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**Language competencies:** Ukrainian, English

**Scientific degree:** PhD (2022)

**Fields of interest, research topics, keywords:** informal economy, social history of Soviet political dictatorship, coexistence techniques, adaptation mechanisms in multiethnic (especially Ukrainian, Hungarian, Roma) communities

**Place and date of birth:** Tiszapéterfalva (Ukraine), 07.08.1982

## Education, Degree

### Education

1999 – 2004 Uzhhorod National University, Faculty of Arts, Hungarian Linguistics Department. Hungarian language and literature (MA).

2004 – 2007 University of Debrecen, History and Ethnology Program of the Interdisciplinary Doctorate School. PhD Student

### Degrees

2004 – MA in Hungarian language and literature

### Doctorate

2022 – Informal economic strategies and everyday political practices in the border region of Transcarpathia in the years of state socialism and post-socialism, PhD.

## Awards, Honours

2021 – Research scholarship at the Institute of Central European Studies (Eötvös József Research Centre, University of Public Service)

2018 “Eötvös” Hungarian State Scholarship Program

2016 – 2019 Research Scholarship for Young Researchers - Institute of Ethnology, Research Centre for The Humanities, HAS, Budapest

2013 – 2014 “Jedlik Ányos” Predoctoral Scholarship

2013 Campus Hungary Scholarship

2011 Marian Madison Gypsy Lore Society Young Scholar's Prize in Romani Studies (Honorable Mentioned Paper)

2008 – 2009 MTA-Sasakawa Young Leaders Fellowship Fund, research grant

2007 – 2008 MTA HTMT Scholarship, research grant

2004 – 2007 Hungarian State Scholarship

2002 – 2003 Educational Scholarship of the Apáczai Foundation

## Employment

2021 – 2022 Institute of Ethnology, Research Centre for the Humanities, Eötvös Loránd Research Network (research fellow)

2019 – 2021 Institute of Ethnology, Research Centre for the Humanities, Eötvös Loránd Research Network (research assistant)

2016 – 2019 Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Research Centre for the Humanities, Institute of Ethnology (young researcher)  
2013 – 2016 Lomonosov Moscow State University, Faculty of Philology, Department of Finno-Ugric Studies  
2008 – 2014 University of Miskolc, Faculty of Arts, Department of Cultural and Visual Anthropology (research assistant)

## Participation in research programmes

2023 – 2026 Heritage Constructions in Contemporary Community Spaces – Identity, Memory, Representation (OTKA 143295, Institute of Ethnology of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences)  
2021 – 2023: ELKH SA-35. Heritage building, cultural memory, identity. ELKH SA-35  
2021 – 2023 ELKH: ELKH: Social and cultural resilience in the Carpathian Basin  
2020 – 2025 Locality Embedded in the Web of Global Transitions. Ecological anthropology mediating between local communities and global changes in the Carpathian Basin MTA Lendület Project. Period: 2020-2023 (36 months). Foundation: Hungarian Academy of Sciences  
2016 – 2020 Parallel and incompatible ruralities. Rural realities in four Transylvanian (Romania) micro-regions. Institute of Ethnology of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.  
2011–2015 An examination of triple borders in the south-western, south-eastern and north-eastern regions of Hungary. Institute of Ethnology of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.  
2011 – 2014 Transfer Processes of Social Norms and Life Strategies in the Multi-ethnic Settlements of Transcarpathia. University of Miskolc, Department of Cultural and Visual Anthropology.  
2009 – 2010 The informal and formal learning techniques in the public education. (TÁMOP-3.2.3/08/2)  
2007 – 2009 Discourses of the nation and its alien in the relation of Hungarian citizens and ethnic Hungarians abroad. Centre for Social Sciences, Hungarian Academy of Sciences Institute For Minority Studies.  
2006 – 2008 „Generations on Research way”. Cooperation between the Faculty of Agriculture of College of Szolnok and Civil Organisations for the Prosperity of North Lowlands. Project no. ROP 3.31. -05/1-2206-02-0007/37.

## Fieldwork

2018– Sathmar Schwaben Villages (Csanálos, Mezőfény, Mezőpetri, Kaplony), Satu Mare county, Romania – economic strategies after the change of the political system  
2011 – 2014 – Szamoshat (Méhtelek, Rozsály, Zajta), Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg county, Hungary – border-discourses, translocal economic practices at the Hungarian-Romanian border  
2011 – 2014 – rural and quasi-urban settlements in Transcarpathia (Császlóc, Izsnyéte, Aknaszlatina, Királyháza), Ukraine – cultural transfers in mixed-ethnic (Hungarian, Roma, Ukrainian, Romanian) communities  
2010– Bódva Valley villages (Szalonna, Szendrő, Szendrőlád), Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén county, Hungary – social inequalities, balancing strategies in disadvantage villages  
2007 – 2015 Túrhat (Kispalád, Botpalád, Nagypalád, Uszka), Sathmar country, Hungary – everyday nationalism, xenophobia in Hungarian-Roma coexistence communities

