

“20 years in the European Union”

Assessing the EU and European Enlargement

XXIXth Annual Conference of the Hungarian Political Science Association
Pécs, 16-17 May 2024

University of Pécs, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Department of Political Science and International Studies

The countries of Central and Eastern Europe have had a centuries-old desire to catch up with Europe. The whole process of regime change was driven by the ambition to join the European Union. The result is well known: on 1 May 2004, the largest enlargement in the history of the EU took place in Athens. In addition to Hungary, the Accession Treaty was signed by the Czech Republic, Estonia, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovenia, and Slovakia. This opened the way to development and catching up for the new Member States, opened the borders and within a few years allowed their nationals to work in Western Europe, as well as to move goods, services and capital freely. Today, the EU of 27 is about to be enlarged to include new Member States, and the integration process is not halting.

European integration is the central theme of the annual conference, as dealing with the past 20 years can provide an opportunity to analyze and assess both the context and the actual state of affairs. What and how has changed since Hungary’s accession?

The aim of the event is therefore to discuss the current processes of European integration and to debate over the challenges and opportunities facing the EU. The conference intends to reflect on the geopolitical, social, economic and legal issues currently on the agenda of the European Union and, more broadly, the challenges of the changing global world. This will include topics such as the EU’s response to the multidimensional crisis of war, a detailed examination of EU policies on migration and asylum, as well as about common foreign, security and defence questions, together with energy, neighbourhood, development and enlargement.

The organisers invite papers from scholars of political science and other social sciences disciplines related to the above issues: democracy and political theory, political communication, elections, voter behaviour, local government and NGOs, political regimes and political leadership, parties and party systems, public policy processes and trends, international politics and security, European Union policies and decision-making.

The conference is organized in 18 sections (12 in Hungarian, 6 in English):

List of sections

1. Az európai uniós tagság hatása a kormányzati rendszerekre és a közpolitikai döntéshozatali folyamatokra (Vadál Ildikó) (vadal.ildiko@pte.hu)
2. Helyi önkormányzatok – sikerek és kudarcok (Pálné Kovács Ilona) (palne.kovacs.ilona@pte.hu) and (Dobos Gábor) (dobos.gabor@tk.hu)
3. Választások és választók a „szuper választási évben”: közvélemény, választások és azok hatásai (Szabó Andrea) (szabo.andrea@tk.hu)

4. Euroszepticismus, szuverenizmus, unióellenesség – különös tekintettel a magyar esetre (Löfler Tibor) (loffler@polit.u-szeged.hu)
5. Szuverenitás, legitimáció, repolitizáció: politikaelmélet és európai integráció (Gyulai Attila) (gyulai.attila@tk.hu) and (Balázs Zoltán)
6. Politikai rezsimek, vezetők és elitek a háborúk és az identitás politika árnyékában (Metz Rudolf) (metz.rudolf@tk.hu)
7. Challenges and prospects of e-government in the EU Member States (Soós Edit) (soos.edit@gmail.com)
8. Civic Participation and Political Activity in European countries (László Kákai) (kakai.laszlo@pte.hu) and (Agnieszka Bejma) (a.bejma@uw.edu.pl)
9. Pártok és pártrendszerek (Rajnai Gergely) (gergely.rajnai@uni-corvinus.hu) and Dúró József
10. Közpolitika és kormányzás (Kiss Rebeka) (kiss.rebeka@tk.hu) and Sebők Miklós
11. A politikai kommunikáció dinamikái és a választások/Political communication/EP election campaigns (Merkovity Norbert) (merkovity@juris.u-szeged.hu)
12. The EU and the changing world order (István Tarrósy) (tarrosy.istvan@pte.hu) and (Zoltán Vörös (voros.zoltan@pte.hu))
13. EU law as a growing sui generis legal order (Melinda Szappanyos) (szappanyos.melinda@pte.hu)
14. Making Public Space: Power and Democracy in European Cities (Kata Murányi) (muranyi.kata@pte.hu)
15. EU in crisis – divergence and convergence (Andrea Schmidt) (schmidt.andrea@pte.hu) and (Viktor Glied) (glied.viktor@pte.hu)
16. A tagállami kormányzás alkotmányos keretei és a politikai intézmények az Unióban (Smuk Péter) (smuk.peter@sze.hu)
17. Új kihívások a változó nemzetközi rendszerben: biztonság- és védelempolitikai szekció (Egeresi Zoltán) (egeresi.zoltan@uni-nke.hu)
18. A politikatudományi képzés helyzete (zárt, kerekasztal-beszélgetés) (Balogh László Levente) (baloghlaszlo@unideb.hu)

Application information

The organizers are looking for presentations and full panels (4-5 participants) in Hungarian and presentations and panels in English according to the announced sections.

Deadline for registration: 29 February 2024.

To apply, please send an e-mail to the chair of the selected section (see section descriptions), including:

In case of application by lecture:

- name of the presenter(s); email address and affiliation;
- the title of the presentation;
- a summary of the presentation of no more than 200-250 words.

Important dates:

- Abstract submission deadline: 29 February 2024.

- Notification of abstract acceptance: continuously until 15 March 2024.

- Payment of conference fees: by 31 March 2024.

Registration fee: 28 000 HUF / Registration fee: 80 €

For members of the Hungarian Political Science Association: HUF 20 000