



# G A Z E T T E

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## CEU ALUMNI IN THE SPOTLIGHT

As CEU begins its second decade the university can point with pride to an ever growing distinguished body of students and alumni. Most recent among these are the current Deputy Minister of the Environment and Water, Bulgaria, Fathme Musa Iliaz (LEGS, '96) who was appointed in August 2001, while in January 2002 Mailis Rand (LEGS, '98) was appointed Minister of Education and Science in the new Estonian coalition government. In March 2002 CEU Political Science PhD candidate and former Center for Policy Studies International Policy Fellow Péter Bajomi-Lázár was awarded the Pulitzer Memorial Award for his book *The Hungarian Media War*.

Fathme Musa Iliaz received a Master's degree in law from the Technical University in Varna (1992-1998), and an LLM in Comparative Constitutional Law at CEU in 1996-1997 (her thesis was on *Harmonization with the European Union in Environmental Law for Central and Eastern European Countries as a Necessary Precondition for Membership into the European Union*). From 1999-2000 she worked as an intern lawyer at the Varna District



Fathme Musa Iliaz



Mailis Rand



Péter Bajomi-Lázár

Court, going on to practice in 2000-2001 in Turgovishte, until her deputy ministerial appointment. She has written on a wide variety of topics including (1996) *Introduction to English Law*, London School of Economics; (1997) *Negotiations and Peacefully Solving Conflicts*, International Court in The Hague and Erasmus University, Rotherdam, Holland; (1997) *Federalism and Minority Problems*, Freiburg University, Switzerland and (1997) *Local Government and its Problems*, CEU, Budapest. Further papers include *Ecological Law of Spain and Portugal before their Admission to the European Council and After*, CEU, Budapest; *Comparison between the Constitutions of USA, France and Germany*, CEU, Budapest; and *Ethnoreligious Minorities in Bulgaria and their Problems* Freiburg University, Switzerland.

Twenty-seven-year-old Mailis Rand earned her CEU LLM in Comparative Constitutional Law in 1999. Before enrolling at CEU, she pursued undergraduate studies in Denmark, the United Kingdom and the United States, and received her bachelor's degree from University Nord in Tallinn, Estonia. After graduating from CEU, she earned

a second Master's degree, in European public affairs, from Maastricht University and the European Institute of Public Administration (2000). Mailis Rand is currently working on her PhD thesis on the topic of *International (Human Rights and Refugee) Law versus European (Asylum) Law: The Problem of Unaccompanied Child Asylum Seekers and Their Protection*. Her main academic interests include European Union

law and politics, public international and human rights law, and constitutional and administrative law.

Rand's international experience has included work with students in the UK and the US, and practice with an international NGO in Amsterdam, Holland, focusing on environmental protection and the rights of women and children.

Her publications include: (2000) *Protection of Refugee Women in International Law*, University Nord Transactions; (1999) *The Concept of Military Objectives in the Context of Current Crisis in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia*, Diena; (2000) *Social Policy. Equal Treatment of Women and Men: Equal Pay for the Two Sexes for the Same Work and for the Work Equal in Value*, Maastricht University; (2000) *Implementation of the Acquis Communautaire of European Union in the Field of Asylum and Immigration by Central and Eastern European Countries*, European Institute of Public Administration; (2000) *Adaptations of Asylum and Immigration System to the Criteria for the Membership of the European Union in Estonia*, European Institute of Public

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## UNIVERSITY REPORT

*A periodic summary of the most important developments that have taken place at CEU and which are relevant for the university community as a whole.*

### TO: CEU COMMUNITY

From: Planning and Budget Committee  
Budapest, January 16, 2002

Presented are some of the main developments since June 2001:

#### ❖ Meeting of the CEU Academic Senate: December 2001

The proposal for a PhD program in Environmental Sciences and Policy was approved. The program will start in fall 2002 and will be carried out in close cooperation with the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. Registration for this degree will be sought in New York and diplomas will be awarded by CEU.

The Senate approved unanimously the new membership of the Research Board as follows: Iván Szelényi (Chair), György Enyedi, Denis Galligan, Jacek Kochanowicz, Leif Danziger and Gisela Bock, plus a Planning and Budget Committee member, *ex officio*.

As part of the efforts aiming at improving CEU's management structure, it was agreed that the Academic Secretary's appointment will be within the Senate's prerogatives, upon proposal by the Rector. The Senate confirmed the appointment of the current Academic Secretary, Liviu Matei, for an unlimited period of time.

Within the university, the minutes of the Senate meeting can be consulted at [O:/Common/General/Senate/Minutes](#).

#### ❖ Promotions

György István Tóth was promoted to full Professor (Department of History).

#### ❖ Teaching Load of Heads of Programs Integrated into Departments

The Planning and Budget Committee decided that heads of programs integrated into departments will be awarded two credits per academic year.

#### ❖ Registration of CEU Degree Programs

The Education Department of the State of New York approved the registration of two new CEU PhD programs (in Economics and in Philosophy) and of two "older" Master's programs: the MA in International Relations and European Studies, previously "accredited" by the Open University London; and the MS in Environmental Sciences and Policy, previously "validated" by the University of Manchester. With this, all existing programs at the Budapest teaching site are authorized by the New York State Education Department, which creates a unified registration structure, as requested by the CEU Senate in 1999.

An application for the registration of the CEU-IMC MBA program was submitted in December 2001 to the New York State Education Department. As announced earlier, the new MBA program will start in fall 2002.

## TEPLÁN HONORED FOR DECADE OF SERVICE

"You have been one of the pillars of CEU since its inception," wrote CEU founder George Soros in a February 2002 letter celebrating István Teplán's ten years of service to the university. Teplán began at CEU as Director of Budgets and Planning, and was elected to his current position, Executive Vice-President, in 1996.



