

Szerzőink

Pierre Bourdieu (1930–2002) szociológus (A Collège de France egykori professzora)

Brandt, Juliane (1960) történész (Universität Leipzig)
jbrandt@cs-net.de

Csoma Borbála (1976) egyetemi hallgató (PPKTE)
h12656cso@helka.iif.hu

Dunning, Eric (1936) szociológus (University of Leicester)
ed15@le.ac.uk

Hadas Miklós (1953) szociológus (BKÁE)
miklos.hadas@soc.bke.hu

Horváth Gergely Krisztián (1974) szociológus (ELTE Szociológiai Intézet)
hktm@mailbox.hu

Katona Csaba (1971) levéltáros (Magyar Országos Levéltár)
katona@natarch.hu

Kolář František (1952) történész (Historický ústav Akademie věd České republiky, Praha)
frkolar@volny.cz

Mohácsi Gergely (1974) antropológus, posztgraduális hallgató (Hokkaido University, Sapporo)
mohacska@hotmail.com

Pilkhoffer Mónika (1973) történész, Ph.D. hallgató (PTE BTK)
pilko@index.hu

Szegedi Péter (1973) szociológus, Ph.D. hallgató (BKÁE)
szegedi@mailbox.hu

Timár Attila (1974) történész
atus69@freemail.hu

Zeidler Miklós (1967) történész (ELTE BTK Új- és Jelenkori Magyar Történeti Tanszék)
zeidler@ludens.elte.hu

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Abstracts

Csoma, Borbála: Hungarian bathing guests at the Gräfenberg hydropathic establishment. A Czech spa through Hungarian eyes

The essay presents the life of Hungarian guests at Gräfenberg, the small Moravian-Silesian spa town, where the first cold water health establishment was built. The spa was very popular among the Hungarian nobility and the middle class: apart from the renowned Gräfenberg guests (Miklós Wesselényi, Antal Reguly, Mihály Tompa, Miklós Barabás), members of aristocratic families such as the Szécsényis, Esterházys, Zichys, Andrássys etc. have paid Vincenz Priessnitz, the founder of the spa visits as well. Many relics inform on the presence of Hungarians. Priessnitz's three daughters married Hungarian nobles; Hungarian guests had a monument erected for the great healer, as a sign of their gratitude and appreciation. The monument with the lion is today the symbol of the spa. To enhance comfort, Hungarians founded a hotel, had wells and promenades built for the town, and established a casino, a fencing room and a public park in order to make social life flourish. Their letters serve as important sources of their life at the spa and the process of health therapy.

Hadas, Miklós: Gymnastics as a „work intertwined with juvenile enjoyment”.
On the historical genesis of masculinity

Miklós Hadas' text is an excerpt from a book he is currently working on entitled *Sports and Masculinity*. His starting question is this: What explains that until the fall of communism Hungary was among the three most successful nations, proportionate to population, in the history of modern sports movements? He attempts an answer through the study of social dispositions, i.e. long-term behavioural patterns of different social groups. Hadas follows three main paradigms: one is Pierre *Bourdieu's* sociology, whose theory of habitus has exerted a decisive influence upon his views. Nonetheless, contrary to Bourdieu who states that male domination is a universal structural element of all societies, Hadas – in accord with the mainstream canon of contemporary *men's studies* – conceives of hegemonic masculinity as a historically changing phenomenon. The third tradition guiding his work is the theory of civilisation of Norbert *Elias*. A main thesis of Hadas' book is that in the early 19th century masculine passions are channelled into new directions: *fight* aiming at killing the enemy is gradually replaced by more or less civilised *competition*. The chapter published here pictures gymnastics as part of this long-term social process. Its organised rational practice, argues the author, serves the social ascension of the emerging Hungarian bourgeoisie. Furthermore, by contributing to incorporate self-control, discipline and obedience, this pre-sport also generates

revolutionary changes in the everyday life. Gymnastics, therefore, might be considered as an important element of modernity's corporeal basis.

