



Csaba Békés

(TK PTI)

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Research Interests

Cold War History, East-West relations, the history of détente

Hungary's international relations after World War II

The role of the East Central European states in the Cold War

Political transition in East Central Europe

The history of European integration

Selected Publications

Hungary and the dissolution of the Warsaw Pact (1988–1991). *Journal of Cold War Studies*, 25: 4 pp. 4–23., 21 p. (2023)

Hungary's Cold War: International Relations from the End of World War Two to the Fall of the Soviet Union. University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill. New Cold War History series, 2022.

<https://uncpress.org/book/9781469667485/hungarys-cold-war/>

Bevezető. A magyar külpolitika fő vonásai, 1945–1990. [Introduction. Main trends of Hungarian foreign policy, 1945–1990]. In: Magyarország külkapcsolatai (1945–1990). [International relations of Hungary, 1945–1990]. Szerk. Horváth Sándor, Kecskés D. Gusztáv, Mitrovits Miklós, Budapest, Bölcsészettudományi Kutatóközpont, Történettudományi Intézet, 2021, 11–52.

Enyhülés és emancipáció. Magyarország, a szovjet blokk és a nemzetközi politika, 1944–1991. [Détente and emancipation. Hungary, the Soviet Bloc and international politics, 1944–1991] Budapest, Osiris kiadó – MTA TK, 2019.

The Long Détente and the Soviet Bloc, 1953–1983. In Oliver Bange, Poul Villaume (Eds.) *The Long Détente. Changing concepts of security and cooperation in Europe, 1950s-1980s*. Central European University Press: Budapest–New York, 2017, 31–49.

The History of the Soviet Bloc 1945–1991. A Chronology. Part 5. 1988–1991, Cold War History Research Center: Budapest, 2017 (www.coldwar.hu)

http://www.coldwar.hu/main_pubs/Chronology5.pdf

Békés Csaba: Hungary, the Soviet Bloc, the German question and the CSCE Process, 1965–1975. *Journal of Cold War Studies*. Vol. 18. No. 3. Summer, 2016, 95–138.

Soviet Occupation of Romania, Hungary, and Austria 1944/45–1948/49. Csaba Békés, László Borhi, Peter Ruggenthaler, Ottmar Trasca (Eds.). Central European University Press: Budapest – New York, 2015.

Békés Csaba: Cold War, Détente and the Soviet Bloc. The evolution of intra-bloc foreign policy coordination, 1953–1975. In: Mark Kramer, Vit Smetana (Eds.): *Imposing, maintaining and tearing open the iron curtain: the Cold War and East-Central Europe, 1945–1989*. Lexington Books: Lanham, Maryland, 2014, 247–278.

Détente and the Soviet Bloc, 1975–1991. In: Rasmus Mariager, Helle Porsdam, Poul Villaume (Eds.): *The 'Long 1970s'. Human Rights, East-West Détente, and Transnational Relations*. Routledge: London–New York, 2016, 165–183.

Hidegháború-enyhülés- új megközelítésben [Cold War – détente: revisited]. *Külügyi Szemle*, 2014. 4. sz. 3–18.

https://kki.hu/assets/upload/1_Beekees_Csaba.pdf

Hungarian foreign policy in the bipolar World, 1945–1991, *Foreign Policy Review* [Budapest], 2011. 65–97.

http://www.coldwar.hu/publications/csaba_bekes_-_Hungarian_foreign_policy_in_the_bipolar_world_1945%E2%80%931991.pdf

Békés Csaba: East Central Europe, 1953–1956. In Melvyn Leffler, Odd Arne Westad (eds.): *The Cambridge History of the Cold War*. Vol. 1.: Cambridge University Press: Cambridge, 2010, 334–352.

Békés Csaba: Hungary and the Prague Spring. In: Günter Bischof, Stefan Karner, Peter Ruggenthaler (Eds.): *The Prague Spring and the Warsaw Pact Invasion of Czechoslovakia, 1968*. Lanham–Boulder–New York: Lexington Books, Rowman and Littlefield, 2010. 371–395.

The Warsaw Pact and the Helsinki Process, 1965–1970. In Wilfried Loth, Georges-Henri Soutou (Eds.): *The Making of Détente: Eastern and Western Europe in the Cold War, 1965–75*. London–New York: Routledge, 2008. 201–220.

