



26<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF CENTRAL EUROPEAN POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

## DEMOCRACY AFTER CORONAVIRUS: FACING NEW POLITICAL REALITY

2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of June 2022

BLED CONGRESS CENTRE, BLED, SLOVENIA



26<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF CENTRAL EUROPEAN POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

**“DEMOCRACY AFTER CORONAVIRUS: FACING NEW POLITICAL REALITY”**

2<sup>ND</sup> AND 3<sup>RD</sup> OF JUNE 2022 , BLED, SLOVENIA

**THURSDAY, 2<sup>ND</sup> OF JUNE 2022**

8.15 – 12.30	<i>Registration</i>
<b>8.45 – 10.30</b>	<b>PANEL SESSIONS 1, 2, 3 (B, C, D hall)</b>
10.30 – 11.00	<i>Coffee Break</i>
<b>11.00 – 12.30</b>	<b>PANEL SESSIONS 4, 5, 6 (B, C, D hall)</b>
<b>12.30 – 13.30</b>	<b>OPENING CEREMONY WITH KEY-NOTE ADDRESS given by prof. dr. Steven Rathgeb Smith, Executive Director, APSA (A hall)</b>
13.30 – 15.00 (14.15 – 15.00)	<i>Lunch (Bled Congress Centre)</i> <i>MEETING OF CEPSA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (B hall)</i>
<b>15.00 – 16.45</b>	<b>PANEL SESSIONS 7, 8, 9 (B, C, D hall)</b>
16.45 – 17.15	<i>Coffee Break</i>
<b>17.15 – 19.00</b>	<b>PANEL SESSIONS 10, 11, 12 (B, C, D hall)</b>
19.30	<i>Dinner (Bled Congress Centre)</i>

**FRIDAY, 3<sup>RD</sup> OF JUNE 2022**

8.30 – 11.30	<i>Registration</i>
<b>9.00 – 10.45</b>	<b>PANEL SESSIONS 13, 14, 15 (B, C, D hall)</b>
10.45 – 11.30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
<b>11.30 – 13.15</b>	<b>PANEL SESSIONS 16, 17, 18 (B, C, D hall)</b>
<b>13.15 – 13.30</b>	<b>CONCLUDING CEREMONY (B hall)</b>
13.30 – 14.30	<i>Light Lunch (Bled Congress Centre)</i>
<b>14.30 – 16.30</b>	<b>SPECIAL PANEL SESSIONS FOR PhD CANDIDATES (B, C, D hall)</b>

# FINAL PROGRAM

1<sup>ST</sup> DAY: THURSDAY, 2<sup>ND</sup> OF JUNE 2022

8.15 – 12.30

Registration

PANELS ROUND ONE: 8.45–10.30		
1.	<p>B hall</p> <p><b>CHALLENGES TO CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN DEMOCRACY AND STABILITY I.</b></p> <p>Przemysław Żukiewicz</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Anton Bebler</b>, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia <i>The Visegrad Four and the European Union's Future</i></li> <li>2. <b>Heino Nyssönen</b> and <b>Jussi Metsälä</b>, University of Turku, Finland <i>The Grey Areas of Democracy: Indifference and the Erosion of Democratic Principles from Within</i></li> <li>3. <b>István Hegedűs</b>, Hungarian Europe Society, Hungary <i>The future of authoritarian populism in Hungary and beyond after the Hungarian elections and the Russian attack against Ukraine</i></li> <li>4. <b>Kateřina Zymová</b> and <b>Jakub Lysek</b>, Palacky University in Olomouc, Czech Republic <i>Explaining democratic beliefs in Eastern Europe: critical democrats or rebels without a cause?</i></li> <li>5. <b>Sebastian Kubas</b>, University of Silesia in Katowice, Poland <i>The Turbulence of Liberal Democratic project in the Visegrad Group countries</i></li> <li>6. <b>Przemysław Żukiewicz</b>, University of Wrocław, Poland <i>Intra-parliamentary volatility in the light of democratic backsliding. A comparative analysis of the Czech, Lithuanian and Polish parliaments</i></li> </ol>
2.	<p>C hall</p> <p><b>HYBRID THREATS IN CENTRAL AND SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE</b></p> <p>Vera Stojarová</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Wojciech Michnik</b>, Jagiellonian University, Poland <i>From hybridity to disruption? Understanding Russia's strategies to challenge European stability and democracy</i></li> <li>2. <b>Robert Mikac</b>, University of Zagreb, Croatia <i>The place and role of security services in preventing and combating hybrid threats</i></li> <li>3. <b>Miroslav Mareš</b> and <b>Josef Kraus</b>, Masaryk University, Czech Republic <i>Hybrid campaigns towards police officers in Central Europe</i></li> <li>4. <b>Bojana Zorić</b>, Regional Cooperation Council Sarajevo, Bosnia and Hercegovina <i>Influence operations in Western Balkan Countries</i></li> <li>5. <b>Jiří Němec</b>, Masaryk University Brno, Czech Republic <i>Chinese Economic Footprint in Serbia's Security Sectors: A Potential Threat?</i></li> <li>6. <b>Robin Burda</b>, Masaryk University Brno, Czech Republic <i>Russia's Hybrid Warfare - Tailored or Fit-to-all? A case study of Sputnik News</i></li> </ol>
3.	<p>D hall</p> <p><b>THE BALKANS: PROXIMITY AND NEIGHBOURHOOD</b></p> <p>Adam Bence Balazs</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Zoltán Bretter</b>, University of Pécs, Hungary <i>The Mechanism of Authoritarian Populism</i></li> <li>2. <b>Adam Bence Balazs</b>, Andrassy Universität Budapest, Hungary <i>The Western Balkans: A European story</i></li> <li>3. <b>Christopher Walsch</b>, Corvinus University of Budapest, Hungary</li> </ol>

