 // (Budapest, GMT +02:00)

CHAIR: Ágnes Ijjas, Eötvös Loránd University *(In Person)*

- **The Cascading Collapse of International Law, Economy and the Environment**
Ivan Kanchev
Independent Researcher (In Person)
- **"No Fund, No Agreement":
Why States Accepted the Loss and Damage Fund at COP27**
Sri Milawati Asshagab
Corvinus University of Budapest (Online)
- **The Complex Interplay between Food Security and Climate Change in the Arab Region: A Non-Traditional Security Approach**
Navodita-Kumari
University of Allahabad (Online)
- **Between Security and Sovereignty:
The Legal Architecture of SAFE and Its Democratic Implications**
Aleksandra Domalewska
Warsaw School of Economics (In Person)
- **Regional Cooperation and the Challenges of the 21st Century:
A Comparative Analysis of the African Union and ASEAN**
Ramzi Bendebka and Lee Pei May
International Islamic University Malaysia (Online)
- **From Controversy to Regulation: The Dissostichus Case and the Transformation of Environmental Governance in Antarctica**
Miguel A. Salazar Urrutia
University of Rennes (Online)

Discussant: Rashed Daher, Eötvös Loránd University *(In Person)*



The Liberty Statue stands atop Gellért Hill and commemorates Hungary's liberation after World War II. The hill provides one of the most spectacular panoramic views of Budapest.

Panel 07 // Venue: Gombocz Zoltán Hall **Migration, Asylum and Governance**

WEDNESDAY // 8 July 2026 // 14:00–15:30 // (Budapest, GMT +02:00)

CHAIR: Rashed Daher, Eötvös Loránd University *(In Person)*

- **Continuity or Transformation?**
The Evolution of Italian Migration Governance
Mariann Dömös
University of Pécs (In Person)
- **Experiencing Prolonged Asylum Procedures:**
Syrian Asylum Seekers in the Netherlands
Ibrahim Akkan
Maria Curie-Skłodowska University (In Person)
- **Risk or Resource?**
Family Migration as a Policy Dilemma in Contemporary Russia
Vera Peshkova
Institute of Sociology of the FCTAS of the Russian Academy of Sciences (In Person)
- **The Role of Financial Institutions in Driving Global Economic Growth and Stability**
Sheila Osei Owusu
ABSA Bank, Ghana (Online)
- **Teacher Burnout and the Challenges of Inclusive Education: A Socio-Economic Analysis of Educational Sustainability within the European Union**
Emina Kovačić Ahmetović
University of Zagreb (Online)

Discussant: András Varga, National University of Public Service *(In Person)*



Vajdahunyad Castle was designed to showcase different architectural styles found throughout Hungarian history. Surrounded by a lake and parkland, it is among Budapest's most picturesque attractions.

Panel 08 // Venue: Faculty Meeting Hall-Kari Tanacssterem Security, Conflict and Environmental Harm

WEDNESDAY // 8 July 2026 // 14:00–15:30 // (Budapest, GMT +02:00)

CHAIR: Emre Demir, TED University *(In Person)*

- **When Geography Stops Being Static:
A Theory of Infrastructure Dependence and Disaster Vulnerability in Armed Conflict**
Vlad Surdea-Hernea and Letitia Roman
The University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna and Central European University (Online)
- **Silent Scars of War:
Reconceptualising Environmental Harm in the Discipline of International Relations**
Anchita Borthakur and Angana Kotokey
Chintan Research Foundation, New Delhi (In Person)
- **Playing God in the Gulf:
U.S. Hubris and Iran's Asymmetric Resistance**
Belay Asmare Aragaw
University of Pécs, Hungary (In Person)
- **Strategic Resilience and Information Warfare:
Hezbollah's Adaptation to Kinetic and Structural Shocks (2023–2026)**
Ágnes Ijjas
Eötvös Loránd University (In Person)
- **Network Competition and Regional Proxy Dynamics:
How External Actors Shape Security Governance Through Afghan Political Networks**
Aftab Hussain
Deakin University (In Person)

Discussant: István Dávid Váczy, Eötvös Loránd University *(In Person)*



Opened in 1897, the Great Market Hall is Budapest's largest and most famous indoor market. It is an ideal place to experience traditional Hungarian cuisine and local products.

