

Curriculum vitae: László Kontler

Current position

Professor and "egyetemi tanár", History Department; Pro-Rector for Social Sciences and Humanities & Hungarian Affairs, Central European University, Budapest, Nádor u. 9. 1051 Hungary
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Education

Eötvös Lóránd University (Budapest), 1978-1983. M.A. (undergraduate degree) in history and English language and literature

Degrees

1987: *doctor universitatis*, Eötvös Lóránd University (Budapest), early modern history
1997: candidate of historical science, Hungarian Academy of Sciences (Budapest)
2006: habilitation, Eötvös Lóránd University (Budapest)
2014: Doctor of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (DSc)

Employment

1987-1989: Institute of History, Hungarian Academy of Sciences (editorial assistant, *Danubian Historical Studies*); University of Debrecen (part time lecturer)
1991-1992: Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, visiting lecturer
1992-: Central European University (Budapest), History Department. Professor (since 2000), head of department (1999-2005, 2006-2008)
1992-: Eötvös Lóránd University (Budapest), Department of Medieval and Early-Modern World History, guest lecturer

Research Fellowships

1983-1986: Doctoral Fellowship of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences
1986/1987: British Council Research Scholarship (London School of Economics and Political Science, Oxford University, Cambridge University)
1989/1990: Soros Foundation Postdoctoral Scholarship (Oxford University, St. Antony's College)
1990/1991: Europe Institut Budapest
1991/1992: Fulbright Fellowship (Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ)
1995: Research Fellowship of the Herzog August Bibliothek (Wolfenbüttel, Germany)
1996-1999: Postdoctoral Fellowship of the Hungarian National Research Fund
1999: Andrew Mellon Fellowship (Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities, University of Edinburgh)
2000: DAAD Fellowship (Max-Planck-Institut für Geschichte, Göttingen and Herzog August Bibliothek, Wolfenbüttel)
2004: Fellowship of the Max-Planck-Gesellschaft (Max-Planck-Institut für Geschichte, Göttingen)
2005-2006: Marie Curie Fellowship of the European Commission (European University Institute, Florence)
2012: Andrew Mellon Fellowship (Herzog August Bibliothek, Wolfenbüttel, Germany)

Teaching

Historiography; Hungarian and Central European history in comparative perspective; early-modern European history, especially history of ideas, political culture and institutions; knowledge production, inter-cultural communication in historical perspective

Research

Intellectual history: history of political and historical thought in the early-modern period, especially the Enlightenment; trans-national cultural communication and reception; history of scientific knowledge production

Further professional activity, international relations

Editorial committee member: *European Review of History/Revue européenne d'histoire*. Advisory Board member: *Europa entdecken* series (Fischer europäische Geschichte, ed. Wolfgang Benz), *Central Europe; East-Central Europe; Modern Intellectual History; Contexts: The Journal of Educational Media, Memory and Society Europäische Geschichte Online (Institut für europäische Geschichte, Mainz)*. Advisory Board member of several doctoral schools. Organisation of about ten international conferences, participation in about fifty; invited papers at universities and research institutes in Europe and North America. Memberships: Hungarian Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies; Eighteenth-Century Scottish Studies Society (board member 2002-2008); European Society for the History of Political Thought (founding member, 2009-; executive secretary 2012-2014; vice president 2014-).

Main publications (in a full list of ca. 90 items):

Books

Az állam rejtelmei. Brit konzervativizmus és a politika kora ijkori nyelvei (The mystery of the state. British conservatism and the early-modern languages of political thought) (Budapest: Atlantisz, 1997), 318 pp.

Millennium in Central Europe. A History of Hungary. Budapest, Atlantisz, 1999. 537 pp. Czech edition (Prague: Lidové noviny, 2001); Russian edition (Moscow: Ves Mir, 2002); revised English edition (Basingstoke: Palgrave-Macmillan, 2002); Slovene edition (Ljubljana: Matica slovenska, 2005); Croat edition (Zagreb: Sredna Evropa, 2008); Bulgarian edition (Sofia: Riva, 2009); German edition (Wilhelm Fink Verlag) forthcoming; Albanian edition (Tirana: Diuria) forthcoming.

Translations, Histories, Enlightenment: William Robertson in Germany 1760-1795 (Basingstoke: Palgrave-Macmillan, 2014)

Edited volumes

Pride and Prejudice. National Stereotypes in 19th and 20th-Century Europe East to West. CEU History Department Working Paper series no. 2. (Budapest: CEU, 1995) 211 pp.

Central Europe, Ten Years After, special issue of *European Review of History*, 6/1 (1999)

Enlightenment and Communication: Regional Experiences and Global Consequences, special issue of *European Review of History/Revue européenne d'histoire*, 13/3 (2006)

(with Jaroslav Miller), *Friars, Nobles and Burgbers – Sermons, Images and Prints. Studies of Culture and Society in Early-Modern Europe, In Memoriam István György Tóth* (Budapest: Central European University Press, 2010) 472 pp.

(with Antonella Romano, Silvia Sebastiani and Zsuzsanna Török), *Negotiating Knowledge in Early Modern Empires: A Decentered View* (Basingstoke: Palgrave-Macmillan, 2014), 273 pp.

