



29th INTERNATIONAL SUMMER UNIVERSITY 2024

Europa and the Minotaur: Geopolitics Between Myths and Reality

June 23-28, 2024, Kőszeg, Hungary

The 29th International Summer University (ISU) is organized by the Institute of Advanced Studies Kőszeg (iASK) in collaboration with the UNESCO Chair for Cultural Heritage Management and Sustainability, Bibó István College for Advanced Studies of ELTE University, the University of Pannonia and the Institute for Social and European Studies Foundation (ISES). Set in the historically and culturally rich medieval town on the border of Hungary and Austria, the event blends academic inquiry with cultural experiences.

This year's theme focuses on the possible scenarios for Europe amidst geopolitical challenges. The key issues will include the possible scenarios for Europe, especially with regards to the ongoing armed conflicts, prospects of EU enlargement, outcomes of global elections, new societal transformations, and the deep currents of memory and history that shape our collective identity. The event aims to forge new narratives and strategies, ensuring Europe's resilience and adaptive capacity in an interconnected and unpredictable world.

Topics include:

- Geopolitical Challenges and the Future of Europe: Can Europe Cope with Complexities?
- War and Peace: The Future Scenarios for Europe's Human and Military Security
- European Values, Soft Power and The Future European Political Community
- Dare to Imagine Europe in 2034
- EU Integration in Eastern Europe and the Western Balkans: Is there a Chance for a new East-West Dialogue?
- What Have We Learned from War and Disintegration of Yugoslavia? Facing the Challenges of Nationalism, Fragmentation and All-Out War in Europe
- Echoes of Europe's Past: Historic and Cultural Perspectives of Contemporary Conflicts
- Hungary's EU Council Presidency: Strategic Dialogues
- Memory and Identity in Central, Eastern, and Southeastern Europe
- Forging Social Change: Activism's Role in the 2024 Electoral Landscape



Preliminary Program:

SUNDAY, JUNE 23

4 pm – 5 pm Introduction and Welcome

5 pm – 7 pm Introductory Colloquium:

The Future of Europe and EU Integrations

This panel explores the future of Europe and the ongoing process of European Union integration. Esteemed experts will discuss the evolving political, economic, and security landscapes within the EU, highlighting both challenges and opportunities. The session aims to unpack the complex dynamics of EU policies, enlargement, and the integration process, providing a forward-looking perspective on Europe's path. How can the EU effectively balance national sovereignty with the need for deeper integration in areas like fiscal policy and border security to enhance its global standing? In light of recent political shifts and the rise of populism within member states, what strategies should the EU adopt to strengthen democratic values and ensure cohesive policy-making? Considering the economic disparities between member states, what role should the EU's cohesion policy play in the future to support less developed regions and foster overall economic convergence within the Union?

Participants:

- Iván Bába (Ludovika University of Public Service, Hungary)
- Sean Cleary (Strategic Concepts, South Africa)
- Elbert Krasniqi (Minister of Local Government Administration, Kosovo)
- Jorida Tabaku (Chairwoman of the Integration Europe Commission, and member of the Finance and Economic Commission, Albania)

7 pm Music Performance and Reception

MONDAY, JUNE 24

9:30 – 10:00 am Registration

10:00 – 10:30 am Welcome speeches

10:30 – 12:30 am Panel:

Geopolitical Challenges and the Future of Europe: Can Europe Cope with Complexities?

This panel explores the intricacies of the evolving global geopolitical landscape and its implications for Europe. It addresses how shifting power dynamics, emerging global conflicts, and the changing nature of



international alliances shape Europe's role in the world. The focus will be on understanding these challenges in the context of Europe's political, economic, and strategic objectives. How do current global geopolitical shifts influence Europe's foreign policy and international relations? In what ways can Europe adapt to and influence the changing global power balance? What are the potential risks and opportunities for Europe in this new geopolitical environment?