2006– Tiszahát (Tiszabökény, Farkasfalva, Tiszapéterfalva, Tivadarfalva, Forgolány), Ukraine – social history of Soviet political dictatorship

### Five selected recent publications (last five years)

1. 2023 – Informal practices. Everyday economic and political actions in the Transcarpathian borderland region. Budapest, Hungary: L'Harmattan, 330 p. ISBN: 9789636460211
2. 2023 – Heritage Construction and Temporal Experience. Anthropological Approaches and Everyday Social Practices of Cultural Heritage-making. In: Ament-Kovács, Bence; Eitler, Ágnes; Balogh, Balázs; Domokos, Mariann (eds.) Heritage building, cultural memory, identity. Budapest, Hungary: HUN-REN Research Centre for the Humanities, pp. 445–492. , 48
3. 2021 – Economic Adaptation and Individual Livelihood Strategies in a Swabian Village in Satu Mare County. *Acta Ethnographica Hungarica*. 66, 1, pp. 201–239., 39 p.
2. 2021 – „Traditional ecological knowledge" and local landscape use practices in a Transcarpathian Hungarian village. In: Dániel Babai (ed.): *Ethno-Lore*. 38, 313–348. 36 p.
4. 2019 – The informal foundations of the dysfunctional Ukrainian nation-state – glocal life management strategies in Transcarpathia after the regime change. In: Sándor Borbély – Ágota Ispán (eds): *Ethno-Lore*, 36 pp. 191–226., 35 p.
5. 2021 – Traditional ecological knowledge and local landscape use practices in a Transcarpathian Hungarian village. In: Dániel Babai (ed.): *Ethno-Lore*. 38, 313–348. 36 p.

### Five selected publications (scientific career))

1. 2023 – Informal practices. Everyday economic and political actions in the Transcarpathian borderland region. Budapest, Hungary: L'Harmattan, 330 p. ISBN: 9789636460211
2. 2019 – The informal foundations of the dysfunctional Ukrainian nation-state - glocal life management strategies in Transcarpathia after the regime change. In: Sándor Borbély – Ágota Ispán (eds): *Ethno-Lore*, 36 pp. 191-226., 35 p.
3. 2016 – Compensatory Mechanisms and Balancing Strategies of an Ethnically Mixed (Hungarian-Roma) Community in a Borderland Settlement. *Erdélyi társadalom*. 14, 1, pp. 191–216., 26 p.
4. 2015 – “The Ukrainian is a nefarious Gipsy” – micro-policy of the foreign immigration in the borderland settlement of Kispalád. *Tér és Társadalom*. 29, 3, pp. 3–32., 30 p.
5. 2015 – Informal Economic Strategies in the Hungarian-Ukrainian Border Zone. In. Tünde Turai (ed.): *An ethnographic interpretation of tri-border areas*. Budapest, Hungarian Academy of Sciences Research Centre for the Humanities, Institute of Ethnology, pp. 217–245., 28 p

### Publications

[See the works of Sándor Borbély in the Hungarian Archives of Scientific Works](#)

## Teaching activities

2022/23 Semester 2 (Spring) University of Debrecen, Doctoral School of History and Ethnology

- Recent theories of social ethnography (lecture, PhD course)

2008 – 2014 University of Miskolc, Faculty of Arts, Department of Cultural and Visual Anthropology:

- Anthropological application of the hermeneutic perspective (lecture)
- The anthropological dimension of identity (lecture)
- Nation-building models and trans-ethnic economic strategies (lecture)
- Cognitive anthropology (lecture)
- History of Anthropology III (seminar)
- Research methodology III-IV. (seminar)
- Peripheral social groups (seminar)
- Lifestyle of disadvantaged people (seminar)
- Multiculturalism (seminar)
- Intercultural communication (seminar)
- Anthropology of social gender (seminar)
- Lifestyle, life strategies of the Hungarian Roma (seminar)

2013 – 2016 Lomonosov Moscow State University, Faculty of Philology, Department of Finno-Ugric Studies

- teaching subjects related to the Hungarian language and culture

## Professional talks, presentations

Budapest, 18 május 2023.

Heritage Construction and Temporal Experience. Anthropological Approaches and Everyday Social Practices of Cultural Heritage-making. Organizer: HUN-REN RCH Institute of Ethnology, ELKH-DE Ethnology Research Group, Museum of Ethnography (Budapest), Hungarian Open Air Museum

Budapest, 16 február 2023.

State-building efforts and informal economic strategies in the border region of Transcarpathia. Conference: "Introducing of PhD researchers 2023". Organizer: HAS, Committee on Ethnography.

Budapest, 15 November 2022.