Katona, Csaba: Füred and its guests.
A bathing resort and its "society" between the 1840s and 1860s

Balatonfüred was one of the best-known and most frequented Hungarian bathing resorts during the entire 19th century. Numerous narrative sources inform on the everyday life and the way of living of its guests, but the most telling sources on the society of bathing guests are the bathing lists. A comparison of data from the 1840s and 1860s makes it evident that changes occurring in the overall society are traceable among the lines of bathers as well: Füred was increasingly becoming the resort of the middle classes. However, the 1860s are highly important in the history of the resort from other aspects as well: the development of the middle class bathing resort begins, the transport improves through the railway, bathing guests from distant regions increasingly frequent Füred, consequently the resort gradually loses its regional character that was still strongly present in the Reform Age. By the analysis of the 1840s and 1860s one might risk the statement that contrary to established commonplaces, the true golden age of the resort was in the 1860s and 1870s.

Mohácsi, Gergely: Beautiful, Strong, Healthy.
Leisure time and body culture in Budapest in the first half of the 20th century

The transformation of the human body pervaded Hungarian society after 1st World War, and had consequences on several levels (e.g. health, beauty and sport). Active knowledge of the human body occupied an increasingly central role in public discussions. On the other hand, modernity has given primacy of new social practices (such as vegetarianism, nudism and a wide range of sports) based on the forming urban culture. My inquiry revolves around changing attitudes to the human body in Hungarian society during the pre-war years: the impact of medicalization, the modern social space of leisure, the role of „fashioning” and „hardening” the body in the civilizing process of making mass society out of migrant and working populations and various nationalities. What did it mean to have the opportunity to influence health and illness, beauty and fitness? What values have emerged in society? Which of these transformations have generated new individual strategies and which one contributed to overall societal patterns? These are the questions I address. The article provides further fragments of the history of everyday life and that of modern physical existence in Hungary.

Szegedi, Péter: „If I had my bayonet with me, I would stab him through!”
Football violence in the interwar period in East-Hungary

The study intends to show that Hungarian football in the interwar period did not at all lack violence; actually, the occurrence of several characteristic phenomena was more frequent than today. The 1921 act issued by the minister of internal affairs for controlling football violence had an all-European echo; police could interfere in matches; and by the end of the year spectators were banned from all Budapest matches for an unspecified period of time.

In the period between the two World Wars, in the eastern part of the country only, incidents of different kinds and seriousness have intruded in nearly hundred cases into the order of matches or following the meetings. This region was the most infected area by football violence, the news of which has even reached Paris. The study, based on numerous contemporary reports, presents cases of violence between players, between spectators and also cases in which spectators have attacked opponent players or the referee. Apart from elaborating on the different types of incidents, the study attempts to present who and for what reasons have launched these attacks and also, why the number of violent cases grew exactly after the war. According to the author's hopes, by this, the study will also highlight how the war affected norms of behavior – and will supply an important contribution to the historical embedding of Elias' theory on civilization and Durkheim's theory on anomy.

Zeidler, Miklós: An old playing field in the age of the middle classes – the Millenary Sports Establishment

The study presents the history of the first modern rally field in Budapest, the Millenary Sports Establishment, built in 1896. The field was planned to become the setting for the open-air sports events that were part of the millenary celebrations. According to the initial plans, it was to be dismantled after the end of the year. Still, considering that the capital provided over no other sporting field of similar quality, and that rally sport was developing spectacularly, the field first received temporary maintenance permission and later evolved as the permanent official rally field. Along athletics and cycling, the new sports branch, football was also made a home there. The Hungarian national football team played its national games there between 1901 and 1911, from the beginnings until the completion of the big club stadiums.

Although the field was one of the central sites of the Budapest sport life in the first half of the century, the World War, the world economic crisis and the financial problems arising from the changing popularity of the specific sports branches more than once drove the Millenary, that was supported from time to time by new investors (club associations, profit oriented organizers of competitions, the city council or the state itself) close to liquidation.

Following the 1928 great reconstruction and the bicycle world championship of that same year, athletics and football were slowly squeezed out from the field, the Millenary gradually transformed into a classic velodrom and field races started to attract huge audiences. As a consequence of „one-sidedness”, especially the postwar decline of field cycling and the spreading of television and other forms of entertainment, the importance of the Millenary as a sports field significantly decreased.