

A NEW SPACE ODYSSEY



CREATING LIVEABLE SPACES FOR SOCIAL COHESION
CHANGE AND ADAPTATION IN CRITICAL TIMES

Application deadline: 30.01.2024.

MORE INFO: WWW.IASK.HU

26th February
-1st March
2024

6TH UNESCO MOST
WINTER SCHOOL
2024

Organized by
iASK, ISES and University of Pannonia

VESZPRÉM,
HUNGARY



6TH UNESCO MOST WINTER SCHOOL 2024



unesco

Chair

Organised by: iASK, the University of Pannonia, and the ISES Foundation

The 6th UNESCO MOST Winter School is an unparalleled opportunity to connect with leading scholars and professionals from prestigious institutions, including the UNESCO, and esteemed universities from across the globe. This event provides a unique platform to gain exclusive insights into a host of issues, such as the inner workings of international organizations and their strategies for addressing global issues, such as armed conflicts, human security crises, migration, and the rapid development of artificial intelligence. This year we particularly touch on the topic of space and place in different scopes and contexts. We draw inspiration from the fields of arts, architecture, engineering, design, and all disciplines of humanities and social sciences, especially cultural studies, history, social psychology, spatial and regional sciences. Don't miss out on this unparalleled opportunity to expand your knowledge and broaden your professional network.



ABOUT iASK

Institute of Advanced Studies Kőszeg is a synergy platform that brings together social sciences, arts, humanities and natural sciences to provide answers to the most pressing issues of the contemporary world. We focus on creative and innovative thinking, interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research and education for tomorrow. Located in the quaint city of Kőszeg in Western Hungary, we believe that the best ideas come from the peripheries. Our researchers work together to build bridges between fields and offer ground-breaking solutions for sustainable, resilient and better futures.

The UNESCO Chair in Cultural Heritage Management and Sustainability in Kőszeg was established at the Institute of Social and European Studies in 2011 and became part of iASK in 2017 linked to the Kőszeg campus of the University of Pannonia. The head of the UNESCO Chair is Professor Dr. Ferenc Miszlivetz.

The UNESCO Chair in Cultural Heritage Management and Sustainability promotes UNESCO's values and perspectives on cultural heritage and sustainability. The dedicated team fosters international dialogue through innovative, multidisciplinary research as well as through educational and academic exchanges. The goal is to develop ground-breaking methodologies that exploit the knowledge of social and natural scientists, and professionals in the field of humanities and arts.

The task and responsibility of iASK is to help navigate through the complexities and uncertainties of this age, contributing to the formulation of answers to pressing issues that require more complex and interdisciplinary thinking.



BE A PART OF IASK INNOVATION

We think differently. iASK strives to foster dialogue between the disciplines and goes beyond the rigid borders of environmental science, economy, history, philosophy, anthropology, psychology, physics, visual arts and music to offer a new perspective on sustainable development, preservation of cultural heritage and understanding of the increasingly complex societies. The key iASK innovations include our signature Kraft program that revolutionized the idea of regional development and cultural heritage management and sustainability together with our concept of the Synergy Campus that fosters interdisciplinary knowledge for the future.

We invite you to be involved in our interdisciplinary dialogue about the future of the United Nations, global peace and world heritage.



ABOUT KŐSZEG

Jewellery Box of Hungary: Kőszeg

Surrounded by natural reserves abundant with greenery and wildlife, Kőszeg is a tranquil small town on the border with Austria and at the foot of the Alps. It is naturally shielded by forests and mountain ranges which gives it a unique landscape, as well as a feeling of peace and safety. The town is well connected with the bustling cities of Budapest, Vienna, Bratislava, Prague, Warsaw, and many others, and yet it is remote and quiet, quite different from all other places in the region.

Happy, Healthy, Stimulative Environment

With the highest happiness index in Hungary, Kőszeg is stimulative and invigorating, offering optimal conditions for intellectual work. It is blessed with great weather and plenty of sunshine. Summers are comfortable as temperatures rarely exceed 25 degrees Celsius while winters are mostly cool and dry. It is a year-round destination for studying and research work because the combination of climate, natural surroundings and superb facilities continuously attracts scholars to this quaint town. Unlike any big city, Kőszeg doesn't provide many distractions, even though there are plenty of things to do when you want to relax and unwind, including hiking, fine dining, or wine tasting.