Text editions

Edmund Burke, *Töprengések a francia forradalomról* (*Reflections on the Revolution in France*, in Hungarian, Budapest: Atlantisz, 1990) Translation, introduction (pp. 9-80.) and notes by László Kontler. 401 pp.

Konzervativizmus 1593-1872. Szöveggyűjtemény (Conservatism 1593-1872. An anthology) (Budapest: Osiris, 2000), 644 pp. (selected, edited, notes, partly translation; afterword pp. 573-640.)

John Locke, *A vallási türelemről* (On religious toleration) (Budapest: Stencil Kulturális Alapítvány, 2003) 262 pp. (selected, edited, notes, partly translation; introduction pp. 7-55.)

Selected refereed articles in journals and book chapters

“William Robertson’s history of manners in German 1770-1795”, *Journal of the History of Ideas*, 1997/1, 125-144.

“The ancien régime in memory and theory. Edmund Burke and his German followers”, *European Review of History*, 4/1 (1997), 31-43.

“Superstition, enthusiasm and propagandism: Burke and Gentz on the French Revolution”, in B. Taithe, T. Thornton (eds.): *Propaganda. Political Rhetoric and Identity 1300—2000* (Phoenix Mill: Sutton Publishing, 1999), 97-114.

“Introduction: Some Reflections on Symbolic Geography”, *Central Europe, Ten Years After*, special issue of *European Review of History*, 6/1 (1999), 3-11.

“Mahometan Christianity: Islam and the English Deists”, in Eszter Andor, István Gy. Tóth (szerk.), *Frontiers of Faith. Religious Exchange and the Constitution of Religious Identities 1400-1750*. (Budapest: CEU, 2001), 107-120.

“William Robertson and his German audience on European and non-European civilisations”, *Scottish Historical Review* LXXX (2001), 63-89.

“Historians from the Enlightened Periphery: William Robertson and Mihály Horváth”, *The Hungarian Quarterly*, 45 (Spring 2004), 109-126.

“Foundation Myths and the Reflection of History in Modern Hungary”, in Sima Godfrey and Frank Unger (eds.), *The Shifting Foundation of Modern Nation States* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2004), 131-149.

“Beauty or Beast, or Monstrous Regiments? Robertson and Burke on Women and the Public Scene”, *Modern Intellectual History*, 1, 3 (2004), 305-330.

“Introduction: The Enlightenment in Central Europe?”, in Balázs Trencsényi and Michal Kopecek (eds.), *Discourses of Collective Identity in Central and Southeast Europe (1770-1945). I: Late Enlightenment – Emergence of the Modern National Idea* (Budapest: Central European University Press, 2006), 33-44.

“Introduction: What Is the (Historians’) Enlightenment Today?”, in *Enlightenment and Communication: Regional Experiences and Global Consequences*, ed. László Kontler = *European Review of History / Revue d’histoire européenne*, special issue 13/3 (2006), 337-355.

(with Balázs Trencsényi) “Hungary”, in Howell Lloyd, Glenn Burgess, Simon Hodson (eds.), *Religion, Politics, and Philosophy: European Political Thought 1450-1700* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2007), 176-207.

“Translation and Comparison: Early-Modern and Current Perspectives”, *Contributions to the History of Concepts*, 3:1 (2007), 71-103.

“Translation and Comparison II: A Methodological Inquiry into reception in the History of Ideas”, *Contributions to the History of Concepts*, 4:1 (2008), 27-56.

“Time and Progress – Time as Progress. An Enlightened Sermon by William Robertson”, in Tyrus Miller, ed. *Given World and Time: Temporalities in Context* (Budapest: Central European University Press, 2008), 191-215.

“The Lapon, the Scythian and the Hungarian, or our former selves as Others. Philosophical history in eighteenth-century Hungary”, in Guido Abbattista (ed.), *Encountering Otherness. Diversities and Transcultural Experiences in Early Modern European Culture* (Trieste: Edizioni Università di Trieste, 2011), 131-146.

“Polizey and Patriotism: Joseph von Sonnenfels and the Legitimacy of Enlightened Monarchy in the Gaze of Eighteenth-Century State Sciences”, in Cesare Cuttica, Glenn Burgess (eds.), *Monarchism and Absolutism in Early-Modern Europe* (London: Pickering and Chatto, 2012)

“Mankind and Its Histories: William Robertson, Georg Forster and a Late Eighteenth-Century German Debate”, *Intellectual History Review* 23:3 (2013), 411-429, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/17496977.2012.723344>

“Distances Celestial and Terrestrial. Maximilian Hell’s Arctic Expedition, 1768-1769: Contexts and Responses”, in André Holenstein, Hubert Steinke and Martin Stuber (eds.), *The Practice of Knowledge and the Figure of the Savant in the Eighteenth Century* (Leiden: Brill, 2013), 721-750.

"The Uses of Knowledge and the Symbolic Map of the Enlightened Monarchy of the Habsburgs: Maximilian Hell as Imperial and Royal Astronomer (1755–1792), in László Kontler, Antonella Romano, Silvia Sebastiani and Zsuzsanna Török (eds.), *Negotiating Knowledge in Early Modern Empires: A Decentered View* (Basingstoke: Palgrave-Macmillan, 2014), 79-105.

"Enlightenment and Empire", in John MacKenzie et al. (eds), *The Encyclopedia of Empire* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2015, forthcoming)