

Psycho-Politics: The Cross-Sections of Science and Ideology in the History of Psy-Sciences

International conference

**organized by the Social and Cultural Psychology Group of the Institute of Cognitive
Neuroscience and Psychology, Hungarian Academy of Sciences**

30–31 October 2015

Central European University

1051 Budapest, Október 6. str. 7. Floor 1, room 101.

Psy-sciences (psychology, psychiatry, psychoanalysis, pedagogy, criminology, special education, etc.) have been connected to politics in diverse ways during the 20th and 21st centuries. This relationship manifests either through direct political pressure or through more general and subtle interactions between cultural, social processes and scientific currents and practices. Concerning the history of these disciplines, demarcations and shifts instigated by power relations can be found within the scientific movements and schools in the field of psychology, psychiatry and psychoanalysis as well. But when closely investigated, politics can also be grasped in the epistemology of the psy-sciences and the governmental practices based on them. Human relations, emotions, everyday ethical principles, etc. have become conceivable in psychological terms, thus giving way to practices of normalization, to their utilization and manipulation by political decision-makers or diverse professional and other institutions.

The intended aim of the conference is to collect and present ideas and findings on the history and politics of psy-sciences, and to open up space for a general discussion of their significance. Bearing in mind the specific political economy of truth and power (also but not exclusively in a Foucauldian vein) we intend to examine changes in scientific and theoretical discourses, as well as the institutions that produce these changes. In what ways is this production economically and politically initiated, expanded and consumed? What is the form of control and dissemination of certain regimes of truth through reforms and old and new ideological struggles around them? What are the historical-political processes that influence the fields of psy-knowledges, inducing transformations of professional perceptions on the subject and normality, while, at the same time, determining the very position of scientific trends and professionals?

It is our hope that the conference will allow us to compare the Eastern European developments of the psy-sciences and the institutions in which they are practiced with their history in other regions.

The organizers:

Anna Borgos, Ferenc Erős, Balázs Berkovits, Melinda Friedrich,
Júlia Gyimesi, Melinda Kovai, Dóra Máriási, Anna Kovács

Registration: psychopolitics.conf@gmail.com

Program

Friday, 30th October

10:00–10:15 | Welcome and introduction (FERENC ERŐS, University of Pécs)

S1 The cultural representations of psychoanalysis in personal and social history

Chair: FERENC ERŐS

10:15–12:15 | **Keynote:**

MICHAEL MOLNAR (Former Director of the Freud Museum, London)
“The Museum of Human Excrement”

JÚLIA GYIMESI (Gáspár Károli University, Budapest)
Hypnosis as a tool of demarcation in the history of Hungarian psychology

MELINDA FRIEDRICH (University of Pécs)
Psychoanalysis in representative organs of the Hungarian printed press
1913–1939

ANNA BORGOS (Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience and Psychology, Budapest)
Alice Bálint in the cross-section of the personal, the professional, and the
political

12:15–13:30 | Lunch

S2 Ferenczi and Róheim revisited

Chair: JÚLIA GYIMESI

13:30–15:30 | **Keynote:**

FERENC ERŐS (University of Pécs)
Ferenczi and the politics of trauma

RALUCA SOREANU (Birkbeck College, London)
Sándor Ferenczi’s Epistemologies and Their Politics: On *Utraquism* and the
Analogical Method

SHAUL BAR-HAIM (Birkbeck College, London)
Revisiting the Post-Colonial Critique of Psychoanalysis: Géza Róheim and the
‘Primitive’

GYÖRGY PÉTER HÁRS (József Eötvös College, Baja)
The political attitude of Géza Róheim

15:30–15:45 | Coffee break

S3 Psychoanalysis and psy-knowledges in (soft and hard) dictatorships

Chair: GORDANA JOVANOVIĆ

- 15:45–17:45 | **Keynote:**
STEPHEN FROSH (Birkbeck College, London)
Psychoanalysis in Troubled Times: Conformism or Resistance?
LENE AUESTAD (University of Oslo)
The engagement of psychoanalysis. Nic Waal and the Edith Jacobson case
MELINDA KOVAI (Gáspár Károli University, Budapest)
Social roles and positions of Hungarian psychologist-intelligentsia between the 1930s and 1960s
DÓRA MÁRIÁSI (Loránd Eötvös University, Budapest)
Remembering the re-establishment of Hungarian psychology in the Kádár-era in the 1960s. Reconstructing psychology through interviews
- 18:00 | Reception

Saturday, 31st October

S4 The politics of psychiatry – bodies, illnesses, and eugenics

Chair: CLAUDE-OLIVIER DORON

- 9:30–11:30 | **RUSLAN MITROFANOV** (European University, Saint-Petersburg)
The Institutionalization of Psychiatry in the Russian Empire: Kazan Province as a Transnational Study
EMESE LAFFERTON (Central European University, Budapest)
Psychiatry and Eugenics in Hungary in the First Decades of the 20th Century
ZSUZSANNA AGORA (KISS), VIRÁG RAB (University of Pécs)
Which of the two was mentally ill? Psychiatry and the individual in the interwar period
ZSUZSA BOKOR (The Romanian Institute for Research on National Minorities, Cluj-Napoca)
Patients and observers. Specific data collection methods in an interwar hospital
- 11:30–11:45 | Coffee break

S5 The politics of psychiatry – mental health and disability

Chair: EMESE LAFFERTON

- 11:45–13:15 | **CLAUDE-OLIVIER DORON** (Université Paris Diderot)
The emergence of “mental health” in the 1940–1960s and the birth of a psycho-politics
MÁRTA CSABAI (University of Szeged)
Psychopolitics and illness constructions in the background of the trauma-concept of the DSM-5

BALÁZS BERKOVITS (Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience and Psychology, Budapest)
Contemporary defences of psychiatry's moral-medical kinds in the light of Foucault's *Abnormal* and *Pierre Rivière*

13:15–14:15 | Lunch

S6 Critical psychology/psychiatry; psychology and social stance

Chair: LENE AUESTAD

14:15–16:15 | **Keynote 1:**
PHILIP THOMAS (Writer, and former co-chair of Critical Psychiatry Network, UK)
Neoliberal Governmentality, Austerity and Psycho Politics

Keynote 2:
JULIA BOROSSA (Middlesex University, London)
Psychoanalysis and the Taking of Sides: Three Moments in the History of the Psychoanalytic Movement

DENNIS FOX (University of Illinois-Springfield)
Parallels, Intersections, and Clashes: Journeys through the Fringes

ZSUZSANNA VAJDA (Gáspár Károli University, Budapest)
“We Can No Longer Afford Freedom”. B. F. Skinner’s proposal to improve the world by behavioural technology

16:15–16:30 | Coffee break

S7 The epistemology of psy-knowledges

Chair: ANNA BORGOS

16:30–18:00 | GORDANA JOVANOVIĆ (University of Belgrade)
Transition from cognitive revolution to cultural psychology – ideological implications

ALEKSANDAR DIMITRIJEVIĆ (University of Belgrade, International Psychoanalytic University, Berlin)
Will Psychoanalytic Politics Ruin Psychoanalytic Education?

GÁBOR ZEMPLÉN (Budapest University of Technology and Economics)
Cartesian manoeuvring in the psy-sciences: explanation, circularity, and causation

18:00–18:30 | Closing
