

„Exploring Alternative Ways of Livelihood, Together”
Biennial Meeting of European Bhutan Friendship Associations
MagNet House, Hamvas Hall, Budapest, Hungary — 14 September 2022



Sponsors:

Organiser: Hungary-Bhutan Friendship Society

Collaborative Partners: Business Ethics Centre at Corvinus University of Budapest
STA Travel Hungary

Attendees: Royal Bhutanese Embassy in Brussels, Honorary Consuls of Bhutan in Europe, Members of Bhutan Societies in Europe, and invited local audience

Wednesday, September 14th - MagNet House, Hamvas Hall

*The conference is open to members of Bhutan Societies in Europe and invited local public. Each themed talk is followed by a Q&A session. **In English with no translation.** Free of charge, donation is appreciated. See the professional background of the speakers below.*

13.40-15.10 Values-based Business

Moderator: András Ócsai, Corvinus University of Budapest

- *Values-based Banking* - [Csaba Molnár](#), Head of Community Development, MagNet Community Bank, Hungary
- *The Boddhisatva Entrepreneur* - [Gérard Tardy](#), Founder and Director of the Loden Entrepreneurship Program, Bhutan-France
- *Buddhist Economics* - [Gábor Kovács](#), Assistant Professor at the Business Ethics Centre of the Corvinus University of Budapest, Hungary

15.10-15.30 Tea/Coffee Break

15.30-17.00 Values-based Education

Moderator: Gergely Hidas, Dharma Gate Buddhist College

- *A Buddhist College in Europe* - [Gábor Karsai](#), Rector of Dharma Gate Buddhist College in Budapest and MD of Mind&Life Europe
- *Educating for the Future: Values and Challenges* - [Karma Phuntsho](#), Founder of the Loden Foundation, Bhutan
- *The REAL School experience* - [Viktória Szemerédy](#), Co-Founder of REAL School Budapest

17.00-18.00 Values-based Sport: Traditional Archery

Moderator: Zoltán Valcsicsák, Hungary-Bhutan Friendship Society

- *Hungarian Traditional Archery and its Connection to Bhutan* - [Roland Csáki](#), Hungarian traditional archer
- *More than a National Sport* - [Tshering Choden](#), archery coach & former Olympic archer of Bhutan

Satellite Events:

Thursday, September 15th, 19.00-21.00 – Boat Gróf Széchenyi

Dinner and cruise on the Danube with live music. Meeting at 18.30, the boat departs at 19.00. *Invitation only, RSVP is required by 11th Sept.* Fee: 18,500 HUF / person to be paid in advance.

Thursday, September 22nd, 18.00-20.00 – Tan Kapuja Buddhista Főiskola

Talk of Karma Phuntsho titled 'Buddha-Nature: Theory and Practice Through the Ages'.
Free of charge

Event Locations:

MagNet Közösségi Ház, Hamvas terem (MagNet Bank & Community Centre, Hamvas Hall)

Address: 1062 Budapest, Andrássy út 98. (6. District). The closest metro station: Bajza utca on M1 (Yellow) Metro line. See [MAP LINK](#).

Gróf Széchenyi Rendezvényhajó (Boat Gróf Széchenyi)

Address: Akadémia (A) kikötő/port - 1051 Budapest, Id. Antall József rkp.

The closest tram stop: Széchenyi István tér, **Tram #2, 2M, 2B** (One stop by tram from Metro Station 'Kossuth Lajos tér') You can see the port and the boat from the tram stop. Just get across the road and you are arrived.

Tan Kapuja Buddhist Főiskola (Dharma Gate Buddhist College)

Address: 1098 Budapest, Börzsöny utca 11. The closest metro station: Pöttyös utca on M3 (Blue) Metro line

**REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR THE CONFERENCE AND ITS SATELLITE
EVENTS ON [THIS LINK](#) BY 11th SEPTEMBER**

SPEAKERS' BACKGROUND

CSABA MOLNÁR - HUNGARY



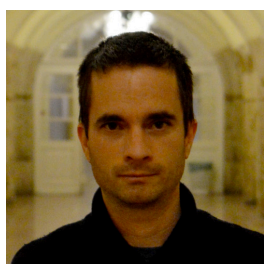
Csaba is equity partner and board member of MagNet Community Bank in Hungary. He has been the head of organisational and brand development and sustainability strategies since 2010. As a value-based bank, MagNet is a community building financial institution, which aspires for active social participation together with its clients and consciously develops its environment. MagNet offers special decision-making rights to their clients, by which they have the opportunity to support organisations and their beneficial projects that are important to them. They believe that money is not a goal, rather an instrument for positive change.

