

**29<sup>th</sup> György Ránki Hungarian Chair Symposium**

**Landscape, Environment and Society:  
Environmental Issues in Hungary  
Past and Present**



**Saturday-Sunday, April 4-5, 2009**

**Kelley School of Business Graduate and Executive Education Center  
Room 1008; 1275 E. 10<sup>th</sup> St.; Indiana University, Bloomington**

The György Ránki Hungarian Chair Symposium is sponsored by the Indiana University György Ránki Chair in Hungarian Studies, School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Department of Central Eurasian Studies, Office of the Vice President for International Affairs, Inner Asian and Uralic National Resource Center, and Russian and East European Institute.

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**SATURDAY, April 4, 2009**

8:30-9:00 Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:00-9:30 **Welcoming Remarks**

**Denis Sinor**, Distinguished Professor Emeritus, Central Eurasian Studies Department, Indiana University

**Patrick O'Meara**, Vice President for International Affairs, Professor, Department of Political Science and School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University

**István Mezei**, Consul General of the Republic of Hungary in Chicago

9:30-10:25 **Distinguished Lecture**

*Visegrad Group--Twenty Years of Transformation: Achievements, Sustainability, Challenges*

**Zbigniew Bochniarz**, Visiting Professor, Evans School of Public Affairs, University of Washington

Coffee break

10:45-12:00 **Panel I: *Trans-boundary and Global Challenges: Environmental Policy in Post-communist Hungary and East-Central Europe***

Chair: Roman Zlotin, Senior Lecturer, Department of Geography, Indiana University

*The Politics of Russian Natural Gas Exports to Europe*

**Matthew R. Auer**, Dean, Hutton Honors College, and Professor, School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University

*Trans-boundary Water Pollution Issues in the Carpathian Drainage System*

**Kerry Krutilla**, Associate Professor, School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University

Coffee break

12:15-1:30 **Panel II: *Sustainability: Nostalgia, Utopia or Reality?***

Chair: Kerry Krutilla, Associate Professor, School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University

*Connecting the Global with Local in Central Europe: Integrated Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation to Climate Change in Hungary's Lake Balaton Region*

**László Pintér**, Director of the Measurement and Assessment Program of the International Institute for Sustainable Development, Winnipeg

*Systems Theory and Ecological Settlement Design: A Pilot Project in Rural Hungary*

**Béla Borsos**, Freelance Environmental Expert and Human Ecologist, Hungary

Lunch

2:30-3:20 **Keynote address**

*Transition toward Sustainability: Myth or Reality in Central and Eastern Europe*

**István Pomázi**, Geographer, Chief Adviser, Ministry of Environment and Water, Budapest, and Vice-Chair of OECD Environment Policy Committee

Coffee break

- 3:40-5:40 **Panel III: *Politics of Environmentalism***  
 Chair: István Pomázi, Geographer, Chief Adviser, Ministry of Environment and Water, Budapest, and Vice-Chair of OECD Environment Policy Committee  
*From Democratization to Globalization to Justice: Political Generations and Micro-Cohorts in Hungarian Environmentalism since the 1980s*  
**Krista Harper**, Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Massachusetts  
*A Tale of Two Landscapes: Comparing Environmental Movements in Slovakia and Hungary*  
**Edward Snajdr**, Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, John Jay College, The City University of New York  
*Reclaiming the Streets of Budapest: Redefining Democracy--Reflections on the Embodied Politics of the Critical Mass Bicycle Movement in Budapest*  
**Éva Tessza Udvarhelyi**, Graduate Student, Environmental Psychology Graduate Center, The City University of New York