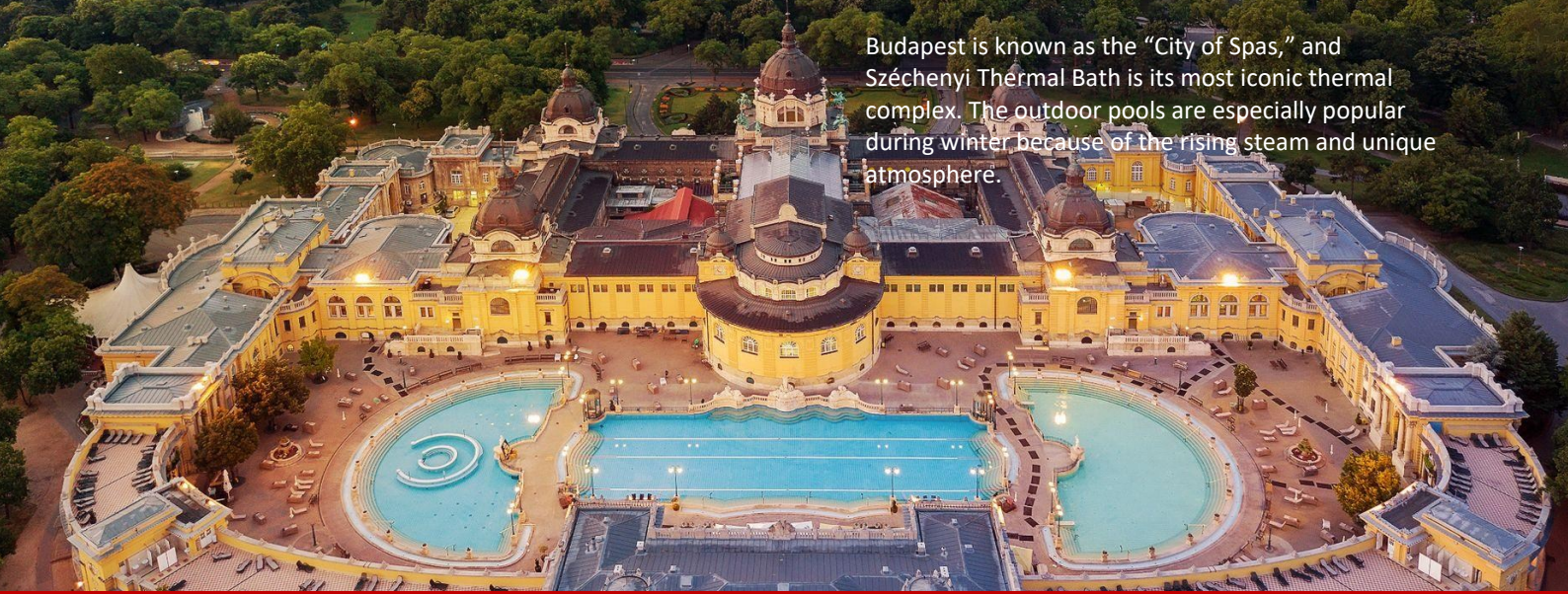
Panel 09 // Venue: Gombocz Zoltán Hall Geopolitics of Energy and Critical Minerals

WEDNESDAY // 8 July 2026 // 16:00–17:30 // (Budapest, GMT +02:00)

CHAIR: Zoltán Egeresi, *University of Public Service (In Person)*

- **Corridor Geopolitics of Critical Minerals:
India and Türkiye in the Emerging Asian Energy Order**
Kerim Sert
Middle East Technical University (In Person)
- **Energy Security and Transit Dependency:
A Comparative Analysis of China and the European Union**
Ferdi Güçyetmez and Sina Kısacık
University of Bern and Cyprus Aydın University (Online)
- **Moving Beyond Territorial Defence:
Reconceptualising Security Through Energy in Contemporary Conflicts**
Pelin Nur Çağlayan Sert
Middle East Technical University (In Person)
- **Discursive Construction of the Canal Istanbul Projects**
Rabia Büyükpınar
Zonguldak Bülent Ecevit University (In Person)
- **Saudi Arabia's Multi-Alignment Strategy in the New Cold War:
Strategic Autonomy across Green Energy and Digital Infrastructure**
Emre Demir
TED University (In Person)

Discussant: László Csicsmann, *Corvinus University of Budapest (In Person)*



Budapest is known as the “City of Spas,” and Széchenyi Thermal Bath is its most iconic thermal complex. The outdoor pools are especially popular during winter because of the rising steam and unique atmosphere.

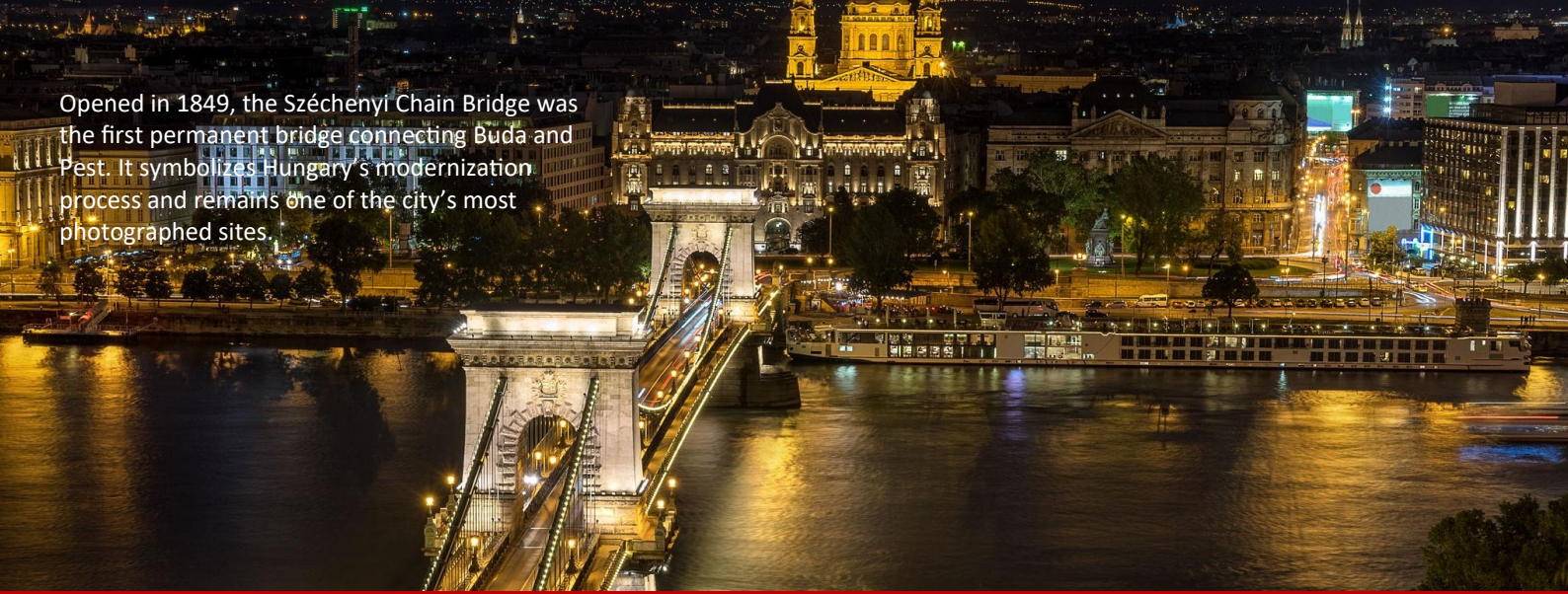
Panel 10 // Venue: Faculty Meeting Hall-Kari Tanácsterem Political Theory, Biopolitics and Digital Age Challenges

