Dear Students and Colleagues,

It is a great pleasure to launch the very first edition of The COMMpass, a yearly newsletter to showcase our students’ progress along their PhD journey and to report on the program’s major events.

2021 was a very special year: it marked the end of our first academic year under the auspices of the newly established Doctoral School of Sociology and Communication Science. We underwent a rigorous accreditation process and also participated in the first-ever joint Research Forum organized with the Sociology program. 7 was our lucky number: we admitted seven new first-year students into the program and seven of our students graduated with flying colours. And there are so many more achievements we’re proud of.

I’d like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your dedication, enthusiasm and effort in maintaining this wonderful COMMunity!

Wishing you a prosperous and happy New Year,

Réka Benczes
Warm welcome to our new students!

L-R: Mwangi Zipporah, Tekla Illés, Fanni Cziráky, Kincső Szabó, Marcell Mezriczky, Anilla Till and Gábor Ozoli

Conference participation
In 2021, our students presented at 69 conferences; 40% of these were international events. 10% of the conference participations were supported through EFOP 3.6.3. Our top conference goers in 2021 were Lilla Petronella Szabó (5th year) and Erna Uricska (2nd year) – both of whom participated at 14 conferences each.

My greatest scholarly achievement in 2021...

“The positive feedbacks from students after teaching”
Flóra Keszei

“Getting accepted to the winter school of the University of Amsterdam”
Anilla Till
Our second-year student **Aia Muratalieva** won **Best Presentation Award** in the International Migration section at the Interdisciplinary Doctoral Conference 2021, hosted by the University of Pécs, 12-13 November. The title of her topic was “Victims or Aggressors? Xenophobic Discourse and Strategies of Otherization in Russian Media Towards Migrants”.

**Tekla Illés** (1st year) won **Best Poster Award** at the Interdisciplinary Doctoral Conference 2021, hosted by the University of Pécs, 12-13 November. The title of her topic was “Internet trolls and supportive grannies: The analysis of female politicians’ Facebook comment section”.

**What I wish for in 2022…**

“Be curious, get inspired and inspire others in 2022!”
**Lina Horváth**

I wish a year with full of success and health for all of us :)
**Beste Naz Özkan**
One of the specialties of the program is that students are actively encouraged to participate in joint research with their peers – the outcome of which are conference participations and quality publications. Alexandra Béni (3rd year), Judit Sebestény (3rd year) and Lilla Petronella Szabó (5th year) gave a talk on “The discursive construction of a leader: A corpus-based study of the 2021 Hungarian opposition primary” at the International Graduate Conference of Political Science and International Relations 2021.

Second-year students Orsolya Kovács-Magosi and Aleksandra Zivanovic (2nd year) presented their joint research on "Games for the Planet: Analysis of Environmental Games for Reinforcing Pro-environmental Behaviour" at the International Sustainability Student Conference, held on 29 April 2021, organized by the Budapest Business School and the University of Applied Sciences.

My greatest scholarly achievement in 2021...

“Developing my teaching skills (delivering two full-semester courses) and being able to design/start my thesis pilot research”

Admilson Veloso da Silva
Lina Horváth (2nd year) and Marcell Mezriczky (1st year) both won second place at the prestigious National Scientific Student Competition (OTDK).

My greatest scholarly achievement in 2021...

“Presenting at the Debrecen Fashion Festival”
Aleksandra Zivanović

“Becoming the member of the Internet Roundtable for Child Protection”
Veronika Pelle
Veronika Pelle (individual track) won the **Best Mentor Award** for her mentoring excellence in the National Student Competition (TDK). In 2021 she was the supervisor of 5 TDK and 2 OTDK papers, out of which one received OTDK 1st prize, two TDK 1st prizes and one TDK 2nd prize. She was also the awardee of the **University Certificate of Honour** for her “her dedicated talent management and innovative, project-oriented teaching” (https://www.uni-corvinus.hu/hir/presentation-of-the-2021-corvinus-university-awards/?lang=en).

![Veronika Pelle with the Rector of CUB, Előd Takáts](image)

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**Research scholarship**

We are proud of our **New National Excellence Scholarship** (ÚNKP) holders:

- Alexandra Béni (3rd year)
- Evelin Horváth (1st year)
- Ágnes Virág (4th year)

**What I wish for in 2022…**

“**To experience significant improvement in the field of (a) quantitative analysis and (b) time management ;)**”

**Lídia Vinczéné Fekete**

“**More community gatherings within the doctoral school, [it’s] so inspirational and good fun to spend time together**”

**Fanni Cziráky**
Teaching

Many of our students teach courses at the Institute of Communication and Sociology and also participate in thesis supervision/evaluation. Our first-year student Kincső Szabó was awarded “The Most Creative Course” by students for her BA course “Professzionális portfólió” (“Professional Portfolio”), which she co-taught with Gergő Czmarkó and Gergely Vizi.

What I wish for in 2022...

“more energy and opportunities for collective work/collaboration with groupmates and professors”

Aia Muratalieva

“I wish the publication requirements became magically fulfilled...”

Judit Sebestény
Select publications
We are proud of our students’ publication outputs, which range from book of abstracts through book reviews to full-blown journal articles and book chapters. The publications reflect both the dynamic research environment, as well as the collaborative potential of the program, manifested for instance in joint publications by students (such as the article by Szabó & Béni 2021 below). Select outputs (student’s names are capitalized):


Second-year student Erna Uricska compiled a unique, English-language dictionary on Covid-related terms and expressions:

Book acquisitions
Thanks to the EFOP 3.6.3 funding, several recently published Communication Science handbooks have been acquired through the university’s library:

- The SAGE Handbook of Social Media
- A Dictionary of Media and Communication
- Dictionary of Media and Communication Studies
- The SAGE Handbook of Social Media Research Methods
Our graduates
Seven of our students have graduated from the program in 2021. Many congratulations to our new graduates and their supervisors!
• Janka Barkóczi (Sv: András Murai)
• Jácint Farkas (Sv: András Karácsony)
• Dalma Kékesdi-Boldog (Sv: Péter Bajomi Lázár, Balázs Sipos)
• Ágnes Nagy (Sv: András Karácsony)
• Erzsébet Györgyi Nagy (Sv: Márton Demeter, István Sándor)
• Zsolt Balázs Major (Sv: Mátyás Domschitz)
• Tamás Tóth (Sv: Ágnes Veszelszki, Márton Demeter)

We are on Facebook
In April 2021 we launched the official Facebook page of the program, which is administered by Lilla Petronella Szabó. Please visit and like the page – and share your news and achievements with us by sending an email and photo (if possible) to Lilla (lilla.sabo@uni-corvinus.hu).

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