*István Teplán (left) and Yehuda Elkana at the gathering marking the presentation*

As Executive Vice-President, Teplán is in charge of the university's administrative and financial matters, overseeing all of CEU's administrative, support and service units. He is a member of the Board of Trustees and the Planning and Budget Committee, the body which governs day-to-day academic, administrative and financial matters.

At a small gathering on February 1, 2002, President and Rector Yehuda Elkana presented Teplán with the CEU Medal of Appreciation and, on behalf of the CEU community, thanked him for his ongoing contributions to the university.

## MIDDLE STATES ACCREDITATION CONTINUES

As part of the Middle States Accreditation Self Study procedure, between May 10 and 12 there will be a retreat held with the participation of students, faculty and administration representatives. Also present will be a number of "independent" staff observers who have been invited based on their experience and professional responsibilities. The retreat will take place in Misefa Castle, Northern Hungary, close to Zalaegerszeg.

## PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE RENAMED ERO

In line with expanded external relations responsibilities, CEU's Office of Public Affairs and Development has been renamed the Office of External Relations (ERO). The office will continue to be responsible for CEU's public relations activities, its institutional website, space scheduling and special event services, as well as for CEU/OSI-Budapest publications. In the area of external relations activities, ERO will provide liaison with the university's International Council and coordinate alumni fundraising outreach, together with the Alumni Affairs Office. In addition ERO will provide support services in the areas of fundraising research and profiling to the Office of the Executive Vice-President. Finally, the provision of publications and public relations support services for the International Management Center has been added to ERO's responsibilities.

# "STATE CAPACITY AND THE LEADING SECTOR OF ECONOMY IN POST-SOCIALIST EASTERN EUROPE"

*The first planning meeting of a research project by CEU and the Social Science Research Council*

The first planning meeting for the research project, led by Béla Greskovits (CEU, Head of the IRES Department) took place on February 4-5, 2002, in Budapest. The two-day discussion, jointly organized by Central European University and the Social Science Research Council (SSRC) proceeded along two lines. First, the conceptual background and the main hypotheses of the research were exposed to comments and debate. Second, the institutional set-up of the research was crafted including a task list for the second planning meeting at Yale University, scheduled for September 20-21, 2002.

## RESEARCH QUESTIONS AND HYPOTHESES

The main question which the research addresses is how the leading sectors of economy have shaped the developmental prospects of states in Central and Eastern Europe since 1989. With its interest in sectors and firms and their developmental impact, the project goes well beyond the often simplistic states-versus-markets debates, which have been dominant in the study of transformation so far. The new focus facilitates the collection, classification, and systematic exploration of a body of new quantitative and qualitative evidence on the micro-aspects of systemic change: dimensions of which our current knowledge is limited. The specific empirical context of post-socialist multi-sector economies, typically led by manufacturing activities, and exposed to various forms of rapid transnationalization of their economic and state actors, provides an ideal testing ground for sectoral analysis. However, to prepare the sectoral approach to better cope with the transnationalization of leading sectors and nation states the project combines it with alternative traditions of thought: on global commodity chains, on the bargaining between foreign firms and host country governments, and on the modes of sectoral governance.

To further specify and conceptually explore the crucial variables involved (including definition, measures and indicators) the participants of the planning meeting decided to set up four working groups to prepare statements for the proposal draft discussed at the second planning meeting, on: (1) the leading sector; (2) state capacity; (3) transnationalization; and (4) initial conditions. Following the second planning meeting the participants will finalize the resulting grant proposals and start, together with SSRC, the fundraising effort.

## MAIN PRINCIPLES OF RESEARCH ORGANIZATION

The research aims at a substantial training component directed at current PhD students and young faculty both from CEU and the involved US, West European and Eastern European universities. The main idea is to set up transcontinental/transregional research teams comprising students working on similar issue areas (e.g., heavy transnational manufacturing, national mining, or cotton production) in different regions (e.g., Russia and Brazil, or the US South and Uzbekistan, respectively). Supervised by a joint international team of senior and junior researchers these teams would serve as fora for discussion and hotbeds for new knowledge creation throughout the research period.

The meeting in Budapest has created the core of such a new network of academics from both sides of the Atlantic and both parts of Europe (and Eurasia) and has laid the essential foundation for launching a transnational research and training project with a great potential for new insights in the transformation of Central and Eastern Europe.

R. S.

## ALUMNI IN THE SPOTLIGHT *Continued from page 1*

Administration; (1999) *The Diaoyu/Senkaku Islands Dispute*, CEU, Budapest (CEU Master's thesis); (1998) *Feminist Critique of Estonian Law*, Tallinn Baccalaureate Private College.

Péter Bajomi-Lázár received his BA in French language and literature in 1995 and a further BA in English language and literature in 1996 from Janus Pannonius University in Pécs. His MA in Political Science from CEU was achieved in 1997; his thesis was on *Changing Concepts of Public Service in the British Broadcast Media*. Bajomi-Lázár is currently completing his PhD at CEU in political science on the freedom of the media in Hungary. Bajomi-Lázár's is the first book originating from research and publication supported

by the International Policy Fellowships program. *The Hungarian Media War* was awarded the "Hungarian Pulitzer Prize" on 10 March 2002. The Pulitzer Memorial Award was established in 1989-90 by Hungarian-American Paul Fábry, a participant in the 1944 anti-Nazi Hungarian resistance movement, to support independent, quality journalism in Hungary in honor of US Pulitzer Prize founder Joseph Pulitzer, who was born in Hungary in 1847. Together with media researchers including several other policy fellows, Bajomi-Lázár has also spearheaded the Press Freedom Center in Budapest, the *Media Researcher* journal, and a forthcoming book by CEU Press, *Reinventing Media*, which includes chapters by ten alumni and current media fellows from Central and Eastern Europe.