WEDNESDAY // 8 July 2026 // 16:00–17:30 // (Budapest, GMT +02:00)

CHAIR: Rashed Daher, Eötvös Loránd University *(In Person)*

- **Governing Reproduction in the Stagnant Era:
Biopolitics and Governmentality in China's Three-Child Policy**
Pengfei Xu
University of Manchester *(Online)*
- **Artificial Intelligence in Care Work**
Anna Ujlaki
Eötvös Loránd University *(In Person)*
- **Faith as Data?**
The Ontology of Religious Data and Its Implications for (In)Equality in the Digital Age
Judit Lenke Tóth
University of Pécs *(In Person)*
- **When Origins Eclipse Ideals:
Rethinking Equality in the Context of Universal Values**
Saliha Mazlum
Zonguldak Bülent Ecevit University *(In person)*
- **Suspended Legal Subjects:
Structural Liminality of Migrant Workers and the Normative Response of Common Good
Constitutionalism**
Tzu-Yu Chiou
Hsuan Chuang University *(Online)*

Discussant: István Dávid Vácz, Eötvös Loránd University *(In Person)*



Opened in 1849, the Széchenyi Chain Bridge was the first permanent bridge connecting Buda and Pest. It symbolizes Hungary's modernization process and remains one of the city's most photographed sites.

Book Discussion Panel

Venue: Faculty Meeting Hall-Kari Tanacssterem

THURSDAY // 9 July 2026 // 09:30–10:30 // (Budapest, GMT +02:00)

Book Discussion

Book Title:

**Synthetic Reality:
AI, the Metaverse, and the Ethics of a New Digital Humanism**

Author:

Marco Marsili
CEI-Iscte, Portugal (In Person)

Moderation:

Ferenc Petruska
Ludovika University of Public Service (In Person)



Eger Castle is historically significant for resisting the Ottoman siege of 1552. Today, it serves as a museum complex and one of Hungary's most important historical attractions.

Panel 11 // Venue: Gombocz Zoltán Hall Middle East Conflicts and Regional Hegemony

THURSDAY // 9 July 2026 // 11:00–12:30 // (Budapest, GMT +02:00)

CHAIR: László Csicsmann, Corvinus University of Budapest *(In Person)*

- **Religion or Ethnicity, Which Comes First:
The Case of Iran Since 1979**
Taner Zorbay
Middle East Technical University *(In Person)*
- **Why States React:
Motivational Patterns in the Gaza Conflict**
Ajtay Gabriella Janka
Ludovika University of Public Administration *(Online)*
- **Regional Hegemony in the Middle East and the Yemen Conflict:
Strategic Competitions of Iran, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates**
Ibrahim Akkan
Maria Curie-Skłodowska University *(In Person)*
- **The US-Israel Wars on Iran:
Causes, War Strategies and Implications**
Syed Adnan Athar Bukhari
Quaid-i-Azam University *(In Person)*
- **Deterrence Failure in the Gray Zone:
A Neoclassical Realist Account of the 2025-2026 Iran Escalation**
Adrián López Fleming and Hani Anouti
University of Barcelona / Geneva Business School and Pompeu Fabra University *(In Person)*

Discussant: Attila Joós, Eötvös Loránd University *(In Person)*



Esztergom Basilica is the largest church in Hungary and a major center of the Hungarian Catholic Church. Its monumental dome dominates the skyline along the Danube River.

Panel 12 // Venue: Faculty Meeting Hall-Kari Tanacsterem Education, Labour and Political Economy

THURSDAY // 9 July 2026 // 11:00–12:30 // (Budapest, GMT +02:00)

CHAIR: Tamas Dudlak, Eötvös Loránd University *(In Person)*

- **Reimagining Political Science Education:
A Proposal for a Student-Centred Simulation Model**
Ekrem Ok
Ağrı İbrahim Çeçen University & Cesran International (In Person)
- **Globalisation and Higher Education Policy: Convergence, Diversity, and Strategic
Management Challenges in the Cases of Germany, France, and Georgia**
Maka Benashvili and Tamar Tsertsvadze
Sulkhan-Saba Orbeliani University and Caucasus University (In Person)
- **Graduate Unemployment in the Modern Labour Market:
Causes, Challenges, and Possible Solutions**
Susan Aslanova
Baku State University (In Person)
- **Rural Tourism in Uttar Pradesh:
Opportunities, Challenges, and Policy Framework**
Shweta-Mishra and Aradhana Misra
Ambalika Institute of Management and Technology (In Person)
- **Criminal State Capture in Transitional Russia:
A Subnational Analysis of State-Gang Integration (1990–2010)**
Anna Kirsanova
Pioneer Academics (Online)

Discussant: Stephen Roddy, University of San Francisco *(In Person)*



Pécs Cathedral reflects the city's long history dating back to Roman times. The cathedral's four distinctive towers make it one of Hungary's most recognizable religious landmarks.

