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Sources of self-awareness

changing perceptions of Hungarian identity

IX. INTERNATIONAL
CONGRESS OF
HUNGARIAN STUDIES

MISKOLC AND SÁROSPATAK,
AUGUST 24–29, 2026





Welcome

Dear Colleagues!

We are pleased to announce that the IX. International Congress of Hungarian Studies will take place in Miskolc and Sárospatak between August 24–29, 2026. The congress is organized by the International Association for Hungarian Studies (NMTT), the University of Miskolc, and the University of Tokaj-Hegyalja.

The congress, held every five years, is the largest international forum for Hungarian studies. The two major cities of northern Hungary, Miskolc and Sárospatak, with their rich cultural and historical heritage, provide a worthy venue for the conference.





The main theme of the congress is: *Sources of self-awareness – changing perceptions of Hungarian identity*

Self-awareness enables us to cooperate with others and to situate our own values in space and time. However, self-awareness is inconceivable without understanding others and their opinions – this applies to community as well as individual self-awareness. The cultural, political, and social identity of a national community is solid when it includes the external image formed of it. It can only renew itself continuously if it seeks to harmonize its image of itself with the image others form of it.

At the beginning of the 21st century, in the context of globalization and changing power relations, it is particularly important to continue and examine the historical dialogue

between cultures: to take stock of successes and failures and to map the changing dimensions of the image of Hungarians. Hungarian studies, as an interdisciplinary forum, aims to initiate this dialogue and promote fruitful cooperation between different disciplines.

The focus of the 2026 congress is to reveal new dimensions of Hungarian identity: historical and social contexts as well as cultural, linguistic, and artistic expressions of identity. The topic proposals received confirm that the issues of self-understanding and the image of Hungarians not only provide an opportunity for interdisciplinary cooperation, but also reflect on contemporary social problems.





Symposiums in Miskolc

The formation and development of the image of Hungarians abroad from the perspective of Central European Hungarian studies workshops (Orsolya Žagar Szentesi)

The past and present of Hungarian comparative literature (Levente Szabó T.)

The cultural significance of the Hungarian language's "medial, event-oriented" perception of the world (primarily in Hungarian history) (Miklós Nyíró)

The possibilities of Hungarian urban research: socialist cities, planned spaces, everyday use (Judit Dobák)

The dynamic spaces of gender – body, gender, queer (Zoltán Csehy)

Possessive pronouns as shapers and reflectors of identity awareness and the image of Hungarians (Judit Kecskés, Mariann Slíz, Valéria Tóth)

The transformative power of archives (Marko Čudić)

Sources and backgrounds of self-perception: the situation and influence of religiosity in the Carpathian Basin from the modern era to the end of the 20th century (Juliane Brandt)

Difficile est historiam non scribere – Hungarians and foreigners in the historiography of the Long Turkish War (the "Fifteen Years' War") (Éva Gyulai, Péter Kasza)

Symposium on drama and theater studies (Emese Egyed, Ildikó Sirató)

Symposium on the history of philosophy: National philosophies in the context of Central and Eastern Europe (Béla Mester, András Mészáros)

Crossing boundaries in the world of scienc (Balázs Sipos)

Networks, career and professionalization models, research on the intelligentsia (László Boka, Annamária Biró)

Hungarian Studies from the Far Eastern Point of View: Crossing Boundaries, Understanding and Reinterpretation Beyond Linguistic and Sociocultural Differences (Mari Okamoto)

Career opportunities in 18th-century Hungary: social, national, and religious transitions and their limits (Olga Khavanova, András Forgó)

Linguistic ideologies and language boundaries (Ildikó Vančo, Márta Csire, Johanna Laasko)

The legacy of epochal changes – Society and everyday life in the dynamics of change (Balázs Balogh)

Kosztolányi symposium: Crossing boundaries between disciplines, languages, and cultures in the critical edition of classical texts (István Dobos)

The changing international coordinates of the image of Hungary as reflected in 16th–18th century European print media genres (Nóra G. Etényi)

The image of Hungarians in language textbooks past and present (Orsolya Nádor)

Images of Hungarianness and national identity in 20th–21st century Hungarian literature (Kornélia Horváth)

The image of Hungarians and national identity as reflected in the history of spirituality in the 16th–18th centuries (Rita Bajáki)