Chair: Jody Jensen

Keynote speech: Iván Bába (Ludovika University of Public Service, Hungary)

Keynote speech: Gregor Reichberg (Peace Research Institute Oslo, Pontifical Academy of Sciences) (TBC)

Panelists:

- Iván Bába (Ludovika University of Public Service, Hungary)
- Balazs Jarabik (IWM Vienna, Austria)
- Ferenc Mészlivetz (iASK, Hungary)
- Kivanc Ulusoy (Istanbul University, Turkey)

12:30 – 2:00 pm Lunch break



2:00 pm – 4 pm Panel:

War and Peace: The Future Scenarios for Europe's Security

This panel explores the intricacies of the evolving global geopolitical landscape and its implications for Europe. It addresses how shifting power dynamics, emerging global conflicts, and the changing nature of international alliances shape Europe's role in the world. The focus will be on understanding these challenges in the context of Europe's political, economic, and strategic objectives. In what ways can Europe adapt to and influence the changing global power balance? What are the potential risks and opportunities for Europe in this new geopolitical environment? How might the incorporation of the Western Balkans, Ukraine, and Moldova into the EU affect the security framework of Europe?

Chair: Anikó Magasházi (iASK, Hungary)

Panelists:

- Moritz Ehrmann (Austrian Center of Peace, Austria) (TBC)
- Vuk Jeremić (Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Serbia, Serbia)
- Neli V. Kirilova (European Security and Defence College, Belgium)
- Vesna Pusić (Former Minister of Foreign Affairs in Croatia, Croatia)
- Nano Ruzin (Former Ambassador of North Macedonia in NATO, former Rector of the FON-American University of Europe, North Macedonia)
- Loïc Simonet (OiiP, Austria)

4 pm – 4:15 pm Coffee break

4:15 pm – 6 pm Panel:

European Values, Soft Power and The Future European Political Community

This colloquium explores the potential trajectories of integration, cooperation, and identity within Europe. Experts will examine the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead, from geopolitical pressures to internal political dynamics, aiming to uncover the paths that could shape Europe's political future. Questions for the Debate: How will emerging geopolitical tensions influence the internal cohesion and external policies of the European Political Community? In what ways can the European Political Community adapt to the growing demands for democratic accountability and citizen participation within its governance structures? Considering the rise of nationalist movements across Europe, what strategies should the European Political Community employ to foster a sense of shared identity and purpose among its diverse member states?

Participants:

- Sean Cleary (Strategic Concepts, South Africa)
- Áron Fábrián (Bibó István College for Advanced Studies, ELTE, Hungary)
- Márton Matyasovszky-Németh (Bibó István College for Advanced Studies, ELTE, Hungary)



- Ferenc Miszlivetz (iASK, Hungary)
- Melek Aylin Özoflu (Özyeğin University, Turkey)

6:15 pm - 7:15 pm Cultural program – Concert in the Synagogue

7:15 pm Dinner reception

TUESDAY, JUNE 25

10 am – 12 pm Roundtable Discussion:

Dare to Imagine Europe in 2034

This panel revisits the theme of the 20th Summer University in 2015, encouraging a futuristic outlook on Europe as it confronts geopolitical shifts, technological evolution, environmental sustainability, and other significant challenges. It aims to craft a multidimensional vision of Europe's future, outlining potential scenarios and solutions to the most pressing issues facing the continent.

Participants:

- Iván Bába (Ludovika University of Public Service, Hungary)
- Sean Cleary (Strategic Concepts, South Africa)
- Áron Fábrián (Bibó István College for Advanced Studies, ELTE, Hungary)
- Márton Matyasovszky-Németh (Bibó István College for Advanced Studies, ELTE, Hungary)
- Ferenc Miszlivetz (iASK, Hungary)

12 pm – 1 pm Lunch Break

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Iron Curtain Museum Tour

The Iron Curtain Museum, situated amidst the serene landscapes of Felsőcsatár Szőlőhegy, serves as a poignant reminder of the Cold War era's divisions and the resilience of the human spirit in the face of adversity. This museum, far more than a mere repository of artifacts, invites visitors to delve into the complexities of a not-so-distant past, where the Iron Curtain symbolized both physical and ideological separations. Through its carefully curated exhibits, the museum provides an immersive experience, offering insights into the daily lives of those who lived in the shadow of the Iron Curtain, as well as the broader geopolitical tensions of the time.

