



CEU DOCTORAL SCHOOL OF HISTORY

The Doctoral Thesis in Comparative History

by

Ágoston Berecz

on

“Chapters from the Political Life of Names. The Nationalisation of
Names and Naming in Dualist Hungary.”

will be held on

Tuesday, June 27, 2017, at 11:45 a.m

in

**Senate room, Nádor 9.
Central European University (CEU)
Budapest—1051**

Examination Committee

Mária Kovács – Chair (Department of Nationalism Studies, CEU)

Balázs Trencsényi – supervisor (Department of History, CEU)

Maciej Janowski – CEU internal member (Department of History)

Tomasz Kamusella – external member (University of St. Andrews, UK)

Judit Pál – external reader (Babes Bolyai University, Cluj)

ABSTRACT

The thesis sets itself the challenge of reinterpreting conflicting nationalisation projects and state Magyarisation policies in Dualist Hungary (1867–1918) from the perspective of proper names, their construal and uses. It is structured according to the different classes of names; personal (given and family) names, street names and place names (settlement names, hydronyms, names of surface features). Common to these was that they all embodied national historical imaginaries promoted by dominant or non-dominant national elites, and through the study of their social pathways, it is in many a case possible to assess how far the related imaginaries resonated with broader publics. Therefore, the thesis makes a case for proper names as ideal objects of research in the quest for historical constructs and their fates in social life, and offers more generally valid considerations and research designs for their historical study.

CURRICULUM VITAE*Ágoston Berecz***EDUCATION**

ELTE, Budapest, Hungarian—Portuguese
CEU, History MA

WORK EXPERIENCE

manager/clerk, CEU Bookshop
librarian, ELTE Library of Hungarian Linguistics
high-school teacher, Kölcsey Ferenc Gimnázium, Budapest

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Women and Social Movements in Modern Empires since 1820

PUBLIC LECTURES

Linguistic Imaginaries in Dualist Transylvania (1867-1914), New Europe College, Bucharest, January 2016 and CEU, Budapest, November 2016

CONFERENCES

ASEEES–MAG Convention, Lviv, June 2016
Politics of Teaching and Learning Foreign Languages conference, London, September 2015
Fourth Annual Europe & the World International Graduate Conference, Florence, June 2015
Urban Space and Multilingualism in the Late Habsburg Empire, Vienna, March 2014
Seventh International Conference on Hungarian Linguistics, Budapest, August 2004

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Hanák Prize for best MA thesis in modern history, 2012
NEC International Fellow, New Europe College, Bucharest, 2015–16

LANGUAGES

Hungarian (native)
English (fluent)
French (fluent)

Romanian (fluent)
 German (reading)
 Portuguese (reading, dormant)
 Spanish (reading)

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

Book

The Politics of Early Language Teaching: Hungarian in the Primary Schools of the Late Dual Monarchy. Budapest: Pasts, Inc., 2013

Papers

Recepciótörténeti széljegyzet Tara Zahra tanulmányához [Marginalia on the reception of Tara Zahra's study]. *Regio* (under publication)

Gyarmati nyelvpolitikák az első globalizáció idején [Colonial language policies under the first globalization]. *Ibid.* (under publication)

Floreas into Virágs: State regulation of first names in Dualist Hungary. *Austrian History Yearbook* 47 (2016): 107–27

A családnév románsága a dualizmus kori erdélyi, illetve magyarországi román nemzeti elit önképében [The Romanianness of family names in the self-perception of the Romanian elite of Dualist Transylvania and Hungary]. In Tamás Farkas and István Kozma, eds, *A családnév-változtatások történetei időben, térben, társadalomban* [The Histories of Family Name Changes in Time, Space and Society], 263–272. Budapest: Gondolat and Magyar Nyelvtudományi Társaság, 2009

Cingár. *Magyar Nyelvőr* 98 (2002): 463–5

(with Ilona Halupka, Anna Sára Tóth and János Balázs Szűcs) Szerzői megszólalások négy XVII. századi eposzunkban [Authorial utterances in four Hungarian epic poems from the 17th century]. *Irodalomismeret* 8 (1997)

Reviews

Another Hungary: The Nineteenth-Century Provinces in Eight Lives. Stanford, Calif.: Stanford by Robert Nemes. *East Central Europe* (under publication)

Framing the Ukrainian Peasantry in Habsburg Galicia, 1846–1914 by Andriy Zayarnyuk. *East Central Europe* 43 (2016)

Exploring Transylvania: Geographies of Knowledge and Entangled Histories in a Multiethnic Province, 1790—1918 by Borbála Zsuzsanna Török. *Hungarian Historical Review* 5 (2016)

The Transformation of the World: A Global History of the Nineteenth Century by Jürgen Osterhammel. *European Review of History/Revue européenne d'histoire* 22 (2015)