Why was there no “Second Cold War” in Europe? Hungary and the East–West Crisis following the Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan. In: Mary Ann Heiss, S. Victor Papacosma (eds.): *NATO and the Warsaw Pact*.

Intrabloc conflicts. The Kent State University Press: Kent, Oh., 2008. 219-232.

Evolúció és revolúció. Magyarország és a nemzetközi politika 1956-ban. [Evolution and Revolution. Hungary and International Politics in 1956] (Szerk.) Békés Csaba, Gondolat Kiadó-1956-os Intézet: Budapest, 2007.

Az 1956-os magyar forradalom a világpolitikában [The 1956 Hungarian Revolution and World Politics]. (Second enlarged edition) 1956-os Intézet: Budapest, 2006.

Európából Európába. Magyarország konfliktusok kereszttüzeiben, 1945–1990. [From Europe to Europe. Hungary in the Crossfire of Conflicts, 1945–1990] Gondolat Kiadó: Budapest, 2004.

The 1956 Hungarian Revolution. A history in documents. Csaba Békés, Malcolm Byrne, János M. Rainer [eds.] CEU Press: Budapest–New York, 2002.

Research Projects

The role of the East Central European states in the Cold War 1945–1991

Cold War History Research Center – at HAS Centre for Social Sciences and Corvinus University of Budapest (Special Report 1998 – 2018) (www.coldwar.hu)

Work in Progress

Békés Csaba – Kecskés D. Gusztáv: Magyarország NATO-csatlakozásának története, 1988–1999 (monográfia)

[The history of Hungary's accession to NATO, 1988–1999 – monograph]

Academic Career

Academic Career

2023 – Research Professor Emeritus, Institute of Political Science, Centre for Social Sciences

2021 – Research Professor, Institute of Political Science, Centre for Social Sciences

2014 – Research Chair, Institute of Political Science, Hungarian Academy of Sciences

2013–Professor of History, Corvinus University of Budapest, Institute of International Studies

2009–2013 Associate Professor, Corvinus University of Budapest, Institute of International Studies

2007– 2014 Senior Research Fellow, Institute of Political Science, Hungarian Academy of Sciences

1998– Founding Director, Cold War History Research Center, Budapest, (www.coldwar.hu)

1991– 2007 Senior Research Fellow and Research Coordinator (1991–2003), Institute for the History of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution, Budapest (www.rev.hu)

1997–2000 Coordinator, Hungarian Program, Project on Openness in Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union [Based at the National Security Archive, Washington D.C.]

1987–1991 Research librarian, National Széchényi Library, Budapest

1983–1987 Archivist, New Hungarian Central Archives, Budapest

Education

1978–1983 József Attila University, Szeged, Hungary [Majors: History and English language and Anglo-American literature]

1983 M.A. in history and English language and Anglo-American literature

1989 University Doctor's degree (Dr. univ.) [History], József Attila University, Szeged, Hungary

1998 Ph.D. Janus Pannonius University, Pécs, Hungary [History]

2009 Habilitation (Dr. habil.) University of Pécs, Hungary [History]

2014 Doctor of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, Hungary [International Relations] (D.Sc.)

Membership in Academic and Professional Organisations; Editorial Board Membership

Editorial/Advisory board memberships

2011 – *Radovi Zavoda za hrvatsku povijest*, Zagreb

2011 – 2014 Külügyi Szemle (Foreign Policy Review), Budapest

2000 – Journal of Cold War Studies (Harvard University)

1999 – Cold War History (London)

2015 – Cold War Archives Research (CWAR) Fellowship, European Institute, Columbia University, New York. (formerly: Radio Free Europe Research Project Fellowship)

2016 – 2020 Corvinus Journal of International Affairs

2017 – Cold War Eastern Europe. Online database (Routledge).

Academic committees

2018–2020 – Council of Academic Research Institutes (AKT) Commission for the Humanities and Social Sciences – member

2018 – Doctoral Committee for International and Development Studies, Hungarian Academy of Sciences - Secretary

2020 – 2023 Scientific Committee on International and Development Studies, Hungarian Academy of Sciences – elected member

2015 – Cold War Archives Research (CWAR) Fellowship at the European Institute, Columbia University, New York, (korábban: Radio Free Europe Research Project Fellowship) – member of the three member advisory body.

Selected conferences and workshops

Invited participant at 112 international conferences.

