



Memory Laws Workshop: Perspectives from Hungary and Eastern Europe

18 September 2018
Seminar Room, Ground Floor
IX. kerület, Tóth Kálmán utca 4.

Institute for Legal Studies, Centre for Social Sciences,
Hungarian Academy of Sciences

Memory laws enshrine state-approved interpretations of historical events. Central and Eastern Europe have become a battleground in the legal governance of history, as the states in this region struggle with the memories of Nazi and communist regimes as well as ongoing local neighborhood disputes. Furthermore, democracy and the rule of law have faced new challenges in the area, most recently in Hungary and Poland. This backsliding has centralized memory politics that were hitherto localized.

This workshop and book presentation aim at contextualizing memory laws in Central and Eastern Europe, with a special focus on Hungary. The panels will elaborate on the unique circumstances and historical heritage of local memory politics, reflect on the changes that have been implemented in official narratives, and critically weigh on the consequences of these developments.

This workshop is organized by the Institute for Legal Studies, Centre for Social Sciences, Hungarian Academy of Sciences and the T.M.C. Asser Institute (The Hague) in cooperation with the MELA Project (Memory Laws in European and Comparative Perspective).

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**Memory Laws:
Perspectives from Hungary and Eastern Europe
Programme 18 September 2018 (Tuesday)**

11.00 - 11.15 Introduction from MELA Project and the Hungarian Academy of Sciences

11.15 – 12.00 Panel I: Book Presentation – Law and Memory: Towards Legal Governance of History

Uladzislau Belavusau

12.00 – 13.00 Lunch Break

13.00 – 15.00 Panel II: Memory Laws in Hungary

Chair: Ulad Belavusau

Zsolt Körtvélyesi, *Continuity and Discontinuity in Constitution-Making*

Gábor Schweitzer, *Historical Personalities in Hungarian Public Law: The Problem of Memorial Laws*

Marina Bán, *Hungarian Memory Laws and the Rule of Law*

Discussant: Miklós Könczöl

15.00-15.30 Coffee Break

15.30 - 17.30 Panel III: Memory Laws in Eastern Europe and Beyond

Chair: András Koltay

Anna Wójcik, *Protecting State and Nation's Reputation through Criminal and Civil Law: a Critical Appraisal of Polish Memory Law of 2018*

Grażyna Baranowska, *Missing Persons and Memory Laws*

León Castellanos-Jankiewicz, *The Soviet Contribution to the Prohibition of Genocide: Harmony or Contestation?*

Discussant: Tamás Hoffmann

17.30-18.00 Closing Reception