

Magyar, Zoltán

senior research fellow, Department of Folklore

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Language competencies: English, Slovak

Scientific degree: PhD

Fields of interest, research topics, keywords: classification of folklore texts, historical legends, Hungarian folk belief, cult of Hungarian saints, repertoire of storytellers

Place and date of birth: Kiskőrös, 1967.

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2680-5558>

Education and Degrees

1987–1997 Lajos Kossuth University, Debrecen – MA: ethnography, history and literature

2000 University of Debrecen – PhD (folklore)

Employment

1993–1994 Janus Pannonius University

1994–1995 Hungarian National Museum

1997 The Grail Centre, London

1997– Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Institute of Ethnology/ Institute of Ethnology,
Research Centre for the Humanities/HUN-REN Hungarian Research Network/Eötvös
Lóránd University Institute of Ethnology

Awards

1991 Géza Juhász Prize

1992 For Culture of Debrecen Prize

1999 Junior Researcher of Hungarian Academy of Sciences Prize

2007 For Hungarian Art Prize

2012 Pro Meritis Prize

2012 Ex Libris Prize

2023 Seklerland Prize

2025 Varadinum Prize

2025 Cs. Szabó László Prize

Research Activities: Projects in progress

2010– Encyclopaedia of Hungarian Folk Poetry (Department of Folklore Institute of
Ethnology, Research Centre for the Humanities)

2020–2023 Lendület LP2020-1/2020, LP2020-1/1/2021 and LP2020-1/2021: Locality
Embedded in the Web of Global Transitions. Ecological anthropology
mediating between local communities and global changes in the Carpathian
Basin MTA Lendület Project.

Publications

A complete updated list of publications of Zoltán Magyar is available in the Hungarian
National Scientific Bibliography (MTMT):

<https://m2.mtmt.hu/gui2/?type=authors&mode=browse&sel=authors10010595>

Folkloristic fieldwork

Romania (1989–2025, every year)

Slovakia (1995–2025, every year)

Austria (1989, 2005)

Italy (2003)

Poland (2005, 2016, 2022)

Ireland (2006)

Slovenia (2008, 2011)

Serbia (2010, 2024)

Croatia (2010)

Ukraine (2010, 2013)

Moldova (2024)

Georgia (2024)

Hungary (1987–2025, every year)

Conference organization

31. International Ballad Conference (Budapest, 2001)

7. SIEF-Conference (Budapest, 2001)

Folklore and literature (Budapest, 2004)

Folklore and visual culture (Budapest, 2005)

Folklore and history (Budapest, 2006)

Folklore and language (Budapest, 2007)

Myth and history (Budapest, 2024)

Most important professional talks, papers or posters

-The Hungarian Saint Kings. The Grail Centre, London, 31. 05. 1997.

-Hagiografic and Folklore Motifs in the Legends of Early Hungarian Saints. Saints and Scholars. Maynooth: University Library, 12. 04. 2006.

-Szent György és más sárkányölő hősök a mondahagyományban. Sfântul Gheorghe și alți eroi ucigători de balaur în legendele populare. In: Sfântul Gheorghe în tradiția populară.

Conferență de etnografie româno-maghiară – Szent György és napja a néphagyományban. Román–magyar néprajzi konferencia. Sepsiszentgyörgy, Székely Nemzeti Múzeum, 25. 04. 2007.

-Népmondák Árpád-házi Szent Erzsébetről. In: Árpád-házi Szent Erzsébet – Elisabeth von Thüringen. Magyar-német kultúrkapcsolatok Kelet-Közép-Európában. Ein Beispiel für ungarisch-deutsche Kulturbeziehungen im ostmitteleuropäischen Raum. c. konferencia Csíksomlyó, Jakab Antal Tanulmányi Ház, 17. 11. 2007.

International Congress of Hungarian Studies. Kolozsvár, 206. 08. 2011.

-From Archive to the Catalogue: Data Base of Catalogue of (Hungarian) Historical Legends. In: Utopias, Realities, Heritages: Ethnographies for the 21th Century. 12th Congress of Société Internationale d' Ethnologie et de folklore (SIEF) Zágráb, 24. 06. 2015.

-Legends of a Transylvanian Virgin Mary's Shrine. In: Folk Narrative and Culture. The Interim Conference of the International Society for Folk Narrative Research (ISFNR). Ankara, 03. 11. 2015.

-Pilgrimage and Narrativ Tradition. The changing character of legends of a Hungarian pilgrimage place. In: Track Changes. Reflecting on a Tranforming World. 14th Congress of

SIEF: The Changing character of pilgrimages c. panel. Santiago de Compostela, Spain, 16. 04. 2019.

-Folklore and Traditional Ecological Knowledge: Imagination and Knowledge of Nature in the Repertoire of a Storyteller in Transylvania. In: ISE Congress: Biodiversity Cultural Landscapes. Scientific, Indigenous and Local Perspectives. Marokkó: Marrakesh, 2024. 17. 05.

2024.

-Turkic Peoples in the Part of Medieval Age of the Hungarian Legend Tradition/Török népek a magyar mondahagyomány középkori eredetű rétegében. In: Turkic–Hungarian relations in the Medieval Age – Turkic peoples who became Hungarians. Sempozyum. Istanbul Medeniyet Üniversitesi, Faculty of Arts and Humanities. Isztambul, 19. 11. 2024.

Editing of database

Archive of Hungarian Historical Legends

Archive of Hungarian Belief Legends in Transylvania

Archive of Hungarian (Chango) Narrative Folklore in Moldavia

Magyar Zoltán's Archive

Database of Heraldry: <https://hu.wikibooks.org/wiki/Címerhatarozo>

Member in editorial board

Kárpát-haza Szemle (2020–)

Motif Academy Journal of Folklore (Istanbul) (2024–)

Történelmi Közlemények Abaúj-Torna vármegye és Kassa múltjából (Miskolc) (2025–)

Honismeret (2025–)

Editing

Határ: 1990-1992

Múzeumi Hírlevél: 1994–1995

Ethno-Lore: XXVIII., XXX–XLII. (2011, 2013–2025)

Series editing (as founder editor)

Magyar Népköltészet Tára [Collection of Hungarian Folk Poetry] (2001–)

Documentatio Folkloristica (2015–)

Documentatio Epica (2017–)

A Nemzeti Kultúrtörténet Kincsestára [Collection of Hungarian Culture History] (2019–)

Documentatio Folkloristica Carpathica (2021–)

Börzsönyvidék (2026–)

Memberships, ranks

Hungarian Ethnographical Society (member, 1987–)

Hungarian Writers' Association (member, 1990–)

Hungarian Hagiographical Society (member, 2018–)

International Society of Ethnobiology (member, 2024–)

International Society of Ethnobiology (2024–)

International Society for Folk Narrative Research (2025–)