Panel 13 // Venue: Gombocz Zoltán Hall **Regional Leadership, Hegemony and Non-Western Agency**

THURSDAY // 9 July 2026 // 14:00–15:30 // (Budapest, GMT +02:00)

CHAIR: **Taner Zorbay**, *Middle East Technical University* **(In Person)**

- **Rising Titans?**
The Dawn of the Non-Western Agency and the Unfinished Project of a World Order
Emel Akcali
King's College London **(In person)**
- **From Demographic Surge to Geopolitical Agency:**
Human Capital as the Foundation of Epistemic Sovereignty and Economic Statecraft in Africa
Pedro Baptista
Minho University **(In Person)**
- **Trump and Milei and the Theory of Peripheral Realism:**
The Politics of Carnal Relations and the Search for Equality Among the Unequal
Carlos Augusto Martins
Universidade Autónoma de Lisboa **(In Person)**
- **Secessionism in Balochistan: Impacts on Neighbouring Countries**
Akanksha Roy and Anwar Shahab
Karim City College **(Online)**
- **Navigating US-China Technology Competition among Middle Powers:**
A Study of Chilean Response
Andres Bórquez and Dorotea López
University of Chile **(In Person)**

Discussant: **Adrián López Fleming**, *University of Barcelona / Geneva Business School* **(In Person)**



Hollókő is a preserved traditional Hungarian village listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Its wooden houses and folk traditions offer visitors a glimpse into rural Hungarian life.

Panel 14 // Venue: Faculty Meeting Hall-Kari Tanacsterem Democracy, Emergency Powers and Civil Society

THURSDAY // 9 July 2026 // 14:00–15:30 // (Budapest, GMT +02:00)

CHAIR: Marco Marsili, CEI-Iscte, Portugal **(In Person)**

- **Between Conventional Emergency Management and Exceptionalism:
The European Union's Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic**
Yulieth Martinez Villalba
Foreign Policy Observatory - Ministry of Foreign Policy of Colombia **(In Person)**
- **Democracy under a State of Emergency:
A Comparative Analysis of Symbolic and Discursive Legitimation by Heads of State in
Italy and Germany during Covid-19**
Valeria Carmen Caputo
University of Trieste / University of Udine **(Online)**
- **Perceptions of Civil Society Activists in Kosovo on the Role of International Military
Presence in Security Governance**
Burim Ramadani
South East European University **(Online)**
- **The Security Implications of Ideological Stigmatization:
Political Opposition and Asymmetrical Vulnerabilities in Romania**
George-Daniel Nistor
University of Bucharest **(In Person)**
- **Religious Challenges in the Georgian Socio-Political Environment**
Salome Dundua
Tbilisi State University **(In Person)**

Discussant: Syed Adnan Athar Bukhari, Quaid-i-Azam University **(In Person)**



The Tihany Peninsula is famous for its lavender fields, historic abbey, and scenic views over Lake Balaton. It is one of Hungary's most popular summer tourism destinations.

Panel 15 // Venue: Gombocz Zoltán Hall **Maritime Security, Geopolitics and Strategic Projection**

THURSDAY // 9 July 2026 // 16:00–17:30 // (Budapest, GMT +02:00)

CHAIR: Emel Akcali, *King's College London* **(In person)**

- **Hormuz and the Illusion of Control:
From the Portuguese Occupation to the Risks of Contemporary U.S. Escalation**
Laércio Eduardo de Araújo
Universidade Autónoma de Lisboa **(In Person)**
- **Brazil: Contributions to Maritime Security in the Gulf of Guinea**
Paula Luz
Universidade Autónoma de Lisboa **(In Person)**
- **Projecting Power from the Littorals:
A Qualitative Comparative Analysis of Asymmetric Maritime Strategies**
Adrián López Fleming and Jovan Ilijev Ciric
University of Barcelona / Geneva Business School and King's College London **(In Person)**
- **Waterways Security in the Security Complex: A Study of the Red Sea Crisis in Relation to the Gulf States, Egypt, and Yemen (2024-2026)**
Rasha El Baz
New Giza University **(In Person)**
- **The "New" China's Military Strategy in Africa**
Luís Bernardino
Universidade Autónoma de Lisboa **(Online)**

Discussant: Yulieth Martinez Villalba, *Foreign Policy Observatory - Ministry of Foreign Policy of Colombia* **(In Person)**

The Great Reformed Church is the symbolic heart of Hungarian Protestantism. It has also hosted several important political events in Hungarian national history.