		<p>Visegrad Four states and advocacy for EU enlargement to the Western Balkans</p> <p>4. <b>Marc Stefan Peters</b>, Andrásy Universität Budapest, Hungary <i>The Serbs north of the Sava and Danube: Reflections on identity, proximity and neighbourhood in the context of the East-West dichotomy</i></p> <p>5. <b>Frauke Seebass</b>, Andrásy Universität Budapest, Hungary <i>The Unbearable Lightness of Becoming European Proximity and distance in perceptions of the Western Balkans in Europe</i></p> <p>6. <b>Christina Griessler</b>, Andrásy Universität Budapest, Hungary <i>Why EU-Enlargement? A geo-political perspective</i></p>
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10.30 – 11.00

Coffee Break

PANELS ROUND TWO: 11.00–12.30		
4.	<p>B hall</p> <p><b>POLITICAL LEADERSHIP AND THE DECLINE OF DEMOCRACY IN EAST-CENTRAL EUROPE</b></p> <p>Jerzy Wiatr Anton Bebler</p>	<p>1. <b>Krisztina Juhasz</b>, University of Szeged, Hungary <i>The abuse of constitutional pluralism and identity by the Orbán government in the rule of law debate</i></p> <p>2. <b>Karin Liebhart</b>, University Vienna, Austria <i>On disregarding the democratic rules of the game by populist leaders: the example of Austria</i></p> <p>3. <b>Tomasz Rawski</b>, University of Warsaw, Poland <i>New authoritarianism in the multipolar world: the case of Serbia under Aleksandar Vučić</i></p> <p>4. <b>Piotr Sula</b>, University of Wrocław, Poland <i>De-democratization of Poland: towards clientelistic politics</i></p> <p>5. <b>Rudolf Metz</b>, Corvinus University, Hungary <i>Folk devil or folk hero? How does Viktor Orbán's charismatic leadership generate moral panics and euphoria?</i></p>
5.	<p>C hall</p> <p><b>EU EXTERNAL ACTIONS IN THE CONTESTED GLOBAL ORDER – (IN)COHERENCE, (DIS)CONTINUITY, RESILIENCE</b></p> <p>Jarosław Jańczak</p>	<p>1. <b>Łukasz Donaj</b>, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, Poland <i>EU-post Soviet space relations after February 24, 2022. Challenges and perspectives</i></p> <p>2. <b>Degefe Kebede Gemechu</b>, University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, Poland <i>Assessment of European Union and African Union Summits: Effects of Multilateral Relations</i></p> <p>3. <b>Andrea Schmidt</b> and <b>Zoltán Gál</b>, Pecs University, Hungary <i>Re-bordering and reordering the European Union from a geoeconomic perspective – the COVID-19 pandemic and the new global order</i></p> <p>4. <b>Tomasz Brańka</b>, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, Poland <i>Seeking a greater role in the Arctic – a new(?) EU policy</i></p> <p>5. <b>Jarosław Jańczak</b>, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, Poland <i>The European Union – Japan Strategic Partnership in the Contested Global Order. External Relations of the EU before and during the time of conflict</i></p>
6.	<p>D hall</p> <p><b>DEMOCRACY AFTER CORONAVIRUS: FACING NEW POLITICAL REALITY IN CENTRAL</b></p>	<p>1. <b>Robert Sata</b>, Central European University, Austria, and <b>Marta Żerkowska-Balas</b>, SWPS University, Poland <i>Can Covid-19 Stop Illiberal Populists in CEE?</i></p> <p>2. <b>Natali P. Nardin</b> and <b>Igor Lukšič</b>, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia</p>