Jewellery Box of Hungary

Since it has never been destroyed by wars, Kőszeg has preserved its authentic beauty that is carefully restored and maintained. The vibrant and colourful city centre is considered Hungary's best-kept secret because it is packed with postcard-worthy historic buildings. The impressive Sacred Heart Church on the main square and Jurisics Castle on the north-western corner define the cityscape which is populated by numerous smaller jewel-like properties. Thanks to the KRAFT program, many historic buildings of Kőszeg were lovingly restored and international researchers have the opportunity to work and socialise in the inspirational interiors of the legendary Festetics Palace, Sgraffito House, Szemző House and many others.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

From ancient amphitheaters and agora to modern-day art galleries, co-working spaces, and online communities, social, cultural and creative spaces have played a pivotal role in facilitating human expression and interaction. Always adapting to the needs of society, they have served as crucibles where individuals come together to explore, create, and celebrate the richness of culture, creativity, and social connections. Thus, they have been intertwined by technological and economic changes. While they encompass a diverse array of physical and virtual environments, their shared objective is to nurture a sense of belonging, preserve heritage, encourage innovation, and promote social change.

Social spaces serve as vital hubs for interpersonal connections and community building. Parks, cafes, community centers, and digital platforms provide venues where people gather to converse, form relationships, and create a sense of shared identity. These spaces facilitate not only social interaction but also political activism and the exchange of ideas, contributing to the formation of public spheres and the vitality of democracy. Cultural spaces encompass museums, theaters, libraries, and other institutions that preserve, present, and interpret culture, history, and the arts. These spaces act as stewards of heritage, providing opportunities for education and cultural enrichment. Furthermore, they contribute to the diversity and pluralism of societies, fostering an appreciation of different worldviews and traditions. Creative spaces, such as art studios, design workshops, and innovation hubs, are hotbeds for human ingenuity. These spaces encourage experimentation, collaboration, and the development of novel ideas. The innovative output of creative spaces drives economic growth, shapes industries, and adds vibrancy to communities. They also serve as platforms for artists and entrepreneurs to engage with the public, enhancing the accessibility of culture and creativity.

The synergy between these spaces is often underestimated. Cultural spaces can inspire creativity by exposing individuals to diverse artistic expressions. Likewise, creative spaces can promote cultural understanding by engaging artists and innovators from various backgrounds. Social spaces often serve as bridges between cultural and creative realms, facilitating the exchange of ideas, skills, and resources. These spaces face a host of challenges, including financial constraints, accessibility issues, and the need to adapt to evolving technological landscapes. However, they also represent opportunities for fostering inclusivity, innovation, and social change. Collaborative efforts between the public and private sectors, along with community involvement, can help address these challenges. By recognizing the interconnections and shared objectives of these spaces, we can better appreciate their profound impact on our identity, diversity, and social cohesion. As we navigate the complexities of the modern world, these spaces continue to evolve, adapt, and remain indispensable to our collective experience.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

The 6th UNESCO MOST Winter School offers insight into the processes and interactions among different spaces, the social contexts they grow out of and construct, the values they convey, and the memories they are filled. The scope will move from the general global arena to the smallest local contexts. Panels focus on cultural institutions as repositories of great works of art, heritage items and knowledge centres, well as spaces of microheritage. We ask how they can promote shared values and the reworking of historical traumas and cultivate collective albeit diverse identities. We will tackle the challenges and possibilities for social spaces, and free creative spaces where artistic creativity and communal activities regenerate social cohesion. We also ask how our built environment can contribute to an enjoyable quality of life for individuals, and how we can use different methodologies to design and create spaces where citizens feel comfortable and at home.

The 6th UNESCO MOST Winter School, organised by iASK, ISES and University of Pannonia, will take place from the 26th February to 1st March 2024 in Kőszeg (Hungary). We welcome applications from master and doctoral students, junior and senior scholars, from the fields of arts, architecture, engineering, design, and all disciplines of humanities and social sciences, especially cultural studies, history, social psychology, spatial and regional sciences. We also welcome professionals and activists from governmental and non-governmental organisations.

