

CURRICULUM VITAE

Prof. Dr. Béla Tomka

PERSONAL DETAILS

Born 8 May 1962, Salgótarján, Hungary; Married, two children

OFFICE ADDRESS

Department of History, University of Szeged, Egyetem utca 2, Szeged H-6722, Hungary

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POSITIONS HELD / ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

- 2014– Head of Department, Department of Contemporary History, University of Szeged
- 2011– Professor of Social and Economic History, Department of History, University of Szeged
- 2007–2010 Head of Department, Department of Contemporary History, University of Szeged
- 1999–2007 Associate Professor of Social and Economic History, Department of History, University of Szeged
- 1995–1999 Assistant Professor, Attila József University, Szeged
- 1989–1995 Assistant Lecturer, Attila József University, Szeged
- 1988–1989 Assistant Lecturer, Budapest University of Economics, Budapest

EDUCATION / MAJOR GRANTS AND AWARDS / VISITING FELLOWSHIPS

- 2012 Friedrich Schiller-Universität, Imre Kertész Kolleg, Jena, Visiting Fellow (12 months)
- 2010 “Second Doctorate” / “Higher Doctorate” (DSc), Hungarian Academy of Sciences
- 2006 Fellowship, Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities and Social Sciences, Wassenaar (3 months; awarded but not accepted)
- 2004–2005 Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities, Edinburgh, Fellowship (3 months)
- 2004 Portland State University, USA, Visiting Professor (3 months)
- 2003 “Dr. habil.”-degree (Venia legendi), Debrecen University, Debrecen
- 2003–2007 Széchenyi Professorial Award (‘Junior Professor’), Ministry of Education, Republic of Hungary
- 2002 Oxford University, St. John’s College, Visiting Fellow (2 weeks)
- 2001–2002 Center for Comparative History of Europe, Freie Universität, Berlin, Humboldt Fellowship (12 months)
- 2000 International Institute of Social History, Amsterdam, Fellow (3 months)

- 2000 Mannheim Zentrum für Europäische Sozialforschung, Mannheim, Visiting Fellow (2 months)
- 1997–2002 Széchenyi Professorial Award (‘Junior Professor’), Ministry of Education, Republic of Hungary
- 1996 Ph.D. in Economic and Social History, Kossuth University, Debrecen (summa cum laude)
- 1994 “Dr. univ.”-degree in History, Attila József University, Szeged (summa cum laude)
- 1992–1993 Postgraduate studies at University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, USA (10 months)
- 1990–1991 Postgraduate studies at Westfälische Wilhelms–Universität, Münster, Germany (10 months)
- 1988–1991 Doctoral studies in Economic and Social History, Budapest University of Economics (BKAE), Budapest
- 1988 M.A. in History and History of Eastern Europe, Attila József University, Szeged

MAJOR AWARDS

- 2014 “Outstanding Academic Title 2013 Award” by Choice, American Library Association (for “A Social History of Twentieth-Century Europe”, London and New York: Routledge, 2013)
- 2010 Award of the Academy (for Distinguished Scholarly Achievement), Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest
- 2010 Bolyai Award for Distinguished Scholarly Contribution, Bolyai Foundation, Budapest

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research projects in the field of 20th century social and economic history of East Central Europe, with an emphasis on comparative and interdisciplinary approaches. Thematic focuses are social policy, demography and family, economic institutions and process of economic growth. Projects included

- “Social Policy in 20th Century Hungary in International Comparison,”
- “Demographic Integration in 20th Century Europe,”
- “Family Development in Hungary in International Context, 1918–1990,”
- “Hungarian Banking in International Comparison, 1850–1931,”
- “Bank-Industry Relations in Hungary before the First World War”

Since 1991 Principal Investigator on 7 research grants funded by the OTKA (National Fund of Scientific Research), Budapest and OKTK (National Fund for Research in the Social Sciences), Budapest

Participation in international research projects, including “The European Social Model – On the Way to a Transnational Welfare State,” Wissenschaftszentrum zu Berlin (2003–2004), and “A European Social Solidarity?” European University Institute, Florence

(2006–2007); invited expert of the Council of Europe, Strasbourg, project “Shared Histories for a Europe without Dividing Lines” (2011), “Challenges of Modernity,” Book project, Imre Kertész Kolleg, Jena (2012–)

CURRENT RESEARCH / WORK IN PROGRESS

“Social Integration in Europe: The case of Hungary, 1914–1990”

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate, graduate and doctoral courses in 20th century social and economic history; Doctoral supervision (Department of History and East-Central Europe International Studies Programme, University of Szeged, Szeged; Department of History, Eötvös University, Budapest; Department of Economics, Department of History, Portland State University, Oregon) including
“Comparative Social History of Europe in the Interwar Period,”
“Social History of Europe after WWII,”
“Comparative Methods in Historical Research,”
“The Welfare State in 20th Century Europe in Comparative Perspective,”
“Comparative Social History of Hungary in the 20th Century,”
“Economic History of Central and Eastern Europe in the 20th Century,”
“Financial Institutions and Economic Growth in Modern Europe,”
“Labour and Labourers in the 20th Century: European Comparisons.”