**SUNDAY, April 5, 2009**

- 8:30-9:00 Registration and Continental Breakfast
- 9:00-10:50 **Panel IV: *Environment, Landscape Ecology and the Cultural Landscape***  
 Chair: Daniel Knudsen, Professor, Department of Geography, Indiana University  
*Human-Nature Interaction and the Medieval History of Landscape in Hungary*  
**József Laszlovszky**, Archeologist, Professor, Department of Medieval Studies, Central European University, Budapest  
*Subsistence Systems Changes in Hungary during Modern Times*  
**Lajos Rácz**, Historian, Geographer, Professor, History Department, JATE, Szeged  
*Rivers, Marshes and Farmlands: Some Perspectives of Research on the Ecological History of Hungary*  
**Balázs Borsos**, Anthropologist, Geologist, Institute of Ethnology of Hungarian Academy of Sciences and Anthropology Department, University of Miskolc
- Coffee break
- 11:10-1:00 **Panel V: *Landscape as Metaphor***  
 Chair: Michelle Facos, Department of Art History, Indiana University  
*Landscape in Romantic Travel Writing*  
**Péter Nemes**, Literary Historian, Visiting Scholar, Central Eurasian Studies Department, Indiana University, and Associate Professor, American Public University Systems  
*Landscape and its People—the Visual Invention of “Hungarianness”*  
**Ágnes Fülemile**, Hungarian Chair Visiting Professor, Central Eurasian Studies Department, Indiana University, and Institute of Ethnology, Hungarian Academy Of Sciences  
*Bartók’s “Nature Music,” Ecomusicology, and the Hungarian Tradition*  
**Lynn Hooker**, Assistant Professor of Hungarian Studies, Central Eurasian Studies Department, Indiana University
- 1:00 **Closing Remarks**  
**Toivo Raun**, Professor, Central Eurasian Studies Department, Indiana University
- Lunch

## **Auer, Matthew R.**

Dr. Matthew Auer is Dean of the Hutton Honors College and Professor of International Environmental Affairs at the School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University. He is also the former editor-in-chief of the public policy journal, *Policy Sciences*. Dr. Auer has published more than 45 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters in the arenas of environmental policy, sustainable development, and foreign aid. In 2004, he published the edited volume, *Restoring Cursed Earth: Appraising Environmental Policy Reforms in Eastern Europe and Russia* (Rowman & Littlefield Press) which was nominated for the International Studies Association's Sprout Award for best book in global environmental studies. Dr. Auer is also a frequent commentator on environmental issues, and his opinions have appeared in the *New York Times*, *Chicago Tribune*, *USA Today*, *Miami Herald*, and *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, among other news outlets. Dr. Auer has taught at Indiana University since 1996 where he has earned more than ten teaching awards, including the President's Award for Teaching Excellence. For more than 15 years, Dr. Auer has helped U.S. federal agencies formulate, implement, and appraise foreign aid programs dealing with environmental protection, environmental and energy technology policy, and sustainable development. For the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and other agencies, he has developed and administered energy and environmental programs, served as a technical expert in international environmental negotiating fora, and conducted end-of-program energy and environmental audits. Between 2001 and 2005, Dr. Auer served on the U.S. delegation to the United Nations Forum on Forests. At the U.N., he negotiated global-scale, legally non-binding arrangements governing aid for the forest sector. He also helped the U.S. Forest Service and Council for Environmental Quality develop the President's Initiative against Illegal Logging – a multi-year, multi-million dollar strategy to combat illegal harvesting of timber products and corruption in the forest sector in Latin America, Africa, and Asia. Dr. Auer has also served on or led accreditation teams that have evaluated academic programs in public affairs and environmental studies in countries as diverse as the United Arab Emirates and Macedonia. Dr. Auer earned a bachelor's degree from Harvard University in biological anthropology, a master of arts in law and diplomacy from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, and a Ph.D. in Forestry and Environmental Studies from Yale University.

### ***The Politics of Russian Natural Gas Exports to Europe***

In the winter of 2009, a price dispute over natural gas between Russia and Ukraine left Europeans shivering. Some European countries are 100 percent dependent on Russia for their natural gas supplies. The main transit route for the gas passes through Ukraine. Hungary is comparatively lucky in that only (!) 50-60% of its gas comes from Russia. Haggling over prices is only part of the reason that Russia and Ukraine periodically fight over gas. But the consequences for downstream customers are always the same: when Russian supplies are cut, European countries deplete their existing stockpiles of gas and they hope Russia and Ukraine can promptly work out their differences. This is a precarious arrangement and Europe is struggling to find a solution to its long-term energy security problems. This presentation considers both the problem of European dependency on Russian gas as well as prospective alternatives solutions.

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## **Bochniarz, Zbigniew (Distinguished Speaker)**

Dr. Zbigniew Bochniarz has been affiliated as Visiting Professor with Evans School of Public Affairs at the University of Washington in Seattle since July 2007. He was Visiting Professor and Senior Fellow at the University of Minnesota since January 1986 – first with the H. H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota (until end of June 2006) and later with the Labovitz School of Management and Economic at the University of Minnesota-Duluth. At the beginning of 1990s, he founded a Center for Nations in Transition at the Humphrey Institute that became an international leader in designing and delivering foreign assistance program for Central and Eastern Europe in areas of educational, environmental and institutional reforms for sustainable development.