	<b>AND EASTERN EUROPE I.</b>  Petr Just	<i>Social Movements and Freedom Populism in the Era of Coronavirus Disease: the Case of Slovenia and the Resnica Movement</i>  3. <b>Viktor Denisenko</b> , General Jonas Žemaitis Military Academy, Lithuania <i>Transformation of traditional narratives of Kremlin propaganda during the beginning of COVID-19 pandemic in 2020</i>  4. <b>Agnieszka Kasińska-Metryka</b> and <b>Rafał Dudała</b> , Institute of Political Science in Kielce, Poland <i>New populisms under pandemic conditions</i>  5. <b>Petr Just</b> , Metropolitan University Prague, Czech Republic <i>COVID-19 and the 2021 Czech Legislative Elections: Perception of Pandemics in the Election Programs of Running Parties and Coalitions</i>
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12.30 – 13.30

**OPENING CEREMONY WITH KEY-NOTE ADDRESS given by prof. dr. Steven Rathgeb Smith, Executive Director, APSA (A hall)**

13.30 – 15.00

Lunch (Bled Congress Centre)

(14.15 – 15.00)

MEETING OF CEPESA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PANELS ROUND THREE: 15.00–16.45		
7.	B hall  <b>DEMOCRACY AFTER CORONAVIRUS: FACING NEW POLITICAL REALITY IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE II.</b>  Jaroslav Ušiak	1. <b>Andrija Henjak</b> , University of Zagreb, Croatia, and <b>Bartul Vuksan-Ćusa</b> , Central European University, Vienna, Austria <i>Partisan identification, political identities, and support for COVID related measures in Croatia</i>  2. <b>Erzsébet N. Rózsa</b> , University of Public Service, Budapest <i>The V4 in the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) South after the COVID-19 pandemic: the case of Hungary</i>  3. <b>Tanja Porčnik</b> , University of Ljubljana, Slovenia <i>Constitutionalism and the Covid-19 Pandemic: The Case of Slovenia</i>  4. <b>Johannes Böhnlein</b> , University of Würzburg, Germany <i>Why cause the corona crisis different development of nationalism in different countries?</i>  5. <b>Jaroslav Ušiak</b> and <b>Petra Jankovská</b> , Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica, Slovakia <i>Radicalisation of Society: Extremist Elements in the Social Media of Slovak Political Parties</i>
8.	C hall  <b>CHALLENGES TO CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN DEMOCRACY AND STABILITY: FOREIGN POLICY</b>  Peter Rada	1. <b>Ewelina Waško-Owsiejczuk</b> , University of Bialystok, Poland <i>U.S. democracy promotion strategy toward Central and Eastern Europe under President Joe Biden</i>  2. <b>Tomasz Klin</b> , University of Wroclaw, Poland <i>CEE countries towards Russia's security challenge</i>  3. <b>Marijuš Antonovič</b> , Vilnius University, Lithuania <i>A comparative analysis of Poland's, Lithuania's and Latvia's diplomatic engagement with Belarus in 2014-2020</i>  4. <b>Peter Rada</b> , University of Public Service, Hungary <i>The Rubik's Cube Metaphor and the Central European Spirit in Foreign Policy</i>