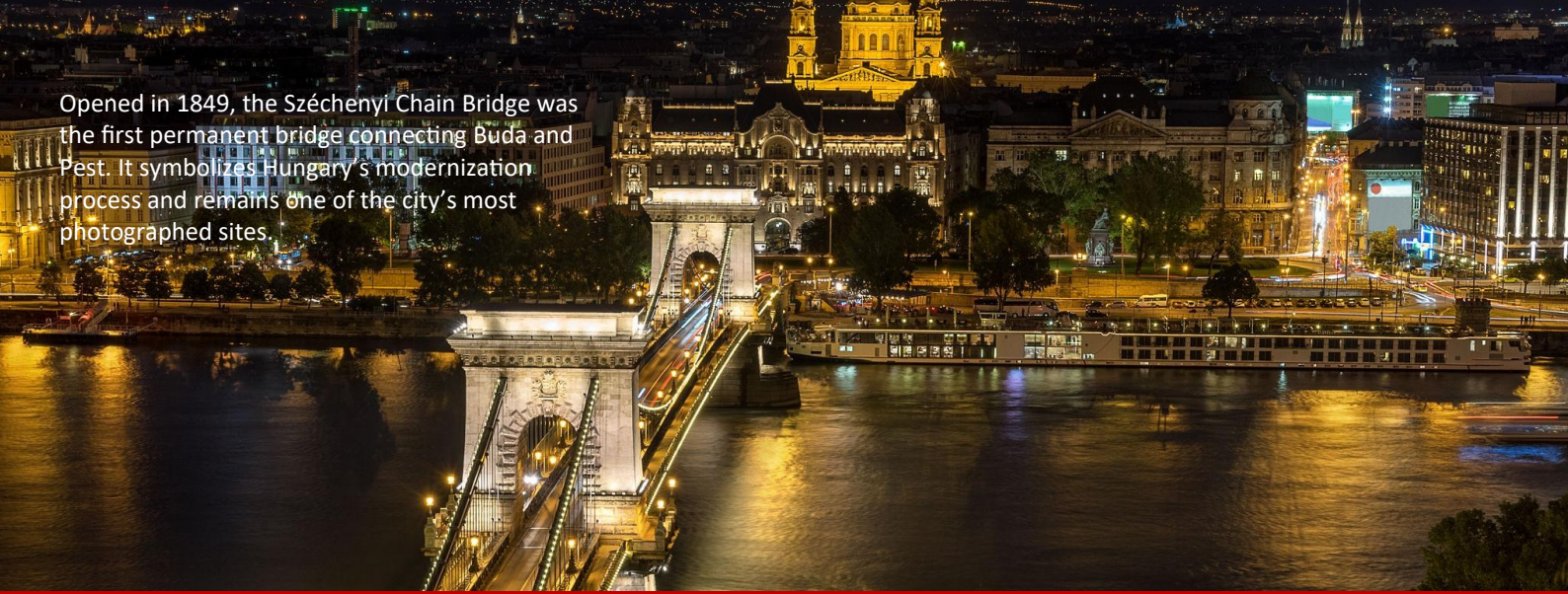
Panel 16 // Venue: Faculty Meeting Hall-Kari Tanacsterem Geopolitics of the Middle East and Global Order

THURSDAY // 9 July 2026 // 16:00–17:30 // (Budapest, GMT +02:00)

CHAIR: Stephen Roddy, *University of San Francisco (In Person)*

- **Ontological Security and Israel's Search for 'Thick' Recognition**
Karel Franco Valansi
Istanbul Kültür University (Online)
- **What does Israel's Recognition of Somaliland Mean for International System/Order?**
Mehmet Alkış
Dicle University (In Person)
- **The Relationship Between Christian Congregation Membership and the Latent Political Participation Among Overseas Working Filipinos in Doha, Qatar**
Fritz Nathan A. Diaz, Danica Jane A. Araoarao and Danilo D. Tan
University of Santo Tomas and University of Santo Tomas (Online)
- **How China Navigates the Choppy Waters of an Upended World**
Andrew K P Leung
Andrew Leung International Consultants (Online)

Discussant: Marco Marsili, *CEI-Iscte, Portugal (In Person)*



Opened in 1849, the Széchenyi Chain Bridge was the first permanent bridge connecting Buda and Pest. It symbolizes Hungary's modernization process and remains one of the city's most photographed sites.

Keynote Speech

Venue: Faculty Meeting Hall-Kari Tanacssterem

FRIDAY // 10 July 2026 // 09:30–10:30 // (Budapest, GMT +02:00)

Keynote Speech

Professor Istvan Tarrosy
University of Pécs (In Person)

Title:

The Evolving International Order from a Global South Perspective

Moderation:

Dr. Tamas Dudlak
Eötvös Loránd University (In Person)



The Turul Monument represents the mythical bird of Hungarian folklore and national identity. Located near Tatabánya, it is considered one of the largest bird statues in Europe.

Panel 17 // Venue: Gombocz Zoltán Hall **Security Governance, Strategic Adaptation and Emerging Orders**

FRIDAY // 10 July 2026 // 11:00–12:30 // (Budapest, GMT +02:00)

CHAIR: Péter Rada, Metropolitan University of Budapest *(In Person)*

- **Securitising the Climate:
China's Discursive Repositioning in Global Climate Governance**
Swati Kanwar
Jawaharlal Nehru University *(In Person)*
- **Emerging Security Technologies and Securitized Governance:
Social Implications for Immigrant Integration in Europe**
Sina Samiee
ISCTE – University Institute of Lisbon *(In Person)*
- **The Role of India in US National Security Strategy during the Era of Trump 2.0**
Farzan Safari Sabet
University of Tehran *(In Person)*
- **The Far Eastern Paradox:
Infrastructure Projects and the Divergent Interests of Russia and China**
Olga Zalesskaia
Blagoveschensk State Pedagogical University *(Online)*
- **European Union-Uzbekistan Relations in light of the 2025 Enhanced Partnership and
Cooperation Agreement (EPCA)**
Daniel Haitas
University of Debrecen *(In Person)*
- **Global Governance According to China in the Face of Contemporary International
Security Crises**
Orazio Maria Gnerre
Institute for the History of the Italian Risorgimento *(Online)*

Discussant: Stephen Roddy, University of San Francisco *(In Person)*

Located near Budapest, Szentendre is famous for its narrow cobblestone streets and colorful Baroque houses. The town's art galleries, museums, and Mediterranean-like atmosphere make it a major cultural tourism destination.