His teaching and research focus on strategies for sustainable development, and economic, environmental and social aspects of sustainability of the transformation processes in post-communist

countries. Dr. Bochniarz earned his Ph.D. degree from Warsaw School of Economics in Poland, where he had been faculty member for 17 years. He is also teaching frequently executive and graduate programs for business and public leaders in the European Union and Japan and providing consulting services for organizations from three economic sectors. Since 2005, Dr. Bochniarz is affiliated faculty of the Harvard Business School for delivery of their program on Microeconomics of Competitiveness.

In 2000, University of Miskolc (Hungary) awarded him an Honorary Doctorate (*Doctor Honoris Causa*). He also holds an Honorary Professorship at the following European Universities: University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn (Poland), Silesian University of Technology in Gliwice (Poland) and Technical University of Cluj-Napoca (Romania).

He is the author, co-author and/or editor over 100 publications, including 15 books published on three continents in 12 languages, e.g. *Globalization, Clustering and Innovations: Some Regional Aspects* (2008), *The Environment and Sustainable Development in the New Central Europe* (2006, 2008), *Building Institutional Capacity for Biodiversity and Rural Sustainability* (2004), *Building Management Education in Ukraine: An Action Update* (2003), *Poland and East Central Europe after Ten Years of Transition* (2001), *Policy Implications of European Integration for Polish Agriculture* (2000).

### ***Visegrad Group - Twenty Years of Transformation: Achievements, Sustainability, Challenges***

Twenty years of the transformation process in the four leaders of the Visegrad Group (VG) – Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia - is the pretext to evaluate them from a comparative perspective of other transforming economies and old European Union (EU-15) members. These four countries set the initial benchmarks for other transforming nations from the beginning. What are their major achievements – economic, social, environmental, and political? Are they sustainable? Does the VG still play a role-model for other transforming economies? Did they narrow the development gap to the EU-15? What are the current challenges and how do they cope with them? What are the main lessons learned from the VG transformation? These are the main questions the author will try to address.

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### **Borsos, Balázs**

Balázs Borsos obtained his MA in geology and geography in 1987 at the Eötvös University of Budapest. He graduated as ethnographer at the same institution in 1988 and as video-editor in 1993. He got a diploma of non-fiction director at the Hungarian Academy of Drama and Film in 1996. He is CSc. of ethnography, a degree he reached in 1994. He has been working at the Institute of Ethnology of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences for more than 20 years, since 1999 as senior research fellow. He became deputy director of the institute in 2002. His main research interest lies in visual and ecological anthropology, ethno-cartography, and African ethnology. He shot some non-fiction films in Hungary, Romania, Peru and Bolivia, and he did fieldwork in East Africa, Ukraine and Hungary. He is (co-)author of five volumes and several articles in Hungarian, English and German.

### ***Rivers, Marshes & Farmlands: Some Perspectives of Research on the Ecological History of Hungary***

In the last millennium one of the most important changes in the natural environment in the Hungarian Lowland was the process of regulation of rivers. Although the Lowland was formed by the accumulation activities of two main rivers Duna (Danube) and Tisza (Theiss), the former runs on the edge of the lowland, while the latter flows through the middle of it. Consequently, the regulation of the Tisza and its tributaries had a much more widespread effect on the environment and so this process is worth a survey from the point of view of historical ecology/environmental history. The regulation initiated a dramatic change in the adaptation strategies of the people living along the rivers.

On both sides of the river from the foothills of the Carpathian Mountains to the meeting of the Tisza and the Danube the main branch of economy was agriculture even before the regulation. However, this activity was accompanied with a many-sided use of the flood areas (pasturing, fishing, gathering) and was influenced basically by natural factors, mainly altitude and geomorphology. After channelization and drainage soil-conditions became important, but these had only a restricting role. The influence of the natural environment was decreasing, while that of the economic and the social environment was growing.

The paper investigates the steps and characteristics of this process concentrating on the changes in land-use patterns of the area. It chooses examples from the so-called Bodrogköz in the northeast part of

the lowland. As a conclusion, it tries to underline some factors that should be taken into consideration in the sustainable development of the Tisza Valley in the 21st century as well.