## WORKSHOP ON RANKING OPEN SOCIETIES



*Open society workshop participants (left to right)  
Jennifer Windsor, Executive Director of Freedom House,  
Rachel Guglielmo, Director of the OSI EU Accession Monitoring Program, and  
András Bozóki, Associate Professor, CEU Department of Political Science*

On February 7-8, a two-day workshop at CEU attempted to place a project to establish an international ranking of open societies, undertaken by the Center for Applied Policy Research (CAP), within the context of other country rankings and reports. The workshop intended to compare these projects, provide a forum for exchanging experiences and methodological approaches, and define what is unique and innovative about a country ranking of open societies.

Following an introductory presentation by Miklós Sükösd, Associate Professor at the CEU Department of Political Science, discussion centered on two themes: the definition of the meaning of "open society" in the study, and the scope of the project—that is, how many countries should be included.

The group reviewed democracy monitoring and ranking methods used by Freedom House, the Open Society Institute's EU Accession Monitoring Program, the Global Democracy Award and the Carl Bertelsmann Prize 2001. The methodological problems encountered by participants in these ranking projects, such as the difficulty of combining diverse lots of data, were often discovered to be similar. Participants agreed to cooperate in the future and pursue their discussion over the Internet.

The CAP working paper on an international ranking of societal openness is in the process of being rewritten, incorporating the comments and questions made during the workshop.

The workshop was organized jointly by the Center for Policy Studies (CPS) at Central European University and the Center for Applied Policy Research, which is located at the Ludwig-Maximilians University in Munich.

## IS CULTURE THE PROBLEM OF THE BALKANS?

On March 9, a public panel discussion on the topic "Is Culture the Problem of the Balkans?" was held at CEU. The event was organized by Blue Bird—Agenda for Civil Society in South-East Europe, an international research project coordinated by the Center for Policy Studies.

The main objective of the discussion was to present the interdisciplinary character of the Blue Bird Project to the wider public at CEU and the Open Society Institute, including the CPS International Policy Fellows, who were gathered at that time in Budapest. The event was neither an academic conference nor a presentation of the panelists' individual projects. Its aim was to demonstrate how problems are formulated and discussed within the framework of the Blue Bird Project. Four researchers from the project participated in the panel: Alina Mungiu-Pippidi, President of the Romanian Academic Society, Bucharest; Alexander Kiossev, Director of the Center for Advanced Study, Sofia; Georgy Ganev from Center for Liberal Strategies, Sofia; and Natalija Vrecer from the Institute for Ethnic Studies, Ljubljana. The panel chairman was Ivan Krastev, Blue Bird Project research coordinator and chair of the Center for Liberal Strategies, Sofia.

In the popular journalistic and politicians' discourse on the Balkans, one of the ever present and mostly unspoken assumptions is that economic and political failures in the region have

cultural explanations. A specific Balkan culture is blamed for the wars, backwardness, and deficit of modernity in the region. In most of the cases, this definition of culture is not defined, nor is it directly related to Orthodox Christianity or the region's Ottoman legacy. Is culture really the problem? And how is it possible to answer this question in the framework of a policy-oriented and interdisciplinary research project? The panel presented three different re-formulations of this question, and an illustrative case study coming from four different individual projects in the four Blue Bird research groups.

Panelists were asked to answer the following questions: how does the Blue Bird Project's economic group conceptualize culture in its study of the obstacles to economic growth? How does the weakness of the state relate to the notion of a specific Balkan culture? In other words, does the notion of a specific Balkan culture explain present conditions in the region, or is it a way to label institutional failures and policy mistakes in this part of Europe?

Two CPS International Policy Fellows, Daniel Smilov from Bulgaria and Dusan Pavlovic from Yugoslavia, started the discussion by commenting on the presentations. The ultimate goal of the debate was to challenge the established stereotypes present in the discourse on the Balkans.

Established in mid-2001, the CEU Humanities Center is already making its mark at the university with a series of scholarly ventures and public events. Three extremely successful workshops, for example, have been organized and hosted by the Humanities Center. First, in cooperation with the Open Society Institute (OSI) and the CEU Special and Extension Programs Office (SEP), the center organized a workshop on "Civil Society – A Transatlantic Dialogue" at which a fundamental goal of the center was met: leading theorists met representatives of non-governmental organizations to conduct a fruitful and highly original debate focusing on global and local meanings and problems of civil society. An edited version of the workshop proceedings is already available on the Soros foundations network website at: [www.soros.org/individual\\_fellows/dialogue.pdf](http://www.soros.org/individual_fellows/dialogue.pdf)

Another event, convened by CEU University Professor András Sajó of the Department of Legal Studies, brought together prominent researchers from the region and from the US to discuss questions concerning "Universalism and Local Knowledge in Human Rights." A fascinating discussion resulted in the commitment of participants to become involved in a longer project and the expression of a shared conviction that the theme is not only theoretically interesting and challenging but also a very relevant and contemporary issue.

In January 2002, the center hosted a major event initiated by CEU University Professor Sally Humphreys. The workshop was called "Theory in Place: Beyond the Core-Periphery Model in Social Sciences." The topic reflected the dimension around which the Humanities Center is meant to work: that is, the "shifting boundary between the local and the universal." An impressive list of panelists from eight universities on three continents took part in the event. The workshop was preceded by a curriculum-development seminar for regional professors invited by CEU's Special and Extension Programs, examining the curricula and syllabi of the "Theory in Place" participants.

Reflecting the Humanities Center's policy of offering administrative support for CEU University Professors, the center also helped organizing a joint course by Sally Humphreys and Gábor Betegh. The course on "Philosophy and Religion" was cross-listed by the Departments of Medieval Studies, History and Philosophy.