GERARD TARDY - FRANCE / BHUTAN



Gérard is an experienced entrepreneur, venture capitalist and philanthropist: he founded three major private equity firms in Paris and London : Citicorp venture capital (1984-1989), Schroder partenaires (1989-1998), Sitka Ltd (1999-2006), and he is currently Regional Partner in Mérieux Développement and Board member of companies in Europe and Asia. He is a regular lecturer on entrepreneurship and venture capital in HEC Paris, HEC Montreal, UCL (London). He is also Founder and Director of the Loden Entrepreneurship Program in Bhutan since 2007.

GÁBOR KOVÁCS - HUNGARY



Gábor is assistant professor at the Business Ethics Centre of the Corvinus University of Budapest. He accomplished his PhD studies in 2017. He received his master's degree in Buddhist studies from the Budapest Buddhist University in 2010. His research interests include Buddhist economics, and business spirituality. He is secretary of the Hungary-Bhutan Friendship Society since its foundation in 2011. He is member of the European SPES (Spirituality in Economics and Society) Institute since 2010. He gave presentations on Buddhism-related topics at international conferences in Thailand, India, Vietnam, China, Belgium, Israel and Hungary.

GÁBOR KARSAI - HUNGARY



- Managing Director of Mind & Life Europe (since January 2021)
- Rector of Dharma Gate Buddhist College (2005-2007, and since February 2019)
- Professor of philosophy and religious studies at Dharma Gate Buddhist College in Budapest, Hungary (1996-2008, 2019-). His main area of research is Whiteheadian process thought, German and French phenomenology, cognitive science and Engaged Buddhism.
- Former CEO of Ling Jiou Mountain Buddhist Society, Taiwan (2016-2017)
- Former Director and Executive Board Member of the Spirit of Humanity Forum, Iceland (2013-2016)

- Former Secretary at Education 4 Peace Foundation, Switzerland (2013-2016)
- Trained consultant of the Barrett Values Centre (since 2012)
- Former Deputy CEO of Bankár Holding Plc. and CEO of Kogart Holding Plc. in Hungary (2008-2013), including cultural enterprises (KOGART House, Sopron Monastery)

KARMA PHUNTSHO - BHUTAN



Lopen Karma Phuntsho is a spiritual thought leader, social worker and a leading scholar on Bhutan. He teaches Buddhism and Bhutan Studies in Bhutan and abroad. He completed his full monastic training before going to Oxford to read Sanskrit and Classical Indian religions and pursue a PhD in Oriental Studies. He has worked as a researcher at Cambridge University, CNRS (Paris) and the University of Virginia. He currently works as writer on the Buddha-Nature project for Tsadra Foundation and frequently speaks Bhutan's history, religion, culture and development. Karma Phuntsho has authored six books including "[The History of Bhutan](#)", edited seven books, written over two hundred articles and essays and led over a dozen research projects. He is also the founder of the [Loden Foundation](#) - a civil society organisation in Bhutan. His work has received extensive media coverage including by BBC, Forbes, BBS, Kuensel, The Bhutanese, Science, Forbes, Radio Free Asia, Oxford Today, Times of India, India Today, Tricycle and Channel News Asia.

VIKTORIA SZEMERÉDY - HUNGARY



Viktoria is a film director, writer, psychotherapist and intensive care doctor. In reverse chronological order. Built on her previous two degrees, Viktoria completed her MA in scriptwriting and directing at Staffordshire University in 2019. She started to mentor at Raindance Film School in 2020. She teaches screenplay writing and directing. At the same time, she continues to work on her films. She is also co-founder of the [REAL School Budapest](#), the English language, international primary and secondary school for the curious, creative and courageous where they inspire and empower the next generation to dream and build a beautiful world.

ROLAND CSÁKI - HUNGARY



Roland is Manager of Individual Giving Team at the Global Development Centre at WWF. Previously, he was a senior campaigner at Greenpeace. He is a dedicated Hungarian traditional archer who was instrumental in organising the first [Bhutan-Hungary Traditional Archery Competition in 2016](#) with the Hungary-Bhutan Friendship Society and [BIGSA](#), as well as in establishing an international traditional archery tournament in Bhutan in 2019. He is also a horse-rider and a 1st dan [Eskrima](#) master, the Filipino Martial Art.

TSHERING CHODEN - BHUTAN / AUSTRIA



1999-2006: National Team Archer, Bhutan
2007-2008: Assistant Coach for National Team, Bhutan
2009-2014: Head Coach for National Team World Archery Level III Coach Honors in International Coaching Enrichment Program (ICECP)

Olympics attended:

Sydney 2000 (Archer), Athens 2004 (Archer), Beijing 2008 (Asst. Coach), London 2012 (Head Coach)

Medals won at international Archery Competitions:

2x Gold / 4x Silver / 3x Bronze

Tshering was featured in the documentary '[Archers of Bhutan](#)' ([See also in German](#))