5:00 pm – 6:00 pm visit to Judit Borosház Buschenschank in Vaskeresztes

Judit Borosház Buschenschank in Vaskeresztes is renowned for its authentic Hungarian wines and regional cuisine. This establishment, nestled in the scenic border area near Pornóapáti, is distinguished by its



commitment to showcasing the rich gastronomic traditions of Hungary, with a particular focus on the exceptional wines that characterize the local terroir.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26

9:30 Registration

10:00 am – 12: 00 Panel:

EU Integration in Eastern Europe and the Western Balkans: Is there a Chance for a new East-West Dialogue?

This panel examines the ongoing and complex process of European Union integration, particularly focusing on Eastern Europe and the Western Balkans. It will address the political, economic, and social dimensions of EU integration in these regions, considering both the challenges and the progress made. The discussion aims to shed light on the future of EU expansion and the integration of these diverse regions into the broader European framework. Is the EU still viable and sustainable without further enlargement? What are the main challenges and barriers to EU integration for countries in Eastern Europe and the Western Balkans? How do the historical and cultural contexts of these regions influence their path towards EU integration? In what ways can the EU adapt its integration process to better accommodate the unique needs and circumstances of these regions?

Chair: Rubin Zemon (iASK, Center for Advanced Researches, North Macedonia)

Panelists:

- Vedran Džihic (OiiP, Austria)
- Christina Griesler (Andrássy Universität Budapest, Hungary)
- Elira Luli (iASK, Luarasi University, Albania)
- Vigan Qorrolli (Deputy Minister of justice of the Republic of Kosovo, Kosovo)
- Zarije Seizovic (University of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- Caleb Waugh (Aktiv, Kosovo)

12:00 – 1:30 pm Lunch break

1:30 pm – 3:30 pm Panel:

What Have We Learned from the War and Disintegration of Yugoslavia? Facing the Challenges of Nationalism, Fragmentation and All-Out War in Europe

This panel confronts Europe's violent dissolution of Yugoslavia, examining the scars left by nationalism, ethnic strife, and the war economy. In an era marked by the rise of right-wing politics and populism across a multicultural, multiethnic, and transnational Europe, we delve into the parallels and divergences between



Yugoslavia's past and today's challenges. The discussion aims to chart a course for resolving the conflict in Ukraine, drawing on historical lessons to avoid repeating the mistakes of the past. What steps can be taken to address and mitigate similar forces currently at play in Europe, particularly with the rise of right-wing politics and populism? Given the devastating impact of the war economy on Yugoslavia, how can today's European nations redirect resources and policies towards peace-building and economic stability, avoiding the pitfalls of over-militarization? How can the principles of transnationalism, multicultural cooperation, and solidarity be strengthened in today's European context to provide a counterbalance to the forces that led to Yugoslavia's dissolution?

Participants:

- Jody Jensen (iASK, Hungary)
- Vedran Džihic (OiiP, Austria)
- Klodiana Beshku (University of Tirana, Albania)
- Ksenija Marković (Member of Parliament from the Democratic Party, Institute for Social Sciences, Serbia) (TBC)

3:30 - 5:30 pm Panel:

Echoes of Europe's Past: Historic and Cultural Perspectives on Contemporary Conflicts

This panel critically examines European historical events and their lasting impact on contemporary society and politics. It will explore various epochs, from the times of empires to the world wars, analyzing how historical events have shaped modern European identity and policies. The discussion seeks to understand how history can inform current decisions and strategies in Europe, fostering a deeper appreciation of the continent's complex legacy. What are the most significant historical events that continue to influence Europe's political and social landscape today? How can understanding Europe's historical conflicts and resolutions provide insight into addressing current geopolitical challenges? In what ways can the study of Europe's past help in forging more cohesive and resilient policies for its future?

Chair: Attila Pók

Speakers:

- Gabor Demeter (Research Centre for the Humanities, Hungary)
- André Erdős (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Hungary)
- Ahmet Evin (iASK, Sabanci University, Turkey)
- Catherine Horel (iASK, ENRS, France)
- Danijela Vuković Calasan (University of Montenegro, Montenegro) (TBC)

THURSDAY, JUNE 27



10: 00 – 12:00 Panel:

Hungary's EU Council Presidency: Strategic Dialogues

As Hungary prepares to assume the rotating presidency of the Council of the European Union from July 1 to the end of 2024, this panel focuses on strategic priorities and challenges ahead. Featuring distinguished diplomats and scholars, the discussion will focus on Hungary's agenda, its implications for EU policies, and the broader geopolitical context. The session aims to explore how Hungary intends to steer the EU through complex international waters, enhancing cooperation and addressing critical issues that face the union today.

