



*Cold War History Research Center
at Corvinus University of Budapest
and the Centre for Social Sciences*

Központ u. 4-6.
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16th Annual Cold War History Research Center International Student Conference at Corvinus University of Budapest

July 30 – 31, 2026

1093, Budapest

Központ utca 4–6.

Room: C. 316, 3rd floor

**The conference is organized in collaboration with
the London School of Economics and Political Science,
Department of International History Cold War Studies Programme
and the Cold War Archives Research Institute**

PROGRAM

JULY 30, THURSDAY

10:00 – 10:20 OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE

10:00 – 10:05 OPENING REMARKS

Csaba BÉKÉS, Professor, Corvinus University of Budapest, Director, Cold War History Research Center at Corvinus University of Budapest, and the Centre for Social Sciences

10:05 – 10:15 OPENING SPEECH

Eszter KIRS, Head, Department of International Relations, Institute of Global Studies, Corvinus University of Budapest

10:15 – 10:20 OPENING REMARKS

Victoria PHILLIPS, Director, Cold War Archives Research Institute and Cold War Lives, Wolfson College, Oxford University, OCLW, Director, Center for Collaborative History Advisory Board, The National Cold War Center, USA – ONLINE

10:20 – 11:00 KEYNOTE SPEECH

Csaba BÉKÉS, Professor, Corvinus University of Budapest, Director, Cold War History Research Center at Corvinus University of Budapest, and the Centre for Social Sciences
The international aspects of the political transition in East-Central Europe, 1988–1991

11:00-11:20 BREAK



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PANEL 1

11:20 – 13:00

Cold War Landscapes: Planning, Infrastructure, and Environmental Diplomacy

Chair: **Maya NADKARNI, Swarthmore College, USA**

Ga-young Kim (Northwestern University, PhD Student)

Competing Internationalisms: Urban Planning in 1988 Seoul Olympics and 1989 Pyongyang
World Festival of Youth and Students

Emma Prantner (London School of Economics, MA Student)

Capitalists and Communists in the Same Sinking Boat: Baltic Sea Environmental Diplomacy,
1969-1974

**Madeleine Schmuckler (University of Toronto, Centre for European and Eurasian Studies,
MA Student)**

Cuban Catastrophe: John Diefenbaker's Response to the Cuban Missile Crisis

Olalekan Ojumu (University of Oxford, Cold War Archives Research Fellow)

The Cold War, the Soviet Union, and the Making of Nigeria's Ajaokuta Steel Mill

Discussion

13:00 – 14:20 LUNCH BREAK

PANEL 2

14:20– 16:00

Sounds, Images, and Ideas: Cultural Transmission in the Global Cold War

Chair: **Éva KŐVÁRINÉ IGNÁTH**, Corvinus University of Budapest

Samuel Babalola (University of Ibadan, Cold War Archives Research Fellow)

Cold War Lives of Nigerian intellectuals in Britain: Writers, Broadcasters and Cultural Activists,
1955-1975

Idil Nihan Solak (Charles University, MA Student)

Sci-Fi Animation Propaganda: The Last Years of the USSR

Aet Kubits (Central European University, MA Student)

Perception of US jazz diplomacy in Soviet Estonia – local interpretations of cultural diplomacy
messages during the Cold War

Didem Yılmaz (Bilkent University, PhD Candidate)

Dialectics of Seeing in Das Denkmal: Staging Socialist Forgetting in the Late GDR Counter-
Monument

Discussion

16:00-16:20 BREAK

PANEL 3

16:20 – 18:00

Cold War Internationalisms: Decolonization, Solidarity, and Global Power

Chair: **Péter MARTON, Corvinus University of Budapest**

Havasi Máté (Eötvös Loránd University, PhD Candidate)

“The French Connection”: The early prospects of an American military commitment in Indochina in the 1950s

Ivan Ćorić (University of Zagreb, PhD Student)

The Truth Suddenly Hit Us: Yugoslavia and the Horn of Africa in the Late 1970s

María Fernanda Castillo Gómez (Freie Universität Berlin, MA Student)

In and out of Moscow: Latin American Intellectuals at the 1957 World Youth Festival

Melanie Shi (École des hautes études en sciences sociales, EHESS, PhD Student)

Foreign Languages Press and Littérature Chinoise: Paris as a Hub of Socialist Literary Networks during the Global Sixties

Discussion



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JULY 31, FRIDAY

PANEL 4

10:00 – 11:40

Forging Identities in the Cold War: Memory, Exile, and Political Communities.

Chair: **Ádám TENCZER, Corvinus University of Budapest**

Olga Petrova (Central European University, PhD Candidate)

"Making the free world understand the true essence of the Communist regime": The Munich Institute and Negotiating Ukrainian-Jewish Relations

Rafael Prezado (University of Évora, PhD student)

"Proudly Standing Alone"? Portugal's Scientific Networks in the Space Age, 1957–1974

Sofiia Rzhevuska (University of Agder, Cold War Archives Research Fellow)

Reframing the Cold War: Ukrainian Heritage in the U.S. as a Political Practice

Anna Koós (Central European University, MA Student)

The Realities of Stalinist Female Emancipation after the Communist Takeover in Hungary, 1948-51

Discussion

11:40 – 12:00 BREAK



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PANEL 5

12:00 – 13:40

European Visions and Networks in the Cold War

Chair: **János KEMÉNY, National University of Public Services**

Coleman Lee (The University of Alabama, Cold War Archives Research Fellow)

"Jimmy in London: President Jimmy Carter's First State Visit, the Cold War, and the Making of a Global Rhetorical Presidency"

Evan Richardson (University of Virginia Corcoran, Cold War Archives Research Fellow)

Europe as Nation: Oswald Mosley's Cold War Vision of a Neofascist European "Third Force"

Boris Vinogradov (Zurich University of Applied Sciences, Postdoc Researcher)

Mediating Technology Transfer: The Soviet Embassy and Trade Mission in Switzerland and the Acquisition of Technology, 1950s–1980s

Melisa Durkal (Central European University, MA Student)

Cold War Liquidity: Federal Reserve Swap Lines and the Politics of Sterling Support, 1964–1967

Discussion

13:40 – 15:00 LUNCH BREAK

PANEL 6

15:00 – 16:40

The Eastern Bloc in Motion: Crisis, Control, and Change

Chair: **Christopher WALSCH**, Corvinus University of Budapest

Emily Major (University of Oxford, MSc Candidate)

The Last Soviet Economy? Belarus from the Soviet Union to the Present.

Zsolt, Máté (University of Pécs, PhD Candidate)

Plans are worthless, planning is everything. The social impact on the American Government – the reaction to the 1956 Hungarian Revolution

Long Xinyu (Eötvös Loránd University, PhD Student)

Who Defines 1956 in Hungary? Sino–Soviet Competition over Socialist Orthodoxy

Jianli YANG (East China Normal University, PhD Candidate)

The Paradox of the "Semi-Planned" Economy: The Soviet, Hungarian, and U. S. Struggle for Control of MAORT's Production and Distribution (1945–1946)

Discussion

16:40 – 16:50 CLOSING REMARKS

Csaba BÉKÉS, Professor, Corvinus University of Budapest, Director, Cold War History Research Center at Corvinus University of Budapest and the Centre for Social Sciences