“Everything is broken”: The legacy of the Monarchy (Hungarian–Austrian relations in the 20th century)
(Gábor Ujváry)

The image of Hungarians among ethnic minority members of parliament, 1868–1944 (Réka Marchut, Ferenc Eiler, and Béni L. Balogh)

Language and identity (Klára Sándor)

Protestant identity and the image of Hungarians between 1517 and 1860 (Ádám Hegyi, János Ugrai)

Puszta, fallow land, zone, space: Landscape symbolism and spatial poetics in modern Hungarian literature (Dániel Szabolcs Radnai)

Changes and representations of regional (Székely) cultures, societies, heritages, and identities (Ferenc Pozsony)

Regional and cultural horizons in the history of the Hungarian language (Dezső Juhász, János N. Fodor)

Orality and literacy, Hungarian and Latin in the Old Hungarian and Middle Hungarian periods (Klára Korompay, Erika Terbe, Zsuzsa C. Vladár)

Society and literacy in medieval and early modern Transylvania (Zsolt Bogdáni)

History of technology, innovation, and science (Zita Horváth, Árpád Palotás)

Transcultural aspects in Hungarian literary histories intended for foreigners (Éva Bányai, Imre József Balázs, Stephan Krause, Ferenc Vincze)

Symposiums in Sárospatak

The role of wine in shaping the Hungarian identity before the phylloxera epidemic (Tímea N. Kis)

Humanism and literary language use in Central and Eastern Europe (15th–17th centuries) (Gábor Kiss Farkas)

A brief description of each symposium can be found on the conference website.





Practical information

The symposium chairs will invite individual applicants with whom they wish to work, and will also decide on the duration and order of the presentations and discussions. The selection of presentations for symposia will therefore take place continuously alongside registration, and we will send the speakers information about the results.

The opening ceremony will take place at the University of Miskolc in the early afternoon of August 24, 2026, followed by plenary presentations and the general meeting of the International Association for Hungarian Studies. The scientific sessions will take place in Miskolc on August 25–26 and August 28, and in Sárospatak on August 25–26. The joint opening ceremony for the two symposia in Sárospatak will take place on August 25, 2026.

The symposia will be held at the University of Miskolc and the University of Tokaj–Hegyalja. Participants can request accommodation in the university dormitories.

The participation fee for attending the scientific and cultural events and receptions is €150 gross, or €120 gross for fee-paying members of the International Association for Hungarian Studies (or the equivalent amount in HUF). The discounted participation fee for our retired and PhD student presenters is €100 gross.

If the latter are also fee-paying members of the Association, then their registration fee is €70 gross (or the equivalent amount in HUF). This includes the cost of publications containing information on each symposium, as well as the right to participate in cultural events and accompanying programs. The excursions traditionally held on the fourth day of the congress (August 27) are at the participants' own expense. The accompanying participants' fee is uniformly €70 gross (or the equivalent amount in HUF). We will provide information on the deadline and method of payment, as well as the technical details of bank transfers, in our next circular.

Registration is open until March 31, 2026, using the registration form available on the congress website. Information regarding accommodation, meal plans, and excursions, as well as the order form and its online availability, will be sent to registered participants in the second half of April 2026, with a deadline for response by 15 May 2026. We will provide information about the exact dates of the symposia on our website by April 20, 2026, so that you can book your accommodation, meals, and excursions with this information in mind.





Online registration

If you have not yet registered and would like to participate in the conference as a speaker or audience member, please fill out the registration form on our website.

Website: hungkong2026.uni-miskolc.hu

Email: hungkong2026@uni-miskolc.hu

Registration deadline: March 31, 2026.



On behalf of the Organizing Committee, we cordially welcome you:

Zita Horváth

Rector of the University of Miskolc

Szabolcs Kéri

Rector of Tokaj-Hegyalja University

Andrea Seidler

*President of the International Association
for Hungarian Studies*

István Monok

*Co-President of the International Association
for Hungarian Studies*

Réka Tasi

Secretary General of the Congress ► @

Katalin Csatlósné Komáromi

Secretary of the Congress ► @

Sándor Bene

*Secretary General of the International Associa-
tion for Hungarian Studies* ► @

Mónika Csapó

*Organizing Secretary of the International
Association for Hungarian Studies* ► @





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