Internal factors facilitating Communist takeover in East-Central Europe 1944-1948

Opocno, Czech Republic, 9-11 September, 1993.

Paper presented: The Interaction of the Internal and Foreign Policy of the Hungarian Communist Party During the Political Crisis in the Spring of 1946.

Prague 1968 and the World.

Prague, 3-5 March, 1994.

Paper presented: The International Background of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution and that of the Prague Spring in 1968. A comparative analysis.

V. World Congress for Central and East European Studies,

Warsaw, 6-11. August, 1995.

Panel XIV-9: 1956: Hungary in the light of new archival sources.

Paper presented: The 1956 Hungarian Revolution and the Great Powers.

Hungary and the World, 1956. The New Archival Evidence,

Budapest, 26-29 September, 1996.

Paper presented: The 1956 Hungarian Revolution and World Politics

The New Cold War History

Athens, Ohio, 9–11 May, 1997.

Paper presented: New Findings on the Cold War in Hungary

The End of the Cold War in Europe, 1989: "New Thinking" and New Evidence,

Musgrove, St. Simon's Island, Georgia, May 1–3, 1998.

I was moderating Panel I.: The Emergence of Soviet “New Thinking in Eastern Europe

Political Transition in Hungary, 1989–1990

Budapest, June 10–12, 1999.

Paper presented: East–West Relations and the Hungarian Transition

New Cold War History: Historiography, Theory, and Methodology

Moscow, 7–11 May, 2000.

Paper presented: The “New Course” in East–West Relations, 1953–1956

*L'Europe en mutation. Le processus d'Helsinki: de l'Europe divisée
au perspectives de la Grande Europe*

Paris, Sorbonne III. 7–8 June, 2002.

Paper presented: The Human Rights Issue in Hungary

Between East and West: Hungarian Foreign Policy in the 20th Century

Indiana University, Bloomington, March 29, 2003.

Paper presented: The 1956 Hungarian Revolution and the Superpowers

New Central and Eastern European Evidence on the Cold War in Asia, George Washington University Cold War Group-Cold War History Research Center, Budapest, 31 October – 1 November, 2003.

Paper presented: Hungarian mediation during the Vietnam War, 1965–1966.

NATO and the Warsaw Pact: Intra-Bloc Conflicts

Lemnitzer Center for NATO and European Union Studies, Kent State University

April 23–24, 2004.

Paper presented: Why Was There No „Second Cold War” in Europe? Hungary and the Soviet Intervention in Afghanistan in 1979.

Eastern Europe and Western Europe in the Cold War [1965–1975]

Münster, October 23–23, 2004 [University of Duisburg-Essen and the University of Paris IV-Sorbonne].

Paper presented: The Warsaw Pact and the Helsinki Process

The Warsaw Pact: From its Founding to its Collapse, 1955–1991,

Wilson center, Washington D.C., 2005. május 26–27.

Előadás: Warsaw Pact Coordination and the CSCE process, 1965–1970

At the roots of the European security system: thirty years since the Helsinki Final Act,

Zurich, September 8–10, 2005

Paper presented: The Warsaw Pact and the Preparation for a European Security Conference, 1964–1970

Conference for the Creation of an International History of the Cold War. The Origins and Early Development of the Cold War, 1945–1962. (Workshop for the forthcoming 3 volume Cambridge History of the Cold War). March 30 to April 2, 2006, The Truman Presidential Museum & Library, The Harry S. Truman Library Institute for National and International Affairs and the University of Missouri – Kansas

City.

Paper presented: East Central Europe from 1953 to the Aftermath of the 1956 Revolutions

The 1956 Hungarian Revolution in Historical Perspective. 50th Anniversary Reassessments. Harvard University, Cambridge, Ma. October 30, 2006.

Paper presented: Soviet Decision making During the 1956 Hungarian Revolution.

1956 and Its Impact on the Soviet Bloc.

Columbia University, New York, November, 2-3, 2006.

Paper presented: Could the Hungarian Revolution Have Succeeded in 1956?

The Hungarian Revolution of 1956 and After: Impact and Contribution.

Bard College, NY. (USA) February 15-17, 2007

Opening keynote speech: The 1956 Hungarian Revolution and World Politics

Prague Spring and the Warsaw Pact Invasion of Czechoslovakia, 1968.

Center Austria, University of New Orleans, New Orleans, April 3-4, 2008.