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### **Borsos, Béla**

Born in 1958 in Budapest, Dr. Béla Borsos graduated from the University of Veterinary Sciences in Budapest in 1982. After a brief period spent as country veterinarian, Dr. Borsos worked for the National Institute of Radiobiology and Radiohygiene for three years. He was a free lance photojournalist from 1987 to 1990. He held a position of Assistant Lecturer at the Department for Animal Husbandry at the University of Veterinary Sciences in the 1990s. He was an Environmental Consultant to the Regional Environmental Centre for Central and Eastern Europe (1990-1992) and Advisor to the parliamentary fraction of the Alliance of Young Democrats (FIDESZ) from 1990 to 1993. He received the Eisenhower Exchange Fellowships on the Multinational Program of 1994. He taught human ecology at the Eötvös Lóránd University of Sciences from 1995 and at the University of Pécs from 2000 on. His main field of interest is ecological systems theory. Dr. Borsos has worked since 1995 as a free lance technical translator and interpreter. He is a member of the Hungarian environmentalist movement and founder of the Gyűrűfü eco-village. He is the author of several books and university text books, contributed to the creation of the Hungarian Environmental Encyclopedia and the Hungarian-English Environmental Dictionary. He earned his PhD. at the Institute of Geography of the University of Pécs in 2008.

#### ***Systems Theory and Ecological Settlement Design: A Pilot Project in Rural Hungary***

General systems theory is a scientific discipline taking a different view compared to reductionist science based on systems, connections and processes. The emerging new field of human ecology, which tries to reconcile natural systems with human made ones, draws boldly on that wealth of knowledge. One of the methods to confront the challenges of the worldwide ecological crisis is the implementation of the resulting sustainable development principles at the rural development level. In Southwest Hungary, the sparsely populated small village region of Zselic is the location of a small-scale sustainable settlement development project at the abandoned former village site, Gyűrűfü. Over the past fifteen years, ecological design principles such as Permaculture dominated the resettlement of the area by a small number of ecologically conscious city dwellers-turned-villagers. Ecological landscape assessment of the site preceded the actual design of the sustainable settlement development project providing the grounds for proper siting and implementation methods of the various facilities. Alternative solutions were applied to the functions of building construction, building engineering, water management, agriculture, sewage treatment, waste management and gardening.

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### **Fülemile, Ágnes**

Dr. Ágnes Fülemile is Senior Research Fellow and Head of the Historical Ethnography Department at the Institute of Ethnology of Hungarian Academy of Sciences. Currently she is spending her third year as the Visiting György Ránki Chair of Hungarian Studies at IU, Bloomington. She holds university degrees in History of Art, History and Ethnography from ELTE University, Budapest. She has a Ph.D in Ethnography from ELTE, Budapest and an M. Phil in the History of Dress from the Courtauld Institute of Art, University of London. Since 1990 she has been a regular lecturer at University of California's Education Abroad Program at ELTE, Budapest and at the Study Abroad Program of CIEE (Council on International Educational Exchange) at the Budapest University of Economics. She was Fulbright grantees at the Anthropology Department of UC Berkeley and another half a year at the Costume Institute of the Metropolitan Museum of Arts, New York. In 1999 she was a visiting professor at the Hungarian Institute of Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey.

Her research interests include: contemporary social processes, acculturation of peasant culture, historical and recent problems of ethnicity, identity issues, 16-19<sup>th</sup> century popular graphics, visual stereotypes, creation of national culture, national symbols and dress. She has done extensive fieldwork in several rural communities in Hungary and in Transylvania.

### ***Landscape and its People – the Visual Invention of “Hungarianness”***

The presentation looks at the main topics, motifs, “messages” and schools of 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> landscape and genre painting in Hungarian art. It highlights the invention of romantic visual toposes as part of a process of culture and identity building and tries to understand how and why these visual conventions have deep impact, wide popularity and still define stereotypical images of Hungary (both self-image and how others look at us) in a complex visual environment.

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### **Harper, Krista**

Dr. Krista Harper is Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology and the Center for Public Policy and Administration (CPPA) at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Author of the book, *Wild Capitalism: Environmental Activism and the Transformation from State Socialism in Hungary* (2006, East European Monographs/Columbia), her research interests include the ethnographic study of social movements for environment and health. Her current research project investigates environmental issues and health disparities faced by Roma (Gypsy) communities in Hungary. She holds a PhD in anthropology from the University of California, Santa Cruz and has also studied at Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest, Hungary. Professor Harper is the recipient of research fellowships from the Fulbright Commission, the National Science Foundation, the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, the International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX), the American Anthropological Association, and the University of Massachusetts. She recently served as the chair of the American Anthropological Association's Hungarianist Research Group and as co-editor of the journal *Anthropology of Eastern Europe Review*. Professor Harper has briefed the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (UNCESCR) in Geneva and served as a consultant for HEAL (Health and Environment Alliance) and the Regional Environmental Center. Her articles have appeared in the journals *American Anthropologist*, *Science as Culture*, and *Anthropological Quarterly*.

