

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE
"RESEARCH OF CURRENT ISSUES IN MODERN HUNGAROLGY"

On October 26—27, 2023, the International Scientific Conference "Research on Current Issues in Modern Hungarology" was held in Uzhhorod (Ukraine). The conference was devoted to the 35th anniversary of the Centre of Hungarology at the Uzhhorod National University.

The Centre of Hungarology has been successfully operating since November 1988 in Uzhhorod. From that time until the end of 2022, Petro Lyzanets became the leader who was esteemed both in and outside Ukraine. During this time, the employees of the Uzhhorod Centre of Hungarology maintained and coordinated scientific and pedagogical research into Hungarian language, literature, ethnography, and history. In particular, dialectological, ethnographic and folkloristic material was collected in the Hungarian settlements of Subcarpathia and studied in collaboration with the teachers of the Department of Hungarian Philology.

Currently work three people in the Centre of Hungarology. Since February 2023, Eleonora Berta has been appointed the director of the Centre of Hungarology. Despite the difficult time for Ukraine, it was decided to properly celebrate the 35th anniversary of this institution by organizing an international scientific conference.

The ceremonial opening of the conference took place on October 26, and was attended by the rector of the Uzhhorod National University, Volodymyr Smolanka, and the Chief Adviser to the Prime Minister of Hungary, Katalin Szili. Attendees were greeted by Petro Lyzanets and Eleonora Berta. István Csernicskó, Rector of the Ferenc Rákóczi II Transcarpathian Hungarian College of Higher Education and head of the Hungarian Academic Council of Transcarpathia, emphasized the importance of the Uzhhorod Centre of Hungarology. János Pusztay, professor emeritus at the Eötvös Loránd University

in Budapest made an address as well. The solemn part ended with the unveiling of a bust of Andriy Brody, the owner of the building in which the Centre of Hungarology has resided since 1988. In addition, an exhibition of the Subcarpathian Society's artists Sándor Balogh, János Klisza, János Réthy, and Angéla Turák, was opened in the premises of the Centre of Hungarology.

On October 27, the work of the conference began with a plenary session. About 40 philologists and historians from Ukraine (Uzhhorod, Berehovo, and Kyiv) and Hungary (Debrecen, Budapest, Szeged, and Jászberény) took part onsite and online. The plenary session began with a welcome speech by Ádám Csepeti, who holds the position of Deputy State Secretary of the Hungarian Prime Minister's Office, responsible for the coordination of strategic affairs. The famous Hungarian ethnographer and folklorist, the vice-rector of Debrecen University Elek Bartha, gave a speech on the topic "Borders, cultures, and minorities". The talk of the Ukrainian folklorist Lesia Mushketyk was dedicated to contemporary Ukrainian-Hungarian inter-academic cooperation in the field of ethnology. Professor István H. Tóth (Budapest) delivered a report on the perspectives of teaching Hungarian as a foreign language and the person-oriented methodology, which he has been successfully applying in his own teaching career for many years. Professor István Csernicskó dedicated his speech at the plenary session to the border as a divergent factor of language and went into the distinctive functioning features of Modern Hungarian in the Subcarpathian region.

After the plenary session, the conference activities continued in three sections. The most numerous was the section of linguistics, in which 18 speakers took part; most of them joined online, since they did not go as far as to visit a country in the state of war. The talks touched various

aspects and current research in the field of Hungarian linguistics. Thus, Katalin Horváth summarized the main topics in Hungarology, while Péter Pomozi's paper was dedicated to Robert Gragger's Hungarological concept. Various issues in the methodology of teaching Hungarian as a foreign language were analysed, e.g. "Person-oriented teaching of Hungarian as a foreign language in German grammars" by Dóra Nagy, or "Peculiarities of teaching Hungarian as a foreign language in a Slavic environment" by Eleonora Berta. Ágnes Kocsis and Éva Braun addressed educational problems in learning Hungarian. Zsolt Tóth spoke about comparative Hungarian linguistics, while Krisztina Zékány focused on Standard Hungarian lexical borrowings in the Subcarpathian Hungarian dialects. The modern challenges of teaching Hungarian like e.g. Internet consultations on orthography as language management, were the subject of Zsófia Ludányi's talk, Nataliia Nod reported research results on the influence of social networks on the use of Hungarian by students in Subcarpathia. The feasibility of using multilingual signboards in civil practice was analysed by Kornélia Híres-László and Réka Máté. Krisztián Váradi reported on the study of attitudes toward bilingualism among future language teachers in Subcarpathia. Magdolna Györke and Krisztina Ladányi talked about proper nouns in nicknames, Marianna Jackovics analysed the student language based on Zsigmond Móricz's novels, and Erzsébet Béres observed the use of derived words in Subcarpathian Hungarian newspapers.

The literary section featured six speakers: Vera Vasovchyk on Ukrainian-Hungarian literary contacts, Oksana Talabirchuk and Oleksandra Ignatovych on distinctive features of artistic translation from Hungarian into Ukrainian and from

Ukrainian into Hungarian), Emőke Csuka on supernatural beings in Hungarian folk tales of Subcarpathia, Miklós Antonenkó on the extent of awareness about Finno-Hungarian literature and culture among Subcarpathian people, as well as Diána Hulpa with an analysis of significant works of world literature.

The History and Ethnography Section brought together 13 researchers who examined various aspects related to the history of Subcarpathian Hungarians (Zsuzsanna Daruda, Eszter Balla, Natália Váradi, Klaudia Stefánia Ferkó, László Zubánics, György Dupka, Richárd Mihók, Sándor Kovács, László Braun, and Mykhailo Demczyk) and the history of Hungary (Oksana Ferkov, Liubov Pavlyshyn, and Eleonóra Kovács).

Thus, the conference activities shed light on crucial topics of modern Hungarology, which deserve further research.

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