Panel 18 // Venue: Faculty Meeting Hall-Kari Tanacsterem Conflict, Security and Hybrid Warfare

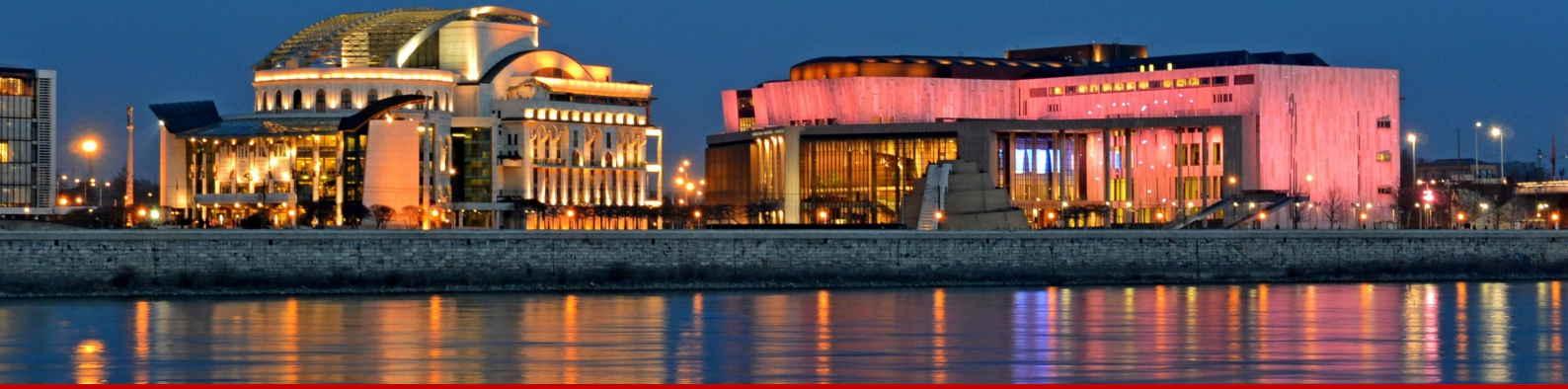
FRIDAY // 10 July 2026 // 11:00–12:30 // (Budapest, GMT +02:00)

CHAIR: Dean Karalekas *University of Lancashire (In Person)*

- **The Gulf Dilemma:**
Unintended Consequences of the US/Israel War with Iran
Ioana Constantin-Bercean
"Ion I.C. Brătianu" Institute of Political Science and International Relations (In Person)
- **Fragile Security:**
State vs. People in the Apocalyptic War on Iran
Sima Baidya
Jawaharlal Nehru University (In Person)
- **Dominance Vacuums and Regional Instability:**
Extending Power Transition Theory in the South Caucasus
Kamala Valiyeva
Istanbul Ticaret University (Online)
- **The EU's "Global Getaway" as Geopolitical Special Purpose Vehicle:**
Opportunities and Challenges in the Era of Global Uncertainty
Andrey Kinyakin
Centro Universitário Integrado, Brazil (Online)
- **European Strategy in the Era of Hybrid Warfare:**
EU and NATO Security at the Intersection of Energy, Resources and Technology
Maurizio Geri
Ca' Foscari/GMU (Online)

Discussant: Emel Akcali, *King's College London (In person)*

Müpa Budapest is one of the city's leading contemporary cultural and performance venues located along the Danube River. Its modern architecture and international artistic events symbolize Budapest's evolving cultural identity.



Panel 19 // ONLINE Eurasian Geopolitics and International Relations

FRIDAY // 10 July 2026 // 14:00–15:30 // (Budapest, GMT +02:00)

WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE EURASIAN CONTINENT RESEARCH ASSOCIATION, YEREVAN

CHAIR: Tamas Dudlak, Eötvös Loránd University (Online)

- **Discussing IR Concepts and Thinking About the Global Order**
Süha Atatüre
Istanbul Gedik University (Online)
- **Rethinking Eurasian Stability Beyond Western Alliance Theory**
Matthieu Grandpierron
ICES, France (Online)
- **The China-Gulf Green Shift:
Fuelling the Renewable Energy Partnership**
Chuchu Zhang
Fudan University (Online)
- **Kazakhstan as a Middle Power:
Domestic Foundations of a Regional Leader**
Houman Sadri
University of Central Florida (Online)
- **The United States Geostrategy in Central Asia
in the Context of a Multipolar World Order 2.0**
Mher D. Sahakyan
Eurasian Continent Research Association (Online)

Discussant: Maximilian Ohle, Catholic Institute of Vendee (Online)



Opened in 1884, the Hungarian State Opera House is one of Budapest's finest examples of Neo-Renaissance architecture. Its richly decorated interiors and dramatic nighttime illumination make it one of the city's most iconic cultural landmarks.