### ***From Democratization to Globalization to Justice: Political Generations and Micro-cohorts in Hungarian Environmentalism from the 1980s to the 2000s***

This presentation explores the political identities and strategies that appeared over the course of several key moments in the Hungarian environmental movement. Using sociologist Nancy Whittier's concept of "political generations," I discuss the rise of democratic environmentalism in the 1980s, the shift to a more professionalized and globally oriented activist stance in the 1990s, and the emergence of social justice frames associated with the newest cohort of environmental activists of the 2000s.

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### **Hooker, Lynn**

Dr. Lynn Hooker is Assistant Professor of Hungarian Studies and Adjunct Assistant Professor of Musicology and Ethnomusicology at Indiana University. She teaches courses on various aspects of Hungarian culture and has published on issues of nation, race, modernity, and authenticity in the music of Hungary and its diaspora, particularly in the work of Béla Bartók and Ferenc Liszt, in the Hungarian folk revival, and in performances by Romani (Gypsy) musicians in Hungarian settings. She is currently completing a book titled *Redefining Hungarian Music from Liszt to Bartók* on the transformation of discourses on Hungarian music in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

### ***Bartók's “Nature Music,” Ecomusicology, and the Hungarian Tradition***

The term “ecomusicology” has come into use in recent years to refer to “the study of the intellectual and practical connections between the studies of music, culture and nature.” This new subfield has been developed primarily by North American scholars and through the study of North American compositions, although there has also been a recent wave of German-language scholarship on links between music and nature. Béla Bartók's well-known love for nature makes him an obvious candidate for the application of these ideas, yet the context in which he worked, early twentieth-century Hungary, and the prominent role

he gave to humans in his “sonic vision” of the natural world, through his use of folk music, presents certain challenges to these theories. This paper represents a preliminary exploration of the usefulness of an ecomusicological reading of Bartók’s oeuvre within the Central European context.

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### **Krutilla, Kerry**

Dr. Kerry Krutilla is a faculty member in the School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University-Bloomington. His current research focuses in the areas of cost-benefit analysis and environmental policy, environmental program evaluation, and natural resource management in transitional economies and developing countries. He currently teaches graduate courses in cost-benefit analysis and managerial economics, and has also taught courses in environmental economics, energy policy, and sustainable development. Professor Krutilla provides or has provided contract research or consulting services to a variety of government agencies and organizations, including the United States Agency for International Development; the U.S. Department of State; the U.S. Department of Energy; the Economic Research Service of the United States Department of Agriculture; the World Bank; and the (former) Harvard Institute for International Development.

### ***Environmental Degradation of the Tisza River: Impacts and Policy Challenges in the Carpathian Drainage Basin***

The Tisza River is the main waterway within the Carpathian drainage basin, channeling waters from a 157,218-sq.-km area within Slovakia, Ukraine, Romania, Hungary, Slovakia, and Serbia-Montenegro. In the last century, the region has undergone momentous social and economic change. One byproduct has been environmental degradation to the region’s waterways. The sources of environmental harm are many. Channelization and wetland destruction have led to both flooding and drought of the Tisza river, often in the same year. Land use practices have decreased land productivity and increased water runoff and siltation. Point-source industrial pollution and accidental dumping have led to chemical changes in the Tisza river. A tailings pond at a Romanian mining operation burst in 2000, dumping approximately 100,000 m<sup>3</sup> of cyanide and heavy metal-rich wastewater into the river.

The region has traditionally put economic development ahead of environmental protection, but this may be changing. Since the early 1990’s, the countries in the Carpathian basin have signed an increasing number of bilateral and multilateral agreements concerning the environmental health of the region’s waterways. Romanian, Hungarian, and Slovakian membership in the EU also promises to bring a more coordinated approach to water pollution control in the region. Still, questions remain about the effectiveness of environmental policy in the Carpathian basin.

This paper outlines the current environmental challenges to the Tisza River, summarizes the legal frameworks and bilateral agreements designed to aid its recovery, and discusses environmental concerns in the context of transboundary and ethnic tensions in the region.