The Humanities Center also stresses the importance of introducing contemporary interdisciplinary research by inviting leading scholars to talk about their work at CEU. A highly successful public lecture series was started in September 2001 when art historian Donald Preziosi (UCLA, Oxford) introduced his views on the "Objects of Art History." The text of this opening lecture was published in the English edition of the *Budapest Review of Books*.

In January also, Cambridge historian Peter Burke gave a public lecture entitled "Reflections on the Rise of the Vernaculars in Renaissance Europe." The lecture was followed by a roundtable discussion with the participation of Gábor Klaniczay (CEU),

Ádám Nádasy and Ferenc Zempléni (Eötvös Loránd University), Anna Wessely (CEU) and moderator Marcell Sebök (CEU). More than 100 people attended the event, greatly challenging the capacity of the Popper Room. The lecture was also part of the public lecture series on "Renaissance, Revival and Enlightenment" of the Departments of History and Medieval Studies.

More recently, in cooperation with OSI and the Department of Political Science, the center hosted a public lecture by Stephen Coleman (LSE) on "E-Democracy: What It Is and What It Is Not," followed by comments from Kristóf Nyíry (Director of the Institute of Philosophy, Hungarian Academy of Sciences), Miklós Sükösd (CEU), Kristóf Varga (IT Commissioner, Budapest Council) and Darius Čuplinskas (OSI Information Program).

April 2002 is also a month of busy scheduling at the Humanities Center. Professor Steven Lukes of the London School of Economics and New York University spends two weeks at CEU giving seminars on political theory, and rationality and relativism. He also gave a public lecture on "Power and Luck," which was commented upon by Ferenc Huoranszki (CEU), András Láncki (Budapest University of Economics) and Gáspár Miklós Tamás. Another event, a talk by AIDS doctor and McGill professor Vinh-Kim Nguyen will also take place soon. His lecture will be on "Biologies of Globalization," with commentary by Judit Sándor (CEU). Still during this month, *Financial Times* columnist Dominique Moisi (also Deputy Director of the French Institute for International Relations) will introduce his views on "Europe and the US: Focus on the Middle East." The lecture will be followed by comments from CEU President and Rector Yehuda Elkana.

Upcoming events include a lecture by Jutta Scherrer on "Culturologia: Russia's Search for Identity," a course on Islam by Professor An-Naim of Emory University, a workshop on "Xenophobia" organized jointly with the Center for Policy Studies, and other activities.

Preparations for three larger research projects also deserve attention. Most participants have already accepted the invitation to Budapest for the "Universalism and Local Knowledge in Human Rights" project, scheduled for April-July 2003. The preparatory work and planning of a workshop/seminar in behavioral economics has also been started. Loránd Ambrus-Lakatos and Attila Rátfai of CEU will cooperate with Armin Falk from the University of Zurich in planning and organizing this event. Behavioral economics will be an umbrella theme for conducting novel research focused on different subtopics every year. Finally, Shalini Randeria, a member of the Humanities Center Advisory Council, is preparing a research project investigating "Civil Society and Cunning States."

The Humanities Center supports the research of two Senior Fellows: Anna Wessely and Pál Nyíry, both of whom publish widely and represent CEU and the center in numerous scholarly gatherings throughout the world.

**THE GENESIS OF HUNGARIAN DEMOCRACY**

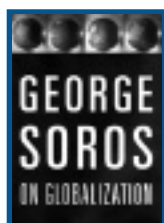


András Bozóki, ed. *The Roundtable Talks of 1989 – The Genesis of Hungarian Democracy* (Budapest: CEU Press, 2002)

"This is the best systematic overview of the origins of Hungarian democracy and a truly valuable contribution to the analysis of 1989's negotiated revolutions. A product of András Bozóki's deep personal commitment to the encompassing study of the genesis of Hungarian democracy, this book contains several articles that are deep in their analysis and balanced in their judgements. Enriched by the inclusion of some of the most important documents of the regime change, this is an indispensable book for students and practitioners of democratization."

László Bruszt

**SOROS ON GLOBALIZATION**



*On Globalization*, the latest book by CEU founder George Soros, was published in March by Public Affairs. In this book Soros identifies problems with international financial and trade institutions and makes proposals for repairing the system. *On Globalization* was written interactively: a draft of the work was discussed at a number of inter-

national meetings and workshops, including the conference "Reshaping Globalization: Multilateral Dialogues and New Policy Initiatives" held at CEU in Budapest in October 2001, and input from the discussions is reflected in the final version.

**REINVENTING MEDIA IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE**



*Reinventing Media – Media Policy Reform in East Central Europe*, edited by Miklós Sükösd and Péter Bajomi-Lázár, will be published by the Center for Policy Studies (CPS) in May 2002. This volume is a collection of comparative and country case studies describing aspects of media reform in Central and Eastern Europe. The book focuses on the shortcomings of reform and

includes various policy proposals for media democratization, public service and minority media, harmonization with European media policies and law, and other areas of the current media scene. The authors are outstanding Central European researchers who during 1999-2002 participated in the work of the Media Group of the Center for Policy Studies International Policy Fellowships program sponsored by the Open Society Institute. The studies in this volume summarize their research, and are complemented by the editors' overview of the regions' media policy trends in the early 21st century.

*Sharing Musical Knowledge*

It has been my dream for a long time to present a chamber music series. For the past ten years I have been going around the world, working with internationally known musicians and performing many wonderful pieces of the chamber music repertoire. But I also wanted to have a short sequence of concerts here in Budapest where I could share my enthusiasm for this kind of music with others.