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

2012– *Hungarian Historical Review*, Budapest, Board member
2011– *ISHA Newsletter* (International Social History Association, Amsterdam), Editor
1994– *Esély*, Journal of Social Policy, Budapest, Member of the Editorial Board
1992– *Aetas*, a Quarterly Journal of History and Related Disciplines, Szeged, Co-Editor

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2003– Member of Doctoral Council, Faculty of Arts, University of Szeged
2000–2004 Board Member of OTKA (National Fund of Scientific Research, Budapest)
2000– External Founding Member of the Doctoral (PhD) Programme in Social and Economic History, Eötvös University (ELTE), Budapest
1998– Referee of OTKA (National Fund of Scientific Research, Budapest) and Member of Doctoral Board, University of Pécs, Pécs, Hungary
1993–2000 Member of Department of History Council, Attila József University
1991–1992 Member of University Reform Committee, Attila József University

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

2013– Vice-President of the István Hajnal Society of Social History, Budapest
2010– Board Member of the International Social History Association, Amsterdam

2007–2012 Board Member of the István Hajnal Society of Social History, Budapest

SELECTED CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS (2005–)

Conference “1989 and Its Antecedents in East Central Europe”, Blinken European Institute, Columbia University, New York, May 9-10, 2013; Title of presentation: “Revisiting Long-Term Economic Performance in East Central Europe: Twentieth-Century Hungary in an International Comparison”

Conference “The European Welfare State in a Global Context”, German Historical Institute London, 11-13.04.2013; Title of presentation: “Social Welfare in post-war East Central Europe: Structure, Functions and Dynamics”

Friedrich Schiller Universität, Jena, Imre Kertész Kolleg, 12.10.2012; Title of presentation: “From Clusters to Hybrids: Determinants of Social Policy in Post-communist East Central Europe”

Conference “Shared Histories for a Europe without Dividing Lines”, Council of Europe, Strasbourg, 27-28.10.2011; Title of presentation: “Demography, Social Structure and Urbanization during the Industrial Revolutions”

University of Ljubljana, Humboldt-Kolleg, 12.04.2011; Title of presentation: “Social Policy in 20th Century Eastern Europe: Institutions and Determinants in a Comparative Perspective”

21th International Congress of Historical Sciences, Amsterdam, 2010, Session 20, “Towards a World History? Social Policies and Politics in a Globalised World”. Title of paper delivered: “Social welfare in the European peripheries: Institutions, interactions and critical junctures in 20th century East Central Europe”

Public Sphere and Environment in Slavic Eurasia and Japan. International Conference organized by Slavic Research Center, Hokkaido University – Research Institute for Humanity and Nature. Kyoto, Research Institute for Humanity, Februar 28 – March 1, 2009.; Title of paper delivered: “Social Welfare in Communist East Central Europe: Structure, Functions and Dynamics”

The Two Wests: Democracy, Citizenship and Social Rights in the United States and Europe (1918–2008), University of Eastern Piedmont – Columbia University, New York, Vercelli–Torino, 23–24 May, 2008.; Title of presentation: “Social Security in Post-war East Central Europe”

New Approaches to Comparative History in Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, 17-19 April, 2008, Sofia, Central European University – Centre for Advanced Study Sofia; Title of paper delivered: “Comparative History in East Central Europe: Reflections on Missed Opportunities”

Hungarian Academy of Sciences and Humanities, Budapest, 28.11.2007; Title of presentation: “Welfare states in post-war Europe: Trends, types and achievements”

European Social Policy Association Conference, Wien, 21.09.2007; Chair of the session “The History of Social Policy in a Wider Europe”

“Europa im Zeichen von Sicherheit und Risiko”, Freie Universität, Berlin, 22.08.2007;
Title of presentation: “Social Policy in 20th Century Europe: East-West Comparisons”

“50 Jahre Römische Verträge. Supranationale Institutionen und transnationale Erfahrungsräume”, 16-17. März 2007, Berliner Kolleg für Vergleichende Geschichte Europas, Berlin; Title of paper delivered: “European integration and social policy from an East Central European perspective”

European Social Solidarity in Historical Perspective, European University Institute, Florence, 06. 12. 2006.; Title of presentation: “Social Solidarity in East Central Europe: Strong Welfare and Weak Labour?”

European Social Solidarity in Historical Perspective, European University Institute, Florence, 10. 10. 2006.; Title of paper delivered: “Social Solidarity in East Central Europe”

Congreso Internacional „Del Espacio Social Europeo a la Europa Social?, Universidad de Salamanca, Salamanca, 19-21. 10. 2005; Title of paper delivered: “Social and Economic Convergences in 20th Century Europe: East Central Europe and the European Social Model”

VII World Congress of International Committee of Central and East European Studies, Berlin, 29.07.2005.; Title of presentation: “Formation and Persistence of European Social Models: Converging and Diverging Patterns of Welfare Development in East Central Europe after WWII”
Chair of the Session “Welfare State in Post-communism in the Context of European Integration”

20th International Conference of Historical Sciences, Sydney, Session 21, Models of Welfare State Formation in the Global Context, 03-09.07.2005.; Title of paper delivered: “Determinants of Welfare Development in 20th Century East Central Europe”

Fighting Poverty and Reforming Social Security, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, East European Studies, Washington, D.C., 08.06.2005.; Title of paper delivered: “Perils of institutionalized volatility: Some lessons from East Central European welfare reforms”

Institute for the Advanced Studies in the Humanities, University of Edinburgh, 26.01.2005.; Title of paper delivered: “Welfare Systems in 20th Century East Central Europe. A Comparative View”

LANGUAGES

Native Hungarian; fluency in English and German

OTHER INTERESTS

Travelling and DIY