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### **Laszlovszky, József**

Dr. József Laszlovszky is Professor in the Medieval Studies Department at the Central European University (CEU), Budapest. He holds university degrees in archaeology and history from Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest. He earned his CSc of Hungarian Academy of Sciences in the field of Medieval Studies (European Medieval History) in 1992. He has been teaching since 1983 and was also head of the Department of Medieval and Post-Medieval Archaeology at the Institute of Archaeology of the Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest. He was also head of the Department of Medieval Studies at CEU. He was director and co-director of various archaeological excavations and field projects at Visegrád (Hungary), Mont Beuvray and Senlis (France), Ravenna (Italy) and Koh Ker (Cambodia). In 2007, he was guest professor at Sienna University. His research interests include medieval and post-medieval archaeology, landscape studies and cultural heritage. He has published articles and edited books on medieval archaeology, every-day life and material culture, environmental and landscape history and archaeology, monastic culture and on medieval economic history. He was director of CEU Summer University Courses

on endangered cultural heritage, medieval crusades and military orders and on the interdisciplinary research related to the emergence of medieval Europe. He is currently working to create a major long-term environmental research co-operation on the Danube river.

### ***Human-Nature Interaction and the Medieval History of Landscape in Hungary***

The aim of this paper is to discuss various archaeological and historical methods and to highlight some of the basic principles, distorting factors and interpretational problems of historical-environmental analysis. Furthermore, it will analyze in what ways historical sources and written evidence can be confronted with archaeological finds related to landscape and environmental data gleaned from such materials.

Environmental-historical studies related to the Middle Ages seem to be a very thought-provoking field of investigation, particularly in the context of confronting written and non-written evidence. The relative richness of historical source materials allowed scholars from the last decades of the twentieth century to reconstruct historical landscape features in different areas of Hungary. At the same time, more recent landscape archaeological studies have produced significant results for the reconstruction of complex medieval landscapes, such as „monastic landscapes” or „landscapes of medieval royal power.” These historical landscape studies can also be confronted with the growing number of environmental-historical, environmental-archaeological data sets. As a result of this a new approach, the new economic history of medieval Hungary, has been recently published, an interdisciplinary project carried out by a large group of scholars. This paper will also summarize the main methodological results of this new investigation and propose new research fields for future investigation.

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### **Nemes, Péter**

Dr. Péter Nemes is Associate Professor of Literature at the American Public University and Visiting Research Scholar at the Central Eurasian Studies Department, Indiana University, Bloomington. He earned his Ph.D at the Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, with a dissertation on deconstruction and romanticism, which was published in the year of its defense, 2004. His current research is centered upon the comparative study of landscape aesthetics. He has published in Hungarian and English in the field of literature and literary theory and has been active as a translator for over 10 years, with seven translated books published.

### ***Landscape in Romantic Travel Writing***

Travel writing is a premier mode of writing about surroundings—be they domestic or exotic, physical or cultural, real or imagined. Because of its engagement with both the physical environment and the cultural environment, most importantly through the discussions of identity and otherness, the genre has played an important role in the construction of distinct national identities all around Europe. An examination of Hungarian travel writing from the 19<sup>th</sup> century, along with parallels from European sources should help in defining an important chapter in Hungarian literary and cultural history.

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### **Pintér, László**

Dr. László Pintér is Director of the Measurement and Assessment Program of the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), headquartered in Winnipeg, Canada ([www.iisd.org](http://www.iisd.org)). Having joined IISD in 1994 and serving as Program Director since 2003, his role is to provide strategic leadership to an international team of high caliber professionals and ensure program influence according to IISD’s overall vision and mission. His main interest is in addressing today’s fundamental challenges to sustainability by changing the way we measure progress and by crafting and implementing effective sustainable development strategies. Over his career he has worked on conceptual and applied aspects of these issues with many organizations, ranging from various UN and aid agencies and development banks to rural communities on four continents. He holds a Ph.D from the University of Minnesota in the United States, a Master of Natural Resources Management from the University of Manitoba, Canada, and an M.Sc. in Agronomy from St. Stephen University in Hungary. During 2000-01 he spent ten months as a Global

Environmental Assessment Practitioner Fellow at the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, where he carried out research on the relationship between global integrated environmental assessment system design and effectiveness. He makes his home with his wife and three children in Winnipeg, Canada and Győrújbaráthegy, Hungary.