Zsuzsanna Lukin (voice), Ferenc Varga (violin),  
Eszter Kelenhegyi (cello), Ildikó Vékony (dulcimer)

I am extremely pleased that thanks to CEU's generosity, I have found just the right kind of venue. Here, in the Popper Room I can present, together with my musical friends, great masterpieces of the past along with the most prominent contemporary composers' works, in an intimate, almost living room-like atmosphere. That is exactly where this kind of music belongs. Chamber music gatherings

used to be a social event, friends got together for a little music-making, just like having a game of cards. By making the dress rehearsal open to the public in workshop style, we wanted to create an opportunity for the future concertgoers to have an insight into our working process. I believe that following the discussions of our working methods there the listener can be helped to appreciate and understand the pieces at the evening concert, which follows.

Péter Nagy, Music Director of the Central European Chamber Music Workshop Series at CEU

*Music for Policy Fellows*

As part of its 11th International Policy Fellows Seminar, the International Policy Fellowships program organized an evening of classical music with Budapest Opera Ballet concertmaster Zhana Vasilenko in CEU's Popper Room on March 13, 2002.

The concert, featuring works by Johannes Brahms and Sergei Rachmaninov, was a welcome cultural break for the Policy Fellows, who had gathered in Budapest for nearly two weeks of training and workshops.

## INTERDISCIPLINARY WORKSHOP ON RELIGION AND RULERSHIP IN THE MIDDLE AGES

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The traditional annual interdisciplinary workshop of the Department of Medieval Studies at Central European University was organized, in cooperation with Majestas, the International Association for the Study of Rulership in Budapest, between February 21 and 23, 2002. This year the workshop focused on the problems of medieval rulership and its relationship to the religions of medieval Europe and its surroundings. The subjects addressed included both positive and negative religious attitudes to secular power, and expanded the coverage well beyond Latin Europe, including the Slavia Orthodoxa and the Oriens Christianus as well as Islam and Judaism, exploring how different religions accommodated the concept of secular rule and the ways they legitimized it.

The keynote address was given by Aziz Al-Azmeh (American University of Beirut) on monotheistic kingship, expressing his conviction that "sacral kingship, in its variety of forms and representations, one of which is monotheistic kingship, is in anthropological terms an elementary form." He provided a broad overview of the tropes of royal representations, such as "the shadow of God on Earth" (which was also implied in discourses on Muslim kingship), and the terminology and vocabulary of the context of religion and rulership, for instance the terms *vox Dei*, *vox populi*, *lex animata* or *nomos empsychos*, and *translatio imperii*.

The first session addressed theoretical issues and the question of to what extent the views (and debates) of political philosophers (such as Carl Schmitt and Erik Peterson) influenced practising medievalists (such as Kantorowicz, Schramm, Bloch, and Ullmann). Nikolaus Gussone (Ratingen) gave a talk in memoriam Ottonis III on the role of religion at the death of the said emperor and the struggle over his succession. The session on the Carolingians and Valois featured a CEU alumnus, Ildar Garipzanov (Fordham University) who spoke about the liturgy of authority in the Carolingian world, and argued that liturgy provided an important step in the creation of authority. The chairman of the executive committee of Majestas, Richard Jackson (University of Texas, Houston), explored the sacralization of French kingship under the Valois kings through the inaugural ceremony of anointing and coronation, as attested by the coronation ordo devised for King Charles V in 1364. The religious-Biblical implications of the iconography of the Carolingians were presented by Diana Stanciu (PhD student, CEU.) In the session on the sacrality of rulers in images and monuments, Richard Schneider (York University, Toronto) offered an interpretation of Archbishop Maximian's inclusion of Justinian and Theodora in the program of San Vitale in Ravenna. Tania Tribe (School of Oriental and African

Studies, University of London) spoke about the buildings and images of Christian Ethiopia and examined the role Christianity played in strengthening Ethiopian royal power.

CEU doctoral students participated in the sessions on Jewish political thought and Christian ideas about kingship with papers on Maimonides, Don Isaac Abravanel, the Admonitions of King Stephen of Hungary, and Saint Elisabeth of Hungary. The Byzantinist Wölfram Hörandner (Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna) provided a philological analysis of the religious aspects of Byzantine Imperial propaganda as reflected in court poetry, and presented some significant examples of how the court poets handled various rhetorical topoi in order to produce a vivid image of the sacred ruler. In the session on Slavia Orthodoxa, Oleksiy Tolochko (Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, Kiev) presented some problems of the Rurikids and sacral legitimization, and Kiril Maximovich (Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow) spoke about the duties of the prince as viewed by churchmen in early Russia.

Regarding the Oriens Christianus, Stephen H. Rapp Jr. (Georgia State University, Atlanta) gave a paper on the Persian-like aspects of early medieval Georgian kingship; Andrew N. Palmer (CEU, formerly of the Department of Medieval Studies, now at the Department of Environmental Studies) presented his views on the Legend of King Abgar of Edessa and the changing ideal of Christian kingship. In the session on Islam, Gustav Thaiss (York University, Toronto) spoke on the significance of sacrificial resistance to tyranny in early Islam and its surviving tradition, while another CEU graduate, Dmitrij Mishin (Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow), presented his new interpretation of the Cordovan martyrs. The final session provided an insight into the problem of religion and rulership among the Khazars, Lithuanians, and Slavs—and also the Maya, thanks to Judith A. Rasson (again CEU, Department of Medieval Studies). At the end, all 28 participants, many students of the department, and a number of medievalists from Eastern Europe who had attended the workshop as guests of the Curriculum Resource Center, gathered for a closing discussion. During the workshop, the new monograph by another faculty member of the CEU Department of Medieval Studies, Gábor Klaniczay, *Holy Rulers and Blessed Princesses: Dynastic Cults in Medieval Central Europe* (Cambridge University Press, 2002), was presented.

