

Issue Editor's Preface

During the last fifteen years Indiana University had a considerable number of conferences on Hungarian topics. In the early 1980s the roundtables and colloquia organized by the late György Ránki were devoted mainly to history, although I remember a conference entitled "Hungary and European Civilization" that had a wider scope and thus was somewhat comparable to our present meeting. Professor Jeffrey Harlig was one of the speakers at a later conference which had participants from the United States who were writing dissertations on Hungarian subjects. At the time I was the holder of the Hungarian Chair we also discussed the legacy of the great pianist and eminent composer Ernő Dohnányi, whereas on another occasion we focused on the activities of the American Hungarian community and had the pleasure of listening to several distinguished scholars ranging from Professor Edward Teller to Professor György Bisztray. My successors were scholars of great excellence and enlarged the circle of participants. Professor Csaba Pléh organized a highly successful conference for linguists, Professor László Csorba asked his guests to analyze the role played by religion in modern Hungary, and the current Hungarian Chair Professor, László Borhi and myself were among the participants of the scholarly meeting planned and led by Professor Ignác Romsics entitled "Hungary and the Great Powers." I am happy to say that the material of all these colloquia is available in print. In view of the fact that outstanding scholars from Hungary have been invited to our present meeting, there is every reason to believe that our discussions will be stimulating. It is a distinct pleasure for me to open the conference entitled "Hungarian Contributions to Scholarship."

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