Keynote speech: Tibor Navracsics (Minister of Public Administration and Regional Development, Hungary)

Chair: Orsolya Racz (GLOBSEC, Slovakia)

Participants:

- Mikuláš Dzurinda (Former Prime Minister of Slovakia; President of Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies, Belgium) (TBC)
- Enrico Letta (Former Prime Minister of Italy; President of the Jacques Delors Institute, France) (TBC)

12:00 – 1:30 pm Lunch Break

1:30 pm – 3:30 pm Panel:

Forging the Social Change: Activism's Role in the 2024 Electoral Landscape

This panel delves into the multifaceted landscape of contemporary activism, highlighting the pressing influence of digital realms, the swift currents of modern life, activism fatigue, geopolitical shifts, and the dilution of democratic principles on social movements.

It seeks to dissect the intricate challenges and opportunities ushered in by the digital era, investigating how activists can adeptly navigate and harness new platforms for substantial social reform. With a lens on the potent mix of democracy, the pivotal elections of 2024, and the looming threats of wars, nuclear proliferation, environmental crises, and the rise of artificial intelligence, the discussion becomes ever more critical. The year 2024 stands as a landmark period, marked by a significant number of countries conducting elections. Notably, eight of the world's ten most populous nations—Bangladesh, Brazil, India, the United States, Indonesia, Pakistan, Russia, and Mexico—are set to visit the polls. These nations collectively are home to nearly half of the global populace, with around 2 billion voters, approximately a quarter of the world's population, anticipated to participate in these elections.

Chair: Ivana Stepanović

Participants:



- Mentor Beqa (Aleksandër Moisiu University in Durrës, Albania)
- Aida Kapetanović (Scuola Normale Superiore, Italy)
- Dimitar Nikolovski (Eurothink, North Macedonia)
- Igor Stipić (University of Regensburg, Germany)

3:30 pm – 3:45 pm Coffee Break

3:45 pm - 5:45 pm Panel:

Memory and Identity in Central, Eastern, and Southeastern Europe

This panel delves into the complex landscape of collective memory in Central, Eastern, and Southeastern Europe, with a special focus on the legacy of Yugoslavia. It aims to explore how historical narratives, cultural memory, and identity have been shaped, contested, and remembered across these regions. The session seeks to understand the role of memory in shaping current socio-political dynamics and the process of regional reconciliation, particularly in the context of the diverse and often turbulent history of these regions. How have historical narratives and collective memories influenced current identities and political landscapes in Central, Eastern, and Southeastern Europe? In what ways does the memory of Yugoslavia continue to impact the region's socio-political environment? What challenges and opportunities arise in the process of remembering and reconciling the complex pasts of these regions?

Chair: Anna Menyhert

Participants:

- Izabella Agárdi (iASK, Hungary)
- Monika Mátay (iASK, Hungary)
- Zala Pavčić (CEU Democracy Institute, Hungary)
- Petra Hamer (University of Ljubljana, Slovenia)
- Rubin Zemon (iASK, Center for Advanced Researches, North Macedonia)

FRIDAY, JUNE 28

09:30 – 11:30 Workshop:

Establishing a Mock European Parliament for Civil Engagement

In response to the global landscape marked by armed conflicts, pivotal election outcomes, and Europe's evolving political climate, this unique workshop convenes a mock European Parliament. This assembly brings together an interdisciplinary mix of scholars, students, diplomats, and civil society advocates. Our aim is to foster a dynamic debate on urgent global and European issues, encouraging a diverse range of perspectives. Participants will engage in in-depth discussions, simulating the roles of MEPs to explore solutions and foster a deeper understanding of Europe's role on the world stage. This interactive session is



designed not only to debate but also to collaboratively envisage new pathways for European cooperation and leadership in addressing today's most challenging questions.

11:30 Closing remarks: Summary of the main conclusions from the 29th International Summer University

12:30 pm Certificate Award Ceremony