Adaptation, resilience and agency - analytical concepts and their practical value in anthropological knowledge production. Conference: Social and cultural resilience, heritage education and cultural memory in the Carpathian Basin. Organizer: Conference of the ELKH Centre for Humanities Research.

Révkomárom (Szlovákia), 23-24 September 2022.

Minority perspectives and disciplinary research. Methodological and epistemological paradigms in social research in Transcarpathia after the regime change. Conference: Autonomie und Mediation (?) – Ein Jahrhundert ethnographischer Wissenschaften von

- 1920 bis heute unter ungarischen und anderen mitteleuropäischen Minderheiten.  
Organizer: Forum Institute (Slovakia).  
Budapest, 29 April 2022.  
Land use strategies and local adaptation systems in peripheral border regions. NKE  
EJKK Research Institute for Central Europe. Final lecture by NKE Rector's Fellows.
- Budapest, 25–26 November 2021.  
Traditional ecological knowledge and local landscape-use practices in Transcarpathia.  
Conference: III Interdisciplinary conference on the social and economic position of the  
Hungarian population in the Carpathian Basin. Organizer: National Strategic Research  
Institute
- Budapest (online), 26 April 2021.  
Informal economy and ecological changes - local environmental effects of economic  
adaptation. Workshop: Countryside and ecology in Central Europe. Organiser: Institute  
of Central European Studies (Eötvös József Research Centre, University of Public  
Service).
- Slovakia (Somorja) 3 October 2019.  
Informal economy and dysfunctional state. Recent social processes in post-Euromaidan  
Ukraine. Conference: Hungarian Minority policy from 1989 to the present. Organiser: Forum  
Institute (Slovakia) – HAS Centre for Social Sciences Institute for Minority Studies.
- Budapest, 9–10 February 2017.  
Time experience on the field. "Parallel polychronicity" in Ethnography, Anthropology, and  
History. Conference: The questions of ethnographic fieldwork. Organiser: HAS Institute of  
Ethnography
- Szeged, 4–5 November 2016.  
The soviet citizen's encounter with the dictatorial state – Rewarding Techniques and  
punishment mechanisms in Transcarpathian Hungarian Villages under the soviet dictatorship.  
Conference: Anthropology of encounters: past, present and future. Organiser: Hungarian  
Cultural Anthropological Association
- Pécs, 26 August 2016.  
The transformational practices of the Soviet political dictatorship in the Hungarian settlements  
in Transcarpathia – disciplinary Techniques and Adaptation Mechanism in the years 1955-  
1975. Conference: 8th International Congress of Hungarology. Organiser: International  
Association for Hungarian Studies
- Budapest, 17 December 2015.  
The Historical Past Constituted by the Soviet Political Dictatorship – The Institutional  
Transformation of Local Time Experience in Karpatho-Ukraine in the 1960-1980's.  
Conference: Time, Culture, Society - historical sociologies of the present. Organiser: HAS  
Institute of Sociology
- Budapest, 18 September 2014.  
Alternative form of economic activities (trading, smuggling, illegal work) at the Ukrainian-  
Hungarian border region. Conference: Borders and Border Regions in the Carpathian Basin.  
Organiser: HAS Department of Ethnography
- Szatmárnémeti (Romania), 13-14 December 2013.  
Strategies for the translocal economy in the Hungarian-Ukrainian-Romanian borders region  
(Workshop presentation). Organiser: HAS Institute of Ethnography – Satu Mare County  
Museum
- Szeltersz (Romania), 23–26 August 2012.  
The experience of strangeness and the categorization change in local society in village of  
Szatmar. Organiser: Elemér Jakabffy Foundation and Romanian Institute for Research on  
National Minorities in Cluj-Napoca

Szatmárnémeti (Romania), 7–9 October 2011.

‘The Hungarians Live in the Ancient Times, You Know, Always in the Ancient Times’: The Historical Genealogy of Foreigner Experience in a Frontier Village. Conference: Minoriti in the Carpathian Basin

Budapest, 29–30 November 2010.

The Historical Genealogy of strangeness experience in Gypsy, Hungarian and Ukrainian ethnic groups. Conference: Everyday Nationalism and popularization of radical ideologies. Organiser: The Minority Studies Institute of the Hungarian Academy Sciences

Miskolc, 30 May – 1 June 2007.

The Foreign/Past and Ethnical/Present in Transcarpathia’s Sociological Research. Conference: The Representations of Cultural Varieties. Organiser: Hungarian Cultural Anthropological Association

Debrecen, 27–28 October 2006

The Rhetorical Reading and Meaning Interpretations of the Diary ‘56 Year by Dr. Mihály Fazekas. Conference: ‘56 Memories in Folk Traditions. Organiser: HAS DAB, University of Debrecen, Faculty of Ethnology

### **Social activities (Membership, ranks)**

- Hungarian Ethnographical Society
- Hungarian Cultural Anthropological Association