
AHEA Newsletter: March 2025

1 message

American Hungarian Educators Association <aheanews@123673990.mailchimpapp.com> Tue, Mar 18, 2025 at 12:44 PM

Reply-To: aheanews@gmail.com

To: voros@eecs.berkeley.edu

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March 2025 Newsletter

President's Corner

Dear Members and Friends of AHEA,

As we move into the second half of the semester, a few important reminders: the deadline to submit an application for our [Presentation Awards](#) is March 31. Don't forget that early bird conference registration closes on April 1—secure your spot at a reduced rate! You can also now register for our three-day post-conference trip to Mohács, Szekszárd, Villány and the surrounding region: a great opportunity to connect with colleagues in a more informal setting. All details and registration links are available on the [conference website](#)—don't miss out!

As always, feel free to reach out to me with any questions or suggestions: hl4@stmarys-ca.edu.

Warm regards, üdvözlettel,

Helga Lenart-Cheng

Research Presentation Awards

Deadline: March 31, 2025

Graduate students and junior colleagues are especially encouraged to apply for \$500 to help offset the cost of presenting at the next AHEA conference.

[Click here](#) for details and link to the formal application!

Member Spotlight

AHEA is a scholarly organization connecting a diverse set of educators, researchers, professionals, independent scholars and academics who come from many walks of life. Each month we highlight the academic and professional career of a different AHEA member.



This month's featured member is **Péter Hevő**, ELTE

Please tell us a little bit about your career arc, especially how you came to both the history (and present) of Central European diplomacy?

My interest in history was probably fueled by the fact that I was born in Czechoslovakia as a Hungarian, and even as a child I tried to understand why the history of twentieth-century Central Europe turned out the way it did. I decided to apply for a history major when I was about 16, and from then on it was a relatively steady path over the next decade until I got my PhD. Throughout my studies, I have remained loyal to ELTE Budapest, but of course in the meantime I have also done research in Germany, the Czech Republic and the United States on various fellowships. The focus of my research changes from time to time, mostly between German-speaking countries and the Central and Eastern European region. For example, I wrote a [monograph](#) on the relationship between German foreign policy and the Bundeswehr, but my most read articles are on Czechoslovakia. Since I teach international relations at the university, but I have a PhD in history, I am interested in both the past and the present and can apply the tools of different disciplines.

How did you find out about AHEA, and what brought you to join?

I first heard about AHEA in 2022 at ELTE, then I looked it up on the website and found that many of my colleagues were already members. My first attempt was to attend the 2023 online conference, and it was then that I knew I wanted to meet the members in person, so I applied to the conference in New Brunswick last year.

What impact has your involvement with AHEA made on your career and/or your work?

Attendance at AHEA's conferences has had a positive impact on my career goals in many ways. First, giving a presentation and participating in the discussions has contributed to my professional development, and the valuable comments of researchers from different institutions has helped me to work on my topic. I was also able to learn some useful information about the teaching methods in the United States, about the opportunities offered by the Fulbright Scholarship, and how to deal with current problems in higher education (e.g. the use of AI tools). I was also a recipient of the AHEA Research Presentation Award, which I was very grateful for, and which will probably help me get closer to my *Habilitation*, and promotion to associate professor. Last but not least, it was exciting to meet interesting and stimulating people at the conferences and being part of the AHEA community.

Tell us, please, what you're working on right now.

Currently, I'm working on two main research areas, which are connected to a number of subtopics that I plan to present at various conferences. One of the larger-scale projects is on the relations between Austria and Hungary after 1989, for which I have already conducted archival research in Budapest and will continue in Vienna this summer. This was a very interesting period in Austrian history, as the country was faced with the double challenge of dealing not only with the insecurity of its eastern neighbors, but also with its own EU accession process. Beyond the usual bilateral issues, I am primarily interested in the role Austria played in Hungary's integration into the western institutions (especially EU membership). The project is supported by the Austrian-Hungarian, Scientific and Educational Cooperation Action Foundation (OMAA).

My other research project focuses on the public perception of NATO in Hungary, which I seek to extend later to other countries in the Central and Eastern European region. I do not think it is necessary to go into the reasons why this is a valid issue to be addressed in these turbulent times. I would like to present a part of this topic at the AHEA conference in Pécs in June 2025.

Have a New or Upcoming Publication?

We would love to help share news of the impressive and diverse work that AHEA members are doing! If you have a recent book, article, or other scholarly/artistic work you would like your fellow members to know about, send a brief description/promotional blurb and a link to further information to aheanews@gmail.com. Requests will appear in the order in which they were received and may be edited for space.



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