9.	<p>D hall</p> <p><b>POST-PANDEMIC CHALLENGES TO CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN ECONOMY AND STABILITY</b></p> <p>Attila Antal</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Josip Lučev</b>, University of Zagreb, Croatia <i>European fiscal agenda and postsocialist member states</i></li> <li>2. <b>Gergő Medve-Bálint</b>, Centre for Social Sciences Budapest, Hungary, and <b>Andrea Éltető</b>, Centre for Economic and Regional Studies Budapest, Hungary <i>Building on the East-West divide: selective economic nationalism and the stability of FDI-led growth regimes in East Central Europe</i></li> <li>3. <b>Sándor Gallai</b>, Corvinus University of Budapest, Hungary <i>Gone with the pandemic – the transformation of the public employee status of health workers in Hungary</i></li> <li>4. <b>Attila Antal</b>, Eötvös Loránd University, Hungary <i>COVID-19 and Emergency Measures in Hungary</i></li> </ol>
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16.45 – 17.15

Coffee Break

<b>PANELS ROUND FOUR: 17.15–19.00</b>		
10.	<p>C hall</p> <p><b>DEMOCRACY AFTER CORONAVIRUS: FACING NEW POLITICAL REALITY IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE III.</b></p> <p>Beata Kosowska-Gąstoł</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Zsanett Pokornyí</b> and <b>Tamás Barczikay</b>, Eötvös Loránd University, Hungary <i>Speeches of the Prime Minister and policy responses to COVID-19 in Hungary</i></li> <li>2. <b>Vratislav Havlík</b> and <b>Vít Hloušek</b>, Masaryk University Brno, Czech Republic <i>Breaching the EU Governance by Decompression</i></li> <li>3. <b>Ildikó Bartha</b>, University of Debrecen, Hungary <i>Organization of Local Public Transport in times of Crisis: The Challenges of COVID-19 pandemic in Europe</i></li> <li>4. <b>Robert Radek</b>, University of Silesia in Katowice, Poland <i>Commissioner for Citizens Rights in Poland and his activeness during the coronavirus pandemic</i></li> <li>5. <b>Beata Kosowska-Gąstoł</b>, Jagiellonian University in Krakow, and <b>Katarzyna Sobolewska-Myślik</b>, University of Opole, Poland <i>Democracy within new political parties in Poland before and after coronavirus pandemic</i></li> </ol>
11.	<p>B hall</p> <p><b>CHALLENGES TO CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN DEMOCRACY AND STABILITY III.</b></p> <p>Boglarka Koller</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Adam Szymanski</b>, University of Warsaw, Poland <i>Impact of Covid-19 on Democratic Backsliding in Poland. Multilevel Analysis</i></li> <li>2. <b>Jakub Charvát</b>, Metropolitan University Prague, Czech Republic <i>A Missed Opportunity: the 2021 electoral reform in the Czech Republic</i></li> <li>3. <b>Łukasz Zamecki</b> and <b>Piotr Załęski</b>, University of Warsaw, Poland <i>How democratic backsliders influence Citizenship Education Curricula – Evidence from Poland</i></li> <li>4. <b>Jakub Jusko</b> and <b>Peter Spáč</b>, Masaryk University, Czech Republic <i>Voting in Ruins: Examining the Effect of Tornado on Czech Parliamentary Elections</i></li> <li>5. <b>Adrienne Komanovics</b>, Corvinus University of Budapest, Hungary <i>Who's afraid of the European Union? The role of EU institutions in fighting the democratic backsliding in the Member States</i></li> <li>6. <b>Boglarka Koller</b>, NKE Budapest, Hungary <i>Closer to or further away from Europe? European images, issues and messages in the 2022 parliamentary elections in Hungary – a comparative analysis of the party campaigns</i></li> </ol>

12.	<p>D hall</p> <p><b>CHALLENGES TO CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN DEMOCRACY AND STABILITY: DIPLOMACY AND FOREIGN RELATIONS</b></p> <p>Paula Wiśniewska</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>András Bíró-Nagy</b>, Centre for Social Sciences Budapest, Hungary <i>Perceptions of the EU's policy impact: Europeanization of public attitudes in Hungary</i></li> <li>2. <b>Brucker Balázs</b>, Institute of Regional Studies Budapest, Hungary <i>City diplomacy in Hungary before and during the Covid-19 pandemic</i></li> <li>3. <b>Péter Kacziba</b>, University of Pécs, Hungary <i>Digital diplomacy during Covid-19: The case of Hungary</i></li> <li>4. <b>Gerda Jakštaitė-Confortola</b>, General Jonas Žemaitis Military Academy, Lithuania <i>Democracy as part of the US foreign policy agenda: challenges and opportunities for the Baltic states</i></li> <li>5. <b>Paula Wiśniewska</b>, Uniwersytet Wrocławski, Poland <i>Non-attached MEPs in European Parliament – the basic research</i></li> </ol>
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19.30