Panel 20 // ONLINE

War in Ukraine and the Transformation of European Security and Resilience

FRIDAY // 10 July 2026 // 16:00–17:30 // (Budapest, GMT +02:00)

CHAIR: Aleksandra Szczerba, *Jacob of Paradies University* (Online)

- **Sexual Violence Against Women from an Anti-discriminatory Perspective**
Aleksandra Szczerba
Jacob of Paradies University (Online)
- **Mechanisms of Amplifying Anti-Ukrainian Messages Through Proxy Sources: A Cognitive War Perspective and Social Consequences**
Juliusz Sikorski
Jacob of Paradies University (Online)
- **The EU Health Security Architecture in the Context of the War in Ukraine**
Tomasz Marcinkowski
Jacob of Paradies University (Online)
- **The Environmental Footprint of Modern Warfare: An Analysis of the Conflict in Ukraine**
Oliwia Radkiewicz
Jacob of Paradies University (Online)
- **Lifelong Learning as a Functional Dimension of European Union Citizenship**
Marcin Szott
Jacob of Paradies University (Online)

Discussant: Tomasz Marcinkowski, *Jacob of Paradies University* (Online)

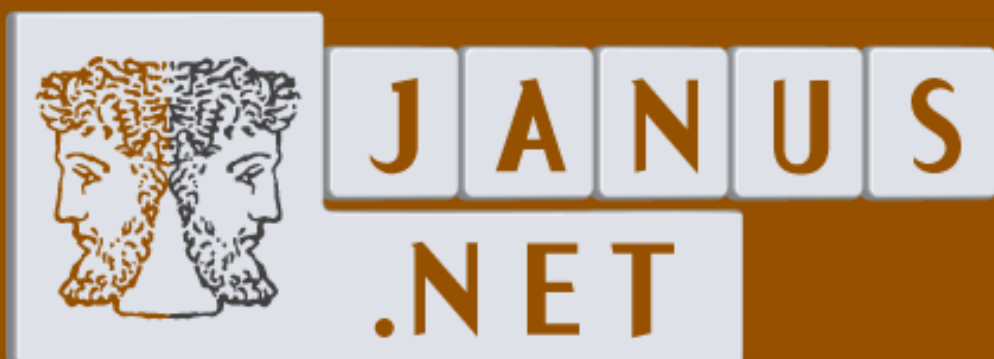
Participant List				
1.	Aaryaman Nijhawan	PhD Student	Shiv Nadar University	India
2.	Adam Sashalmi	PhD Student	University of Pécs	Hungary
3.	Adrián López Fleming	Lecturer	University of Barcelona / Geneva Business School	Spain
4.	Aftab Hussain	PhD Student	Deakin University	Australia
5.	Ágnes Ijjas	PhD Student	ELTE BTK	Hungary
6.	Ajtay Gabriella Janka	PhD Student	Ludovika University of Public Administration	Hungary
7.	Akanksha Roy	Assistant Professor	Karim City College	India
8.	Aleksandra Domalewska	MA Student	Warsaw School of Economics	Poland
9.	Aleksandra Szczerba	Professor	Jacob of Paradies University	Poland
10.	Alessandra Camaiani	PhD Student	Università della Campania	Italy
11.	Ali Kılıçarslan Topuz	PhD Student	<i>University of Public Service</i>	Hungary
12.	Alperen Türkmen	PhD Student	Karadeniz Technical University	Türkiye
13.	Amr Mansour		Zhengzhou University	China
14.	Amrita Jash	Assistant Professor	Manipal Academy of Higher Education	India
15.	Anchita Borthakur	Independent Researcher	Chintan Research Foundation	India
16.	András Varga	Professor	University of Public Service	Hungary
17.	Andres Bórquez	Assistant Professor	University of Chile	Chile
18.	Andrew K P Leung	Professor	Andrew Leung International Consultants	China
19.	Andrey Kinyakin	Professor	Centro Universitário Integrado	Brazilia
20.	Angana Kotokey		Chintan Research Foundation, New Delhi	India
21.	Anna Kirsanova	Independent Researcher	Pioneer Academics	Russia
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23.	Anwar Alam	Professor	Alatoo International University	India
24.	Anwar Shahab	Associate Professor	Karim City College	India
25.	Aradhana Misra	Professor	Ambalika Institute of Management and Technology	India
26.	Attila Joos	Assistant Professor	Eötvös Loránd University	Hungary
27.	Bálint Timár	PhD Student	University of Public Service	Hungary
28.	Belay Asmare Aragaw	PhD Student	University of Pecs	Hungary
29.	Burim Ramadani	PhD Student	South East European University	Macedonia
30.	Büşra Özyüksel		Independent Researcher	
31.	Carlos Augusto Martins	Lecturer	Universidade Autónoma de Lisboa	Portugal
32.	Christian Ploberger	Lecturer	Rajamangala University of Technology Tawan OK, Bangkok	Thailand
33.	Chuchu Zhang	Associate Professor	Fudan University	China
34.	Danica Jane A. Araoarao		University of Santo Tomas	Philippines

35.	Daniel Haitas	Lecturer	University of Debrecen	Hungary
36.	Danilo D. Tan		University of Santo Tomas	Philippines
37.	Dávid Bartus	Associate Professor	Eötvös Loránd University	Hungary
38.	Dean Karalekas	Associate Professor	University of Lancashire	United Kingdom
39.	Dorotea López	Professor	University of Chile	Chile
40.	Ekrem OK	Assistant Professor	Ağrı İbrahim Çeçen University & Cesran International	Türkiye
41.	Emel Akcali	Associate Professor	King's College London	United Kingdom
42.	Emina Kovačić Ahmetović	Lecturer	University of Zagreb	Croatia
43.	Emre Demir	Associate Professor	TED University	Türkiye
44.	Erzsébet N. Rózsa	Professor	University of Public Service	Hungary
45.	Farzan Safari Sabet	PhD Student	University of Tehran	Iran
46.	Fedor Zolotarev	PhD Student	University of Pecs	Hungary
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48.	Ferenc Petruska	Associate Professor	Ludovika University of Public Service	Hungary
49.	Ferudun Yılmaz	Professor	Bursa Uludağ University	Türkiye
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59.	Jovan Ilijev Ciric	MA Student	King's College London	United Kingdom
60.	Judit Lenke Tóth	PhD Student	University of Pécs	Hungary
61.	Juliusz Sikorski	Assistant Professor	Jacob of Paradies University	Poland
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63.	Karel Franco Valansi	Lecturer	Istanbul Kültür University	Türkiye
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65.	Kerim Sert	Lecturer	Middle East Technical University	Türkiye
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67.	László Csicsmann	Professor	Corvinus University of Budapest	Hungary
68.	Lee Pei May		International Islamic University Malaysia	Malaysia