*The full program with abstracts can be found at: [www.consulex.hu/ms/events/event019.html](http://www.consulex.hu/ms/events/event019.html)*

E. N.

## DEBATE ON HATE SPEECH

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The Hungarian Civil Liberties Union (Társaság a Szabadságjogokért) held a public debate on hate speech in the CEU Auditorium on February 1, 2002. Invited lecturers were László Sólyom, former

president of the Constitutional Court, representative of the Ministry of Justice; Gábor Halmi, President of the Soros Foundation–Hungary, and János Kis, CEU University Professor.

## STUDENT SEMINAR DISCUSSES BALTIC IDENTITY

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On February 20, CEU students from the Baltic States participated in the discussion seminar "Looking for the Baltic: Problems of Post-Soviet Identity," which addressed questions of Baltic regional identity and Baltic unity in the light of cooperation in political, economic, cultural and security dimensions.

In post-communist Europe, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania have been viewed as countries forming a unitary region called the Baltics. This viewpoint is based on the shared experience of the three countries in the 20th century, including an independent inter-war period, Soviet occupation and a common fight against it. As the moderator of the seminar Kristina Kallas (MA, History) stressed, on the eve of their regained independence in the early 1990's, Baltic cooperation played a significant role in the foreign policies of the three countries. Joint institutions such as the Baltic Assembly were set up, and similar foreign policy goals, such as admission into the EU and NATO, were put forward. Although many politicians argue that during this period a successful Baltic identity was created, since the mid-1990s movements in the opposite direction have been seen, especially in Estonia and Lithuania. The idea of Baltic unity has been questioned more and more, both inside and outside the region.

Panel member Kairi Saar (MA, IRES) discussed post-communist identity formation in Estonia, while analyzing European, Finno-Ugric and Nordic dimensions. She stressed the increasing appeal of the Nordic "trademark" in Estonian discourse. As she has pointed out, the Nordic dimension dominates not only the orientation of Estonian political elite, but also the self-identification of the Estonians.

Next, Lina Rimkute (MA, IRES) analyzed the creation, development and evolution of Baltic security cooperation through the theoretical framework of security communities. After discussing internal and external factors influencing the emergence

of the Baltic security community, the elements of such a community as well as mutual trust and a joint Baltic identity, Rimkute concluded that the Baltic states currently constitute a loose security community.

Tanel Tang (PhD, Political Science) tried to identify sources of Estonian success by presenting comparative analysis of transition economies of the Baltic States. After analyzing the major quantitative socio-economic indicators of the transition period in the three states, he interpreted the implications that different development paths will have for Baltic cooperation. Tang also criticized the over-used tactics of "putting Latvia and Lithuania down" among the Estonian political elite.

Following these presentations, the audience entered into a lively discussion, with many arguing that the Baltic States are still in search of their identity, which, in many cases, is constructed from the outside rather than self-perceived. It was also argued that an excessive competition among the states to have the best image in Europe leads to a frustrating "beauty contest" rather than a constructive partnership.

While Lithuania is deepening its Central European orientation and Estonia is strengthening its Nordic ties, it was noted, Latvia is the most enthusiastic proponent of Baltic unity, having the strongest economic bonds with Russia. The related issue of integrating Russian minorities into Latvian and Estonian societies was also discussed.

The end of the seminar, which was organized by the Baltic students themselves, did not bring an end to the debate, as many participants continued their discussions informally in downtown Budapest.

M. K.

## CEU ON DUTCH TELEVISION

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VPRO Television of the Netherlands recently broadcast a documentary series entitled "The New World." Central European University had an important role in this series, with the third and final program presenting the university prominently. This was not the first time that VPRO Television had worked with CEU. In 1994, VPRO produced a documentary on George Soros and CEU, in which the basic principles of Karl Popper's notion of open society were presented.

The "New World" series examined both open and closed societies. By portraying CEU graduates in Central Asia, the third program provided a unique perspective for understanding the current cul-

tural and political situation in the region and the ongoing struggle to build open societies around the world. The Dutch television crew also filmed in Almaty, Kazakhstan, where CEU professor Petr Lom was participating in the recruitment of students. Several interviews were taped in Budapest, including one with CEU President and Rector Yehuda Elkana. Filming took place at the CEU Dormitory as well as at the Budapest teaching site.

Although the VPRO Television programs have already been aired, in the coming year visitors to the CEU website will be able to watch the entire series online. Updates on this topic will be provided in the website's News and Events section.

## “BULGARIA TODAY” ROUNDTABLE

The roundtable "Bulgaria Today: the Economic and Political Challenges," which took place at CEU on March 11, 2002, was the first official initiative of the Bulgarian Club at CEU, a newly founded informal organization of Master's and doctoral students. The club's main tasks are to contribute to the establishment of intellectual exchange and scientific collaboration between CEU and Bulgarian universities, and to promote open society values and intensive communication as crucial factors for progress and democracy.



*Roundtable participants engage in an intense discussion.*

The conference was also dedicated to the National Holiday of Bulgaria—March 3—and was actively supported by both CEU and the Bulgarian Embassy in Hungary. Acknowledging the enthusiasm of the club's members and the assistance of the embassy for the preparation of the forum in a letter to the Bulgarian Ambassador to Hungary, Stefan Messmann, Academic Pro-Rector of CEU, underlined that being "an international university whose graduates are returning to the region to make contributions to future political, economic and social planning in the countries of central and eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, CEU is pleased to host initiatives of this kind and to encourage intellectual and research exchange of topics of social relevance for every country in the region."

Representatives of the public and private sectors, specialists and students took part in the conference. Guests from Bulgaria were Associate Professor Valery Dimitrov, Chief of the Economic Policy Committee of the National Assembly and Mrs. Zvetelina

Bondarenko, Director of the Central Depository AD of Bulgaria. Their presentations were focused on the legislative and structural reforms in Bulgaria and the institutional and procedural guarantees for the expansion of the capital market in the country.