***Connecting the Global with Local in Central Europe: Integrated Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation to Climate Change in Hungary's Lake Balaton region***

Developing adaptive responses to the combined effects of local and global forces of change, including but not limited to climate change has unique challenges in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, including Hungary. Between 2000 and 2004 Hungary's Lake Balaton experienced a sustained period of water shortage that captured the attention of the country and the media beyond national borders. Initially inspired by these problems and supported by the GEF, a joint project was initiated by the Lake Balaton Development Coordination Agency (LBDCA), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)/GRID Geneva and IISD to map the sources of current and emerging vulnerability, to identify adaptation options, and to introduce adaptation measures through LBDCA's grant program. The project builds on the design of UNEP's Global Environment Outlook (GEO) integrated environmental assessment (IEA) approach, combining a retrospective analysis of regional trends with a forward looking projection of stresses and exposures. A series of dialogues with local experts and stakeholders was used to develop an integrated indicator system, to identify specific vulnerabilities and potential adaptation measures. The indicator system and other information tools are being made available through an innovative web-portal to the general public. The dialogues revealed that locals already observe the effects of climate change and take some adaptive measures, but aware that regionally and locally effective adaptation would require higher level policy incentives. The limited trust in public institutions to undertake and support widespread adaptation measures was in contrast to the enthusiastic interest in open local or regional level dialogue about the problem and possible solutions.

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**Pomázi, István** (Keynote Speaker)

Dr. István Pomázi is a geographer and Chief Adviser of Ministry of Environment and Water, Budapest, Hungary. He is a Vice-Chair of OECD Environment Policy Committee (elected first for 1997-2000 and re-elected in 2006) and Vice-Chair of Working Party on Environmental Performance since 2001. Since 2002, he has been member of Board of Directors of the Regional Environmental Centre for Central and Eastern Europe founded by the Hungarian Government, U.S. Government and European Communities.

In 1988, he defended his doctoral thesis at the Budapest University of Sciences Eötvös Loránd (ELTE) in the field of regional economic geography dealing with „Main trends of regional development in the European Economic Community.” In 1995, he received the Ph.D degree in earth sciences (economic geography), defending his thesis on „Territorial aspects of environmental policy in Hungary.” In 2008, he gave two “Doctor habilitus” lectures at ELTE: “Chinese environmental policy” and “Regional material flows and environmental consequences” and received the “Dr. habil.” degree. In the last 20 years, he was author, co-author and editor of more than 20 books and 150 articles in Hungarian and foreign languages on strategic planning, environmental policy of European Union, OECD countries, China and Hungary, regional policy and environmental economics, indicators and social metabolism including sustainable use of natural resources and material flow analysis.

***Transition Toward Sustainability: Myth or Reality in Central and Eastern Europe***

Twenty years after the fall of the Berlin Wall and five years after the biggest EU enlargement it is worth to taking stock of the transition experiences of Central and Eastern European countries in the context of sustainable development. The presentation focuses on the main economic, social, environmental and institutional aspects of sustainable development in CEE region, in particular in Hungary. The key challenges of the region are common: how to respond to global financial and economic crisis while avoiding deep social tensions and protecting the environment and natural values for future generations.

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## **Rácz, Lajos**

Dr. Lajos Rácz studied history and geography at the Szeged University (Hungary) He has specialized on climate reconstruction based on documentary sources in his early university years and this has remained his main field of research. He received his Ph.D in 1995 and a doctorate of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in 2004. He has worked with fellowships in important research centers of European environmental history such as the Historical Institute of Bern University under the tutorship of Christian Pfister and the Geographical Institute of Masaryk University in Brno with Rudolf Brázdil. He is a professor at Szeged University, founding member of European Society for Environmental History and member of Executive Board.

### ***Subsistence Systems Changes in Hungary During Modern Times***

During modern times the population of the Carpathian Basin, for political and environmental reasons, was bound to the fundamental alterations of the prevailing subsistence system. In the course of the 16th and the 17th centuries the country became a borderland between the Habsburg and the Ottoman Empires. The regional effects of the Little Ice Age were aggravated by the armies' destructive activities. Moreover, the climate turned cooler and wetter, and owing to this a vigorous increase occurred in the water surfaces. To the nearly two centuries' long warfare, the environmental effects and the European economic environment Hungary adapted with cattle breeding and exports. Cattle exports reached 250,000 at the end of the 16<sup>th</sup> century, and the country's economic unity remained in spite of the fact that it had disintegrated politically. Following the termination of the Turkish wars Hungary became the part of Central European Habsburg Empire. It was necessary to tackle the country's sudden increase of population in this new political environment (18th century: from 4 to 10 million) and the adverse effects of the Little Ice Age. The reorganization of the country continued in an extensive manner until the end of first third of the 19th century. By 1830 it became clear that the introduction of social and farming reforms was inevitable.