69.	Letitia Roman	PhD Student	Central European University	Austria
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71.	Luís Tomé	Professor	Universidade Autónoma de Lisboa	Portugal
72.	Maka Benashvili	Assistant Professor	Sulkhan-Saba Orbeliani University	Georgia
73.	Marcin Składanowski	Professor	The John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin	Poland
74.	Marcin Szott		Jacob of Paradies University	Poland
75.	Marco Marsili	Professor	CEI-Iscte – Centre for International Studies	Portugal
76.	Mariann Dömös	Assistant Professor	University of Pécs	Hungary
77.	Matthieu Grandpierron	Associate Professor	Catholic University of Vendée (ICES)	France
78.	Maurizio Geri	Lecturer	Ca' Foscari/GMU	Italy
79.	Maximilian Ohle	Professor	Catholic Institute of Vendee	France
80.	Mehmet Alkış	Associate Professor	Dicle University	Türkiye
81.	Meltem Hasançebi	Lecturer	Haliç University	Türkiye
82.	Mher D. Sahakyan	Professor	Eurasian Continent Research Association	Armenia
83.	Michael Cox	Professor	London School of Economics (LSE)	United Kingdom
84.	Miguel A. Salazar Urrutia	Lecturer	University of Rennes	France
85.	Mustafa Burak Şener	PhD Student	Eötvös Loránd University	Hungary
86.	Müge Palancı Keskin	Assistant Professor	İstanbul University	Türkiye
87.	Navodita-Kumari	PhD Student	University of Allahabad	India
88.	Neo Sithole	PhD Student	University of Szeged	Hungary
89.	Nicole Grell Macias Dalmiglio	PhD Student	São Paulo State University (UNESP)	Brazilia
90.	Nicholas J. Wheeler	Professor	University of Birmingham	United Kingdom
91.	Olga Zalesskaia	Professor	Blagoveschensk State Pedagogical University	Russia
92.	Oliwia Radkiewicz		Jacob of Paradies University	Poland
93.	Orazio Maria Gnerre	Independent Researcher	Institute for the History of the Italian Rirosgimento	Italy
94.	Özgür Tüfekçi	Professor	CESRAN International & Karadeniz Technical University	Türkiye
95.	Paula Luz	MA Student	Autonomous University of Lisbon	Portugal
	Pedro Baptista	PhD Student	Minho University	Portugal
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97.	Pelin Sönmez	Associate Professor	Kocaeli University	Türkiye
98.	Pengfei Xu	Lecturer	Univeristy of Manchester	United Kingdom
99.	Péter Rada	Professor	Metropolitan University of Budapest	Hungary
100.	Rabia Büyükpınar	Lecturer	Zonguldak Bülent Ecevit University	Türkiye

101.	Rahman Dag	Professor	CESRAN International & Marmara University	Türkiye
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103.	Rasha El Baz	Assistant Professor	NGU	Egypt
104.	Rashed Daher	Professor	Eötvös Loránd University	Hungary
105.	Saliha Mazlum	PhD Student	Zonguldak Bülent Ecevit University	Türkiye
106.	Salome Dundua	Professor	Tbilisi State University	Georgia
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110.	Sima Baidya	Assistant Professor	Jawaharlal Nehru University	India
111.	Sina Kısacık	Assistant Professor	Cyprus Aydın University	Cyprus
112.	Sina Samiee	PhD Student	ISCTE – University Institute of Lisbon	Portugal
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118.	Swati Kanwar	PhD Student	Jawaharlal Nehru University	India
119.	Syed Adnan Athar Bukhari	Assistant Professor	Quaid-i-Azam University	Pakistan
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121.	Tamar Tsertsvadze	Assistant Professor	Caucasus University	Georgia
122.	Tamas Dudlak	Lecturer	Eötvös Loránd University	Hungary
123.	Taner Zorbay	Lecturer	Middle East Technical University	Türkiye
124.	Tomasz Marcinkowski		Jacob of Paradies University	Poland
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126.	Tzu-Yu Chiou	Assistant Professor	Hsuan Chuang University	Taiwan
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131.	Vladimer Grdzlishvili	PhD Student	Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University	Georgia
132.	Yeghia Tashjian	Professor	American University of Beirut	Lebanon

133.	Yulieth Martinez Villalba	Independent Researcher	Ministry of Foreign Policy of Colombia	Colombia
134.	Zehra Yılmaz		Van Yüzüncü Yıl University	Türkiye
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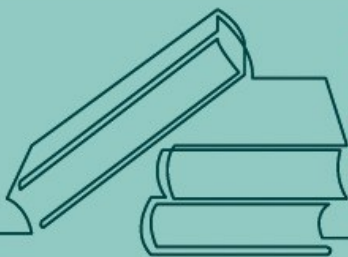
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13

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