Stefan Messmann warmly welcomed the roundtable participants. In his speech HE Svetlozar Panov, the Bulgarian Ambassador to Hungary, pointed to the special role of the Bulgarian Club as, on the one hand, being a mediator for the promotion of high profile academic standards as found at CEU and in Bulgaria and, on the other, an important agent for informing the CEU academic community about the specific features of the democratic process in Bulgaria. Ambassador Panov also gave a talk on the future prospects of the development of Bulgarian-Hungarian diplomatic relations.

Sznezsanka Szlatenyi, a senior counselor in the Ministry of Transport and Water Management, Department of International Coordination, discussed the contemporary situation regarding infrastructural relations and cooperation in the field of transport between Bulgaria and Hungary, while Daniella Kalkandjieva, PhD candidate at the History Department, Vesselin Paskalev and Bissera Zankova, SJD candidates from the Legal Studies Department, commented on specific national matters such as the value of the March 3 national holiday after the democratic changes, and the necessity for amendments of the Bulgarian constitutional framework with regard to the extension of the competence of the president and the modernization of the administrative regulatory structure.

The roundtable was a first attempt to bring to the fore at CEU the problems of current Bulgarian governmental efforts in the political and the economic field. The idea of the Bulgarian Club, to draw the attention of the academic public to local and regional topics in a broader bilateral and European context, proved to be a genuine success.

By means of a mosaic-like presentation of issues, the roundtable presented a many-sided perspective for combining the national and the international approaches in the evaluation of the social transformations carried out in the Central and Eastern European countries. This is also a promising start for other similar initiatives coming from the different CEU communities and groups.

B. Z.

## ANNUAL BLOOD DRIVE TIES LAST YEAR'S RECORD



The fourth annual Hungarian Red Cross blood drive sponsored by CEU was held on February 4, 2002. This year

103 donors gave blood, tying last year's record number. CEU and the Hungarian Red Cross would like to thank all of the CEU students, faculty and staff, and others, who took the time to donate blood.

*Donors patiently await their turn.*

## HRSI: TAKING HUMAN RIGHTS BEYOND THEORY

The CEU Human Rights Students' Initiative (HRSI) is a human rights organization dedicated to providing practical training for emerging human rights professionals and regional activists. Established in 2000 by students in the Human Rights program of the Department of Legal Studies, HRSI was created to complement the theoretical education provided at CEU with human rights practice and training. Determined to furnish people with a strong skill base, each year HRSI also works together with CEU students and regional activists to organize rights-awareness events, roundtables and workshops.



*HRSI staff member Clark Johnson (left) with student activists participating in CEU's second annual commemoration of World AIDS Day, co-sponsored by Durex*

In its first year, HRSI's main projects were providing internships for Legal Studies students, conducting a civic education project, and organizing training in conflict resolution, persuasive argumentation and project management. Throughout the year, students also coordinated roundtable discussions on the role of NGOs in elections in the Balkans as well as workshops on children's rights and domestic violence. At year's end, HRSI published a bulletin, *The Activist*, to mark the achievements of its inaugural year and provide students with an opportunity to write about human rights issues.



Now in its second year, HRSI has continued with projects from its initial year and developed others with the aim of encompassing Budapest's community of human rights activists and bringing



*CEU students gather at Amnesty International's information table to sign petitions condemning violence against women and supporting women's rights.*

CEU students together with Budapest-based NGOs, experts from the Open Society Institute and others. This year the HRSI education project has a new focus: educating students and NGO activists to lobby for human rights. The new Human Rights Presentations series has enabled students to discuss human rights issues in their home countries. Also, the Open Society Institute's EU Accession Monitoring Program recently created, on its eumap.org website, a discussion forum for HRSI which is intended to help CEU students and scholars interact online with their peers within the region and beyond.



*NaNEI, HRSI and Labrizs celebrate International Women's Day in the CEU Octogon by raising awareness of women's rights and ways to combat violence against women.*

In the future, HRSI will continue working in the same vein, offering training for skills development, while the organization increases its efforts to link students and activists throughout the region.

C. J.



### CEU SENATE MEETING

The CEU Senate held its spring meeting on March 8, 2002. The current members of the Senate will serve until September 30, 2002.

*Front row (left to right):*  
Tibor Várady  
Stefan Messmann  
Yehuda Elkana  
János Kis  
Diana Üрге-Vorsatz

*Standing (left to right):*  
Béla Greskovits  
Raluca Petre  
Petr Lom  
József Laszlovszky  
Andrzej Rychard  
Liviu Matei  
István Teplán

## THE MILLENNIUM EXHIBITION



*The Galeria hall*

The Millennium Exhibition on display at the Open Society Archives' Galeria Centralis from December 31, 2001, to February 28, 2002, was the first attempt at creating a comprehensive round-up of the official events and government-sponsored works that were created to commemorate the 1000-year anniversary of the establishment of the Hungarian state and the adoption of Christianity. It summarized the commemorations funded by public money during two years of celebrations that were visible not only in national festivals but also in everyday life.

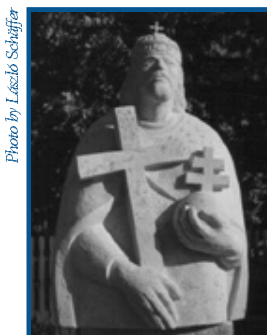


*Feast of the Assumption and millenary celebrations in Esztergom*

The selection of materials on display reflected the value judgments of the state institutions that organized, subsidized and documented the events. The Archives showed the events and programs that these institutions considered most important. The feature films and documentaries running on 50 monitors were all made with millenary funding; hundreds of photos showed the memorial parks and statues erected in public places; "an exhibition within the exhibition," organized by the Ministry of Cultural Heritage, represented the reconstruction of historical monuments; and commemorative stamps, coins, special millennial flags, official documents, and publications were also on display. The Archives did not comment on the material: the exhibition spoke for itself.