Each year, the Winter School attracts top scholars from across Europe and the world because it fosters education for the future, unorthodox thinking, and the dynamic exchange of ideas through transdisciplinary and transcultural dialogue. The discussions at the 6th Winter School will address following topics:

- What makes a place great?
- Urban and rural spaces burdened by memory and liberated by art
- from formal institutions of culture to informal micro-sites of heritage
- Placemaking, Place branding and contemporary social design
- Peace and security and belonging to a community in times of war and conflict
- Communities of Care and Solidarity: how well-being is to be achieved
- Community building through arts and culture
- Emotional Mapping for liveable spaces
- Social innovation in the face of growing inequalities: creating accessible and free; spaces for diverse social groups and individuals
- Connecting 'outside' and 'inside' in spaces and their inhabitants

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Monday, February 26th

09:30 - 10:00 Participants' introductions

10:00-10:30 Welcome speeches

10:30 - 12:30 Panel

Peace, Security and Belonging to a Community in Times of War and Conflict

Communities are rapidly changing in our current times. While they are seemingly stable in times of peace, war radically changes alliances and senses of belonging. Communal ties, family relations, past experiences, religions and other factors inform collective identities, which may become threatened overnight. In this sense it is not possible to develop, design or analyze political, social or cultural communities without their immediate and larger contexts. This session proposes to critically discuss the larger geopolitical contexts of Russia's war on Ukraine and the armed conflict in Gaza from the perspective of the integration and disintegration of communities in the heart of the conflict zones as well as in those parts of the world that are indirectly affected.

10:30 - 11:00 Keynote

11:00 - 12:30 Panel Discussion

12:30 - 14:00 Lunch break

14:00 - 16:00 Panel

Urban and Rural Spaces Burdened by Memory and Liberated by Art

Marc Augé wrote about "non places", which are characteristics of our postmodern, neoliberal, globalizing world: they are spaces that carry no identity, non-belonging and alienation (airports, train stations, shopping malls), while their appeal correlates with the disappearance of real sites, and actual places of ethnographic significance, sites which carry meanings from communities' pasts, and sites which are reminders of earlier cultures. Sites which are subject to conflicting and difficult memories, often lack commemorative monuments punching their heritage to oblivion. How can we use art, architecture, urban planning, and cultural initiatives to transform these non lieux so they can become meaningful sites of facing the past and forging communal cohesion? Panelists are invited to showcase positive examples of such transformations.

18:00 Musical performance

19:00 Reception

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Tuesday, February 27th

Registration and login: 9:30 - 10:00

MORNING SESSION: 10:00-12:00

Placemaking, Place Branding, Emotional Mapping

The first part of this session is a facilitated discussion about 'place' as a concept, of 'place brands' as limited forms of geographical representations and of 'place branding' as a highly selective process.

In the second part we introduce Emotional Mapping, a methodology that can be used for shaping, redesigning the places, mapping the spaces where we live. In this extremely challenging, changing and uncertain world, we need places and spaces where we can feel secure, and comfortable. Home is a place where this safety needs to be found while it is also an environment for reflection, recovery, self-regulation processes, individual and relational coping, and well-being. Through this method, people imagine their homes, choose the place of security in their homes, and evaluate their personal experiences.

12:00 - 14:00 Lunch break

14:00 - 16:00 AFTERNOON SESSION

Social Innovation in the Face of Growing Inequalities: Creating Accessible and Free Spaces for Diverse Social Groups and Individuals

This session is about designing cities, and the requirement to create physical environments which serve the needs of residents. From solving thus far unresolved housing conditions characteristic of cities to providing quality-living civil initiatives fill a much desired gap. CoHousing is one of the methods, well-known in Western-European countries, which is known for tackling the problem of city housing while at the same time being engaged in community building, i.e. forging communities of care and solidarity.