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## **Snajdr, Edward**

Dr. Edward Snajdr (Ph.D U Pittsburgh) is an Associate Professor of Anthropology at John Jay College, City University of New York. His research interests include violence, ethnicity, gender, environmentalism, and applying anthropological perspectives in the fields of development, legal reform and criminology. He has conducted fieldwork throughout post-communist Eurasia (Slovakia, Kazakhstan, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Romania, Russia and the Czech Republic) and in the U.S. (Florida and New York City). His work has been funded by the National Science Foundation, U.S. Department of State, Fulbright IIIE, International Research & Exchanges Board (IREX), and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). His publications include articles in the *American Ethnologist*, *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*, *Problems of Post-Communism*, and several book chapters including *Intellectuals and Politics in Central Europe* (CEU Press 2001), and *Democratic Policing in Transitional Societies* (Ashgate 2006). His book *Nature Protests: The End of Ecology After Communism* (University of Washington Press) was published in 2008. He is currently working on researching urban change, violence and social movements.

### ***A Tale of Two Landscapes: Comparing Environmental Movements in Slovakia and Hungary***

This paper broadly compares environmentalism in Hungary and Slovakia, with a specific focus on Slovakia's green movement under late-socialism and after. Nature activism in both countries was not directly controlled by the Party, and in each case individuals pushed the boundaries of activism and redefined notions of protest and dissent. But the way these two movements emerged was quite different from one another. In Hungary, the movement coalesced around a large-scale, "international" Soviet-style project. This was the flashpoint. The Nagymáros dam project was, from a Hungarian perspective, a monument of increasingly unhappy partnerships, an infringement, and a symbol that fueled nationalist rumblings. In Slovakia, the notion of mega-works was not an unwelcome idea. But the differences

between Hungarian and Slovak greens remain more than the story of a dam controversy. While Hungary's movement had its origins in the Danube River, Slovak greens emerged from the conservation of folk dwellings in the mountains: in Slovakia the weekend amateur, the Catholic, the writer, and the sociologist found traction in the landscape of human conservation. I explore these differences and examine how things have changed in the post-socialist period.

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## **Udvarhelyi, Éva Tessza**

Éva Tessza Udvarhelyi holds an MA in Cultural Anthropology from ELTE University, Budapest. Currently, she is a PhD student at the interdisciplinary Environmental Psychology Program at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York while she is teaching Urban Studies at Hunter College. Her main areas of scholarly work and activism include the social construction and production of public space, the politics of spatial inclusion and exclusion, and urban social movements. She has previously published in both Hungarian and English about the redefinition of a Budapest urban neighborhood in the face of a newly built shopping mall; the exclusion of homeless people from the public spaces of Budapest; the social circumstances of hypothermia; the role of applied and activist anthropology; and the transformational politics of a Hungarian grassroots housing advocacy group.

### ***Reclaiming the Streets of Budapest: Redefining Democracy--Reflections on the Embodied Politics of the Critical Mass Bicycle Movement in Budapest***

The Critical Mass bicycle movement is arguably the single most powerful grassroots movement that has emerged in Hungary since the change of regimes. With tens of thousands of participants twice a year, it is the largest among the more than 200 similar rides organized in cities all over the world. Although there are differences between the Critical Masses in the various cities and countries, one theme connects all the movements: their main aim is to reclaim the cyclists' right to use city streets freely, safely and proudly.

City spaces reflect, organize and embody the categories, boundaries, priorities and structures of a society. As urbanist Michael Sorkin put it, "the city ... produces citizenship through the repetitive confrontation of citizens with an environment that organizes its prejudices and privileges physically." At face value, Critical Mass is a critique of today's dominant motorized transportation practices as well as a celebration of alternative modes of transportation. However, the Critical Mass is not only about the environment. It is not even only about cycling. In fact, the Budapest Critical Mass can be read as the spatialized enactment of a direct and embodied form of democratic participation that goes beyond and at the same time transforms representative democracy.

In the context of growing political apathy and widespread disillusionment with the formal public sphere in post-socialist Hungary, in a matter of a few years Critical Mass has emerged as a unique and powerful channel of citizen participation. In my presentation, I am going to address some of the specificities of the new kind of relationship that Critical Mass is forging between citizens, civil society and the state by re-defining, among other things, the meanings of public space, protest, political engagement – and transportation.

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