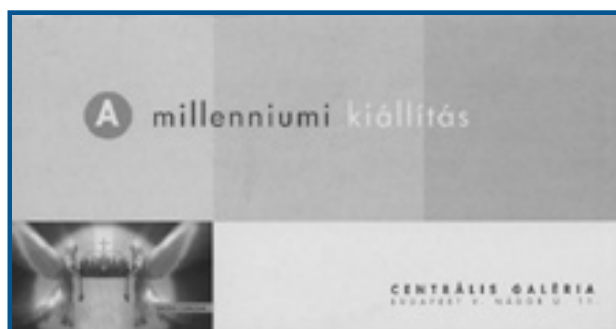
The Archives did, however, ask visitors to form and share their own opinions about the exhibition. The numerous comments in the guest book ranged from "...this represents the nation becoming conscious of itself after 40 grievous years," to "I am so sad that not all ten million people in our country can see this," to "technically beautiful, and stylish, but horrible."

In conjunction with the exhibition, the Open Society Archives organized a seminar for Hungarian history teachers in February, along with a two-day public conference. The aim of these events was to analyze the ideological, and historical views of the Millennium, and the esthetic, cultural value of the works funded. Proceedings of the conference are to be published this fall, and the original documents, films, and pictures are stored in the Archives and open for research.



*Photo by László Schöffler*

*Statue of Saint Stephen (the first Hungarian king) in Dánszentmiklós*



## OSA THEATRE EXHIBITION

On March 15, 2002, the new National Theatre of Hungary was opened. The opening was preceded by serious public debate concerning the lack of a transparent design competition for the new project. The Galeria Centralis exhibition showed how a transparent process can lead the building of a new theatre or a new cultural center in countries that value it. The exhibition presented significant, structurally and esthetically transparent multi-use theatre buildings that were internationally acclaimed in previous years' competitions worldwide such as the Birmingham Repertory Theatre, designed by Keith Williams; the Glyndebourne Opera house, the Festspielhaus in St. Polten, the new Columbus RiverCenter for the Performing Arts in Columbus, Georgia; or the Nuuk Cultural Centre in Greenland. The Galeria also presented the rejected masterpiece by Ferenc Bán, the unbuilt National Theatre in Budapest's Erzsébet Square.



*Birmingham Repertory Theatre*

## EXTRACURRICULAR CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Being very much sensitive to the needs of an international student body most frequently unfamiliar with the rich cultural offerings of Budapest, CEU has long had a program of diverse extracurricular offerings throughout the academic year. Some of the programs are organized directly based on students' ideas and proposals (among these: complimentary opera/theatre/cultural tickets distributed monthly on a first-come, first-served basis; a drama club twice weekly, monitored by Gergő Kocsis, a well-known local professional actor).

Within the last two years the offering has broadened to include a film club screening and gathering every fortnight, organized by the Central European Film Society, hosted by Professor György Báron, film aesthetician.

In addition there is a small exhibition hall on the first floor of Monument Building, which provides space for frequent and varied gallery showings, which are also open to the public. From time to time talented students have also exhibited here. Program listings for upcoming events are posted around the university.

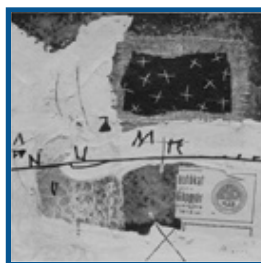
### Exhibitions

The Financial Aid and Residential Life Office (FARLO) has three goals in organizing its exhibitions: to ensure a forum for those students who have artistic inclinations; to visualize a multicultural approach to art; and to acquaint foreign students with Hungarian contemporary art.

#### "Tradition and Romance – Montages of Tamás Ajtai"



Opening the "Tradition and Romance" exhibition:  
Sándor Fekete Kiss and  
Tamás Ajtai (right)



Tamás Ajtai was chosen for a recent exhibition because he is one of the truly exciting artists on the current Hungarian art scene. Originally trained as a ceramist, Ajtai brings into this favorite genre of the classical avant-garde the use of various pigments, metal-oxides and plastic details. The sensitive crafting and aesthetically pleasing arrangement of *objets trouvés*—fragments of photographs, aged metals, textile pieces—together with artistic typographic elements create truly innovative and painterly compositions. Tamás Ajtai's *oeuvres* are modern and classical at the same time.

### Central European Film Society

The Film Club at CEU meets every fortnight. It is organized by the Central European Film Society and hosted by Professor György Báron, film aesthetician.



"My purpose for the program is to illustrate how the social, political and cultural changes of the recent past are reflected in the Central and Eastern European Cinema. According to my hypothesis these fundamental changes were (and are) reflected more directly, sharply and with higher fidelity in films than in any other form of art. In the first term I introduced Russian, Hungarian, Yugoslav, Polish and Czech motion pictures that dealt with the

period of Stalinism. In this term visitors can watch a series of eight or nine films made in this region (with one exception: *Allemagne Neuf Zéro*, by Jean-Luc Godard) all of which depict the post-Stalinist period. My possibilities of selecting were restricted as only some dozens of Central and Eastern European films are available with English subtitles in Budapest. So while these films were made in the close neighborhood, paradoxically, we have to order and buy them (except the Hungarian ones) in American video-shops. From the poor selection that is available here I tried to chose films which are considered to be modern classics, like the masterpieces of Wajda, Szabó, Makk, Forman, Menzel, Makavejev and other well-known filmmakers."

Gy. B.