16:00 - 18:00 AFTERNOON SESSION 2 (group activity):

Design as a tool for creating livable spaces, Contemporary Social Design

Social design is the collection of design methodologies, which set out to handle complex human issues, placing the social issues as the priority. There is a growing need to use the tools of design to help solve societal challenges, while there is an increasing need to use different art forms and culture to design better spaces for people.

18:00 Cultural Event

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Wednesday, February 28th

Day trip to Veszprém

Thursday, February 29th

Registration & Login: 9:30

MORNING SESSION: 10:00-12:00

Transformations

This session will focus on discussing lessons learnt on the field trip, and analyzing best examples and practices from participants' own national and local contexts.

12:30-14:00 Lunch break

14:00 - 16:00 AFTERNOON INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP

Topic: Connecting 'Outside' and 'Inside' in Spaces and Social Groups. Designing a Community Café

Interactive Workshop lead by Labor Café Nyíregyháza

Friday, March 1st

Registration & login: 9:30

MORNING SESSION: 10:00-12:00

12:30 - 13:00 Wrap-up, Closing remarks and Feedback

Farewell

ADMISSION & FEES

PACKAGE A

The full fee is 350€ and it includes the following:

- Registration fee
- 5-day catering (lunch + coffee and refreshments)
- Free use of iASK facilities (including the library)
- Admission to cultural events
- Hotel accommodation in Koszeg, Hotel Harangtorony (<http://harangtoronyszallo.hu/>)
- Double room with breakfast

PACKAGE B

The full fee is 420€ and it includes the following:

- Registration fee
- 5-day catering (lunch + coffee and refreshments)
- Free use of iASK facilities (including the library)
- Admission to cultural events
- Hotel accommodation in Koszeg, Hotel Harangtorony (<http://harangtoronyszallo.hu/>)
- Single room with breakfast



ADMISSION & FEES

PACKAGE C

The full fee is 370€ and it includes the following:

- Registration fee
- 5-day catering (lunch + coffee and refreshments)
- Free use of IASK facilities (including the library)
- Admission to cultural events
- Hotel accommodation in Koszeg, Hotel Írottkő (<https://www.irottko.hu/>)
- Double room with breakfast

PACKAGE D

The full fee is 460€ and it includes the following:

- Registration fee
- 5-day catering (lunch + coffee and refreshments)
- Free use of IASK facilities (including the library)
- Admission to cultural events
- Hotel accommodation in Koszeg, Hotel Írottkő (<https://www.irottko.hu/>)
- Double room with breakfast



ADMISSION & FEES

Day Pass

You can purchase a single-day pass or pay for as many days you wish to attend. The price of the daily pass is 50 €. We are unable to issue certificates to those who do not complete the full 6-day program.

Online participants

The registration fee for online participants is 100 €. We will issue the certificates to those who complete the full 6-day program. (Day Pass-20 €)

Application

The application process has 2 steps:

Step 1: Applicants send the following application documents to isu@iask.hu :

The deadline for applications: JANUARY 19. 2024

- A completed Application Form downloadable at www.iask.hu
- CV

Step 2: Having been registered, applicants receive payment guidelines for the registration fee

The deadline for payment: JANUARY 24. 2024

Eligibility

Advanced MA and PhD students and young researchers, as well as social entrepreneurs, who have a keen academic or professional interest in the topics.

SERVICE & FACILITIES

Institute of Advanced Studies Kőszeg features premium research facilities located in breathtaking historic buildings. We have a newly refurbished library located in the heart of the city at Jurisics Square along with three breath-taking office buildings: Europe House, Festetics Palace and Szemzo House in the tranquil Chernel Street which connects the stunning Sacred Heart church and the famous Jurisics castle. The Institute also services the premisses of the iconic Zwinger tower dating from the 13th century where we will host the 6th Unesco Most Winter School. Our Synergy Campus with state-of-the-art labs is currently under construction.

During your stay, you will have exclusive access to our premium facilities, including the library where you will be able to print and download books and articles from subscription-based journals and digital archives. You will also be able to enjoy coffee and refreshments in all 5 buildings located in the centre of the city.

iASK is collaborating with the University of Pannonia, offering an MA program in International Relations. We also offer research fellowships on a rolling basis.