Paper presented: Hungary and the Prague Spring.

Der" Prager Frühling". Das Internationale Krisenjahr 1968.

Ludwig Boltzmann-Institut für Kriegsfolgen-Forschung.

Wien-Graz, August 20-22, 2008.

Paper presented: Hungary Between Prague and Moscow.

Dropping, maintaining and breaking the Iron Curtain: The Cold War and East-Central Europe twenty years later.

Institute of Contemporary History, Czech Academy of Sciences.

Prague, November, 19–21, 2009.

Paper presented: *Cold War, Détente and the Soviet Bloc, 1953–1975*

Transition in East Central Europe. Institute of World History, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing. October 30, 2013.

Paper presented: East Central Europe and the end of the Cold War, 1985–1991.

The Fate of Communist Regimes, 1989–1991. Harvard University, November, 20, 2013.

Paper presented: Hungary's Transition from Communism.

2015 Ahtisaari Symposium: New Evidence and Perspectives on the Helsinki Accords Monday, April 27, 2015, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars Washington, D.C.

Paper presented: The Soviet Bloc and the CSCE process

Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty in the Cold War

Friday, March 24, 2017

Columbia University, New York

Paper presented: American Propaganda and Realpolitik During the Cold War

1989: Abbau des Eisernen Vorhangs – Ende des Kommunismus? Ludwig Boltzmann Institute, Graz, Austria, October 7–8, 2019.

Keynote speech: The opening of the Iron Curtain.

Awards and Honours

2013: Order of Merit of the Republic of Hungary, Knight's Cross (Awarded by the President of the Republic)

2018: „For the University” medal – Corvinus University of Budapest

2022: Academic Prize (for the best monograph in social sciences) Hungarian Academy of Sciences

2022: Corvinus Gold Medal –Corvinus University of Budapest

Teaching Experience

Permanent position:

2009 – Associate Professor, Institute of International Studies, Corvinus University of Budapest

2013 – Professor of History, Institute of International Studies, Corvinus University of Budapest

Visiting professorships:

1989–1992 Szeged University; Visiting lecturer, The Foreign Policy of Hungary, 1945–1956

1994 Turku University, Finland, Visiting lecturer, The History of Hungary in the 20th century [In English]

1995 Vendéglátóipari Főiskola, Budapest [College of Commerce and Catering Trade]

Visiting lecturer, The History of Hungary, 1945–1989 [In English]

1995 Budapesti Közgazdaságtudományi Egyetem, [Budapest University of Economics]

Visiting lecturer, The history of the Cold War, [1953–1963] (Ph.D. course)

2003 Matthias Corvinus Collegium, Budapest, Visiting lecturer, Diplomatic history in the 20th century

2006–2007 Fulbright Visiting Professor, New York University, New York [9 months]

The History of East-West relations in Europe after the Second World War, East Central Europe and the Cold War, 1945–1991.

2006–2007 Visiting Professor, Empire State College, New York, The History of East-West relations in Europe after the Second World War,

2007, 2010, 2011, 2015, 2016: István Deák Visiting Professor for East Central European history, Columbia University, New York (one semester each year).

2013 Visiting Professor, Saxo Institute, Copenhagen University [1 month]

Further Affiliations

2009 – Associate Professor, Institute of International Studies, Corvinus University of Budapest

2013 – Professor of History, Institute of International Studies, Corvinus University of Budapest

Other relevant CV records

Number of independent citations: 1619

H-index: 18

Longer study trips

1990 London, Visiting Fellow, Institute of Slavonic and East European Studies,
London University; [3 months] (Hungarian Ministry of Culture-British Council)

Topic: Hungarian-British relations, 1945-1956,
Great-Britain and the 1956 Hungarian revolution

Public Record Office, London, Kew

1991 London, Archival research in the Public Record Office, Kew [1 month]

1995 London, Archival research in the Public Record Office, Kew [1 month]

1997 Washington D.C., National Archives [2 weeks]

1998 Washington D.C., National Archives, [2 weeks]

Topic: The United States and Eastern Europe, 1956-1969

2001-2002 New York, Center Fellow, Project on the Cold War as Global

Conflict, International Center for Advanced Studies, New York University,
[9 months]

Topic: The role of the East-Central European states in the Cold War

Languages

- English (Proficient)
- Russian (Elementary)