Dinner (Bled Congress Centre)



2<sup>ND</sup> DAY: FRIDAY, 3<sup>RD</sup> OF JUNE 2022

8.30 – 11.30

Registration

PANELS ROUND FIVE: 9.00–10.45		
13.	<p>B hall</p> <p><b>CHALLENGES TO CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN DEMOCRACY AND STABILITY IV.</b></p> <p>Zoltan Balazs</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Viktor Glied</b>, University of Pécs, Hungary <i>Migration as a double-edged sword in the hands of the V4</i></li> <li><b>Heino Nyyssönen</b> and <b>Jussi Metsälä</b>, University of Turku, Finland <i>National Consultations – a new form of semi-authoritarian politics?</i></li> <li><b>Martina Novotná</b> and <b>Alena Kluknavská</b>, Masaryk University, Czech Republic, and <b>Olga Eisele</b>, University of Vienna, Austria <i>Fuming mad or jumping with joy? Emotional responses to uncivil communication, post-truth and crisis on Facebook</i></li> <li><b>Andrea Éltető</b>, Institute of World Economics Budapest, and <b>Tamás Szemlér</b>, University of Public Service, Budapest, Hungary <i>Maturity? - 18 this year: an Evaluation of the EU Membership of Hungary</i></li> <li><b>Zoltan Balazs</b>, Corvinus University, Hungary <i>Constitutional Dilemmas in Hungary</i></li> </ol>
14.	<p>C hall</p> <p><b>POLITICS AND POLICIES IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE</b></p> <p>Dario Čepo</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Peter Spáč</b>, <b>Lenka Hrbková</b> and <b>Vlastimil Havlík</b>, Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic <i>The Role of an Issue and Trait-Based Gender Stereotypes in the Evaluation of Politicians</i></li> <li><b>Péter Krisztián Zachar</b>, University of Public Service, Hungary <i>Political narratives and influence on organised interest-representation: the institutional change of the Hungarian chambers</i></li> <li><b>Eva Niklesová</b> and <b>Denisa Charvátová</b>, Metropolitan University Prague, Czech Republic <i>The Rise of Nativism in Populist Political Communication: A Case Study of the 2021 Czech Parliamentary Elections</i></li> <li><b>Kálmán Pócza</b>, Mathias Corvinus Collegium, Hungary <i>Between System Opposition and Political Cooperation. The Case of Hungary 1990-2022</i></li> <li><b>Anja Gvozdanović</b>, Institute for Social Research Zagreb, <b>Dario Čepo</b> and <b>Mateja Čehulić</b>, University of Zagreb, Croatia <i>The Youth Satisfaction with Democracy in Southeast Europe: Cross-National Analysis</i></li> </ol>
15.	<p>D hall</p> <p><b>BRINGING AUTHORITIES CLOSER TO ITS CITIZENS: PARTICIPATION AND INVOLVEMENT</b></p> <p>Simona Kukovič</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Karolina Tybuchowska-Hartlińska</b>, University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, Poland <i>Political participation at the local level – new tools and opportunities – Poland experience</i></li> <li><b>Petr Bláha</b>, University in Ústí nad Labem, Czech Republic <i>Usage of the local referendum tool in the regions of the Czech Republic: instrument of direct democracy or regional specificity</i></li> <li><b>Armin Mühlböck</b>, <b>Birgit Mitter</b> and <b>Franziska Obermair</b>, Paris Lodron University Salzburg, Austria <i>Closeness matters – New empirical evidence on voter turnout in municipalities</i></li> </ol>



		<p>4. <b>Pavel Mařkarinec</b>, Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem, Czech Republic <i>Measuring variation in subnational regimes: evidence from the Czech and Polish regions</i></p> <p>5. <b>Simona Kukovič</b>, School of Advanced Social Studies in Nova Gorica &amp; University of Ljubljana, Slovenia <i>Bringing EU closer to its citizens: political participation from European to sublocal level</i></p>
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10.45 – 11.30

Coffee Break

PANELS ROUND SIX: 11.30–13.15		
16.	<p>B hall</p> <p><b>POLITICAL POTENTIAL OF CONSPIRACY THEORIES IN CEE</b></p> <p>Agnieszka Turska-Kawa Miro Haček</p>	<p>1. <b>Agnieszka Turska-Kawa</b>, University of Silesia, Poland <i>Psychological profiles of supporters of conspiracy theories</i></p> <p>2. <b>Ladislav Cabada</b>, Metropolitan University Prague, Czech Republic <i>Czech political discourse and the conspiracy theories</i></p> <p>3. <b>Paweł Matuszewski</b>, Collegium Civitas, Poland <i>How to detect a conspiracy theory? A semi-supervised method to discover vague and quickly evolving phenomena from the Internet</i></p> <p>4. <b>Peter Csanyi</b>, University of Economics in Bratislava, Slovakia <i>The Impact of Conspiracy Theories on Slovak Public Space</i></p> <p>5. <b>Martin Laryš</b>, Institute of International Relations Prague, Czech Republic <i>Anti-Covid Restrictions as a New Window of Opportunity for the Far-Right in Central Europe</i></p> <p>6. <b>Ondřej Filipec</b>, University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius in Trnava, Slovakia <i>Reflection of Covid-19 Pandemics in Disinformation Chain Emails: The Case of the Czech Republic</i></p> <p>7. <b>Miro Haček</b>, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia <i>Conspiracy theories in the wake of Slovenian super election year of 2022</i></p>
17.	<p>C hall</p> <p><b>“NOTHING WILL EVER BE AGAIN AS BEFORE THE PANDEMIC?” HOW DID THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AFFECT THE DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL REGIMES IN THE CEE</b></p> <p>Małgorzata Kaczorowska Agnieszka Bejma</p>	<p>1. <b>István Benedek</b>, Eötvös Loránd University &amp; Hungarian Academy of Sciences Centre of Excellence, Hungary <i>A populist electoral autocracy during coronavirus: the responses of Orbán regime to the COVID-19 pandemic</i></p> <p>2. <b>Małgorzata Kaczorowska</b>, University of Warsaw, Poland <i>Corona-19 Pandemia - a Game Changer? How the Corona Pandemic Affects the Polish Political Parties</i></p> <p>3. <b>Beata Pająk-Patkowska</b>, University of Adam Mickiewicz in Poznań, Poland <i>Political Activity during the Pandemic Time – the Polish Case</i></p> <p>4. <b>Agnieszka Bejma</b>, University of Warsaw, Poland <i>Functioning of the Civil Society Organizations during Pandemic – the Polish Case</i></p> <p>5. <b>Attila Bartha, Marianna Kopasz and Judit Takács</b>, Centre for Social Sciences Budapest, Hungary <i>COVID-19 Policy Responses and Success in Populist and Liberal Democracies: the cases of Hungary, Austria, and Portugal</i></p> <p>6. <b>Jacek Wojnicki</b>, University of Warsaw, Poland <i>Covid Elections in the Balkan States</i></p>

18.	<p>D hall</p> <p><b>LOCAL LEADERSHIP AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT IN CEE</b></p> <p>Simona Kukovič</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>István Hoffman</b>, Eötvös Loránd University Budapest, Hungary <i>Local development policies in the V4 Countries – in the light of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic</i></li> <li>2. <b>Maciej Hartliński</b>, University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, Poland <i>Local leaders and their political and social activities</i></li> <li>3. <b>Márton Bene</b>, Hungarian Academy of Sciences Centre of Excellence &amp; Eötvös Loránd University, Hungary <i>Networked locality: Local politicians on Facebook</i></li> <li>4. <b>Silvia Ručinská, Miroslav Fečko, Ondrej Mital' and Katarína Miňová</b>, Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice, Slovakia <i>Bottom-up response: the role of municipalities and cities in compensating and supporting central government's role</i></li> <li>5. <b>Ingrida Unikaitė-Jakuntavičienė</b>, Vytautas Magnus University, Lithuania <i>Reform of the election and powers of Mayor in Lithuania: a struggle between political and administrative leadership</i></li> </ol>
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13.15 – 13.30

**CONCLUDING CEREMONY (B hall)**

13.30 – 14.30

*Light Lunch (Bled Congress Centre)*

<b>SPECIAL PANEL SESSIONS FOR PhD CANDIDATES: 14.30–16.30</b>		
19.	<p>B hall</p> <p><b>YOUNG SCHOLARS ON EU, CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE AND POLITICS – THEMATIC PANEL ONE</b></p> <p>Bogłarka Koller Miro Haček</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Sabina Jahanli</b>, Corvinus University, Hungary <i>The Impact of Neoliberalism on the Rise of Right Populism: The Case of Hungary</i></li> <li>2. <b>Viktor Papházi</b>, Eötvös Loránd University, Hungary <i>Affective polarisation during the COVID-19 crisis in Hungary</i></li> <li>3. <b>Jakub Krupa</b>, Jagiellonian University, Poland <i>How to measure populism in programs? Parliamentary elections in Poland 2019</i></li> <li>4. <b>Natalia Galica and Michał Rams-Ługowski</b>, University of Silesia, Poland <i>The communication component of conspiracy theories/Social media analysis</i></li> <li>5. <b>Ayauzhan Kamatayeva</b>, Deusto University, Spain <i>Disentangling how the recent global challenges and individual perceptions of them shape political trust</i></li> <li>6. <b>Tímea Varga</b>, University of Pécs, Hungary <i>Lessons to be learned from Brexit: why there should not be a Huxit?</i></li> </ol>
20.	<p>C hall</p> <p><b>YOUNG SCHOLARS ON EU, CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE AND POLITICS – THEMATIC PANEL TWO</b></p> <p>Simona Kukovič Peter Csanyi</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Anzhelika Savchuk</b>, University of Wrocław, Poland <i>Political Leadership in a Pandemic: a case of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky</i></li> <li>2. <b>Ľubomír Zvada</b>, Palacký University in Olomouc, Czech Republic <i>Rethink the conceptualization of the Slovak left</i></li> <li>3. <b>Martyna Zawadzka</b>, University of Warsaw, Poland <i>How divided government challenges voters in local politics? The case of Poland</i></li> <li>4. <b>Barbara Bieniek and Justyna Lipka</b>, University of Silesia, Poland <i>The political component of conspiracy theories</i></li> </ol>

		<p>5. <b>Szabolcs Janik</b>, Corvinus University of Budapest, Hungary <i>Coronavirus and Visegrad – Friendship and solidarity in hard times?</i></p> <p>6. <b>Michal Dahl</b>, Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń, Poland <i>The Visegrad Group member states in search for new political and economic agreements. The directions and nature of new alliances in a comparative perspective</i></p>
21.	<p>D hall</p> <p><b>YOUNG SCHOLARS ON EU, CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE AND POLITICS – THEMATIC PANEL THREE</b></p> <p>Agnieszka Turska-Kawa Petr Just</p>	<p>1. <b>Krisztián Németh</b>, Corvinus University Budapest, Hungary <i>Evaluating the coherence of economic policies in East Central Europe: an analytical framework</i></p> <p>2. <b>Peter Wedekind</b>, Charles University Prague, Czech Republic <i>Meritocracy as an Unfulfilled Promise? The Rejection of a Hegemonic Ideology and its Repercussions</i></p> <p>3. <b>Paulina Wardawy</b>, University of Silesia, Poland <i>The psychological component of conspiracy theories</i></p> <p>4. <b>Natalia Stręk</b>, Jagiellonian University in Cracow, Poland <i>Populist election strategies in Poland – comparison of strategies during the presidential elections in 2015 and 2020</i></p> <p>5. <b>Karolina Pirianowicz</b>, University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, Poland <i>Poland's security policy in the face of the migration crisis on the Polish-Belarusian border</i></p> <p>6. <b>Ádám Darabos</b>, National University of Public Service, Budapest <i>The possibility of Christian democratic politics in Hungary</i></p> <p>7. <b>Gábor Szűcs</b>, University of Public Service, Hungary <i>Similar challenges, differing narratives? Social cohesion and collective identity in national security strategies of Central and Eastern European states</i></p>