A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT AND RECTOR JOHN SHATTUCK

As world leaders grapple with unparalleled challenges within the international political sphere, Central European University is playing a crucial role. Uniquely positioned as an educational institution rooted in Central and Eastern Europe yet global in scope, CEU can respond quickly to our changing world with expert analysis, opportunity for debate, new scholarship, and practical policy tools. Our faculty and students are studying global developments as they occur, and applying their knowledge to address urgent problems.

Events in neighboring Ukraine have particularly impacted our community. CEU has a large alumni population in Ukraine and many students and faculty from Ukraine, Russia, and the region. As part of our response, the University convened five roundtables on the crisis this semester to enable our community and the public to hear from experts on the region as the news unfolded.

Starting this fall, CEU’s Center for Conflict, Negotiation and Recovery (CCNR) will be tackling an issue related to another ongoing crisis, the war in Syria. Students and fellows at CCNR will work with Syrian refugees on a mapping project to support the eventual rebuilding of Syrian cities.

To help us continue this good work, CEU has appointed a new member to our senior team, Trisha Tanner, VP for development, who will lead our advancement strategy to ensure the university remains a leader in its field (MORE ON PAGE 2).

Thank you for being a part of the CEU community and supporting our excellence in teaching and research—with purpose.

JOHN SHATTUCK | President and Rector

LATEST NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY

REMEMBERING THE HUNGARIAN HOLOCAUST

CEU brought international attention to the 70th anniversary of the Hungarian Holocaust by organizing three major conferences and an immense project that called on hundreds of volunteers to memorialize and archive information on the “yellow star” buildings of Budapest.

ON APRIL 6TH | CEU hosted The Hungarian Holocaust: Seventy Years Later, bringing together the top scholars in the field to share their research on the lead-up to the atrocity, the responsible actors, the effects of the destruction, and the ways in which the Hungarian Holocaust is remembered and commemorated.

ON JUNE 21ST | the 70th anniversary of the forced relocation of Budapest’s Jewish residents into “yellow star” houses, CEU’s Open Society Archives organized public commemorations in front of many of the remaining 1,600 buildings. Historical documentation and testimonies are available on the interactive website (www.yellowstarhouses.org).

ALSO IN JUNE | CEU hosted two conferences—The Future of Holocaust Memorialization, with the Tom Lantos Institute and University of Victoria (Canada), and Narratives of Violence, with more than a dozen international sponsors. Both looked at how we come to terms with the past and what we can do to keep the legacy alive in an attempt to prevent future genocidal acts.
STAFF SPOTLIGHT

TRISHA TANNER, VP FOR DEVELOPMENT

Trisha Tanner: “I look forward to engaging CEU’s global community as we build the university’s proven strengths and prepare for the next 25 years of excellence.”

TRISHA TANNER joined CEU in April 2014 to develop and oversee a comprehensive advancement strategy that supports key university priorities, enhances overall fundraising capabilities, and leverages CEU’s team of international development professionals. A career fundraiser, communications specialist, and educator, she most recently served as director of private sector initiatives at International Crisis Group, a Brussels-based NGO dedicated to the prevention and resolution of deadly conflict. Conflict prevention is of deep personal interest to Trisha, who was born in the Middle East, and says that CEU’s track record of preparing future leaders to tackle the world’s most intractable issues is part of what brought her here. “On my first visit to campus, I was impressed by both the entrepreneurial vibrancy of this immensely international university and its intensive focus on integrity, transparency, and innovation—defining values that underpin effective leadership, good governance, and open societies. These values are as vital and relevant for today—and for our future—as they were when CEU was founded.”

CEU BUSINESS SCHOOL CELEBRATES 25 YEARS

CEU Business School, the first in the region to offer an American MBA degree, is marking its 25th anniversary throughout 2014 and into 2015 with a series of events that explore topics focusing on the future of business in Central and Eastern Europe, such as the ever growing role of innovation, the challenge of corruption, the transformational role of entrepreneurship, the connection between business and the Open Society, and effective leadership and strategy in transitional and emerging economies.

A highpoint of the celebration is the publication of the faculty-authored book, Free Market in its Twenties: Modern Business Decision Making in Central and Eastern Europe (CEU Press, 2014). Edited by Assistant Professor MACIEJ KISIŁOWSKI, the book draws on the knowledge of the School’s faculty to explore the CEE region’s transition from a socialist to market economy and emphasizes the importance of professional management and entrepreneurship for enhancing the region’s competitiveness.

EVENTS

CHALLENGING THE ROLLBACK OF DEMOCRACY IN EUROPE

CEU’s School of Public Policy hosted Rolling Back the Rollback, a forum on April 7th to analyze events giving rise to serious concerns about the stability of democracy in parts of Europe. During his opening address, CEU President and Rector JOHN SHATTUCK remarked, “Today we are in a new contest between fears of change and hope for the future... CEU is in the middle of it, and our mission is more urgent than any time since the University was founded.”

Heather Grabbe, Open Society Foundations, speaks at Rolling Back the Rollback. Photo: CEU

The first panel, chaired by CEU Trustee and journalist KATI MARTON, discussed the Hungarian national elections while experts on the second panel debated whether the EU is serving as a guardian of democracy. MATHIEU LEFEVRE, executive director of New Cities Foundation, led the panel on digital democracy.

Recommendations from the conference will be published in a public policy paper. We are grateful to our partners at the Hertie School of Governance, the Open Society Initiative for Europe, and Robert Bosch Stiftung.
LINKING BUDAPEST TO SILICON VALLEY

ELeni KOUNALAKIS, former U.S. ambassador to Hungary, and MARKoS KOUNALAKIS, research fellow at CEU, hosted a breakfast in their beautiful home in San Francisco for CEU and Hungarian leaders in the technology sector on February 25th. Guests, including PETER ARVAI, CEO of Prezi; LASZLO KARAFIATH, co-founder of Culture Culture; and LIVIA KLIMOVITSKY, president and CEO of Moshulu Group, joined in an animated conversation about CEU’s role as a hub for promoting innovation and entrepreneurship, particularly in Eastern Europe. The group was passionate about the need to create stronger links between Eastern Europe and Silicon Valley and to connect CEU students to the tech sector.

RICHARD BLUM WELCOMES CEU TO BERKELEY

On February 25th, CEU Board Member RICHARD BLUM hosted a lunch for CEU at the University of California at Berkeley. Blum, who is chairman and president of Blum Capital, launched the Richard C. Blum Center for Developing Economies at Berkeley to provide students with opportunities to learn about the developing world and develop careers around making life better for people living in poverty. Guests received a warm welcome at the Center and joined CEU President John Shattuck in conversation about CEU and the synergies between its School of Public Policy and Business School and Berkeley’s Blum Center and Haas School of Business.

GRADUATION AND OPEN SOCIETY PRIZE 2014

During the University’s 23rd annual commencement ceremony on June 21st, CEU conferred 601 degrees on students from 79 countries. President and Rector John Shattuck and Open Society Prize Winner KRISTALINA GEORGIEVA, European Union commissioner for international cooperation, humanitarian aid and crisis response, addressed the audience at Budapest’s Palace of Arts. Commencement was not only a proud moment for our graduates and their families, but also for the many supporters whose sponsorship of scholarships has enabled our students to receive a world-class degree at CEU.

SAVE THE DATE

THE LEMKIN REUNION, OCT. 15-16*

CEU’s inaugural Lemkin Reunion, an annual event that honors the memory of Raphael Lemkin, the Polish lawyer who first coined the word genocide and devoted his life to ensuring that it became a crime under international law, will focus on Rwanda, as 2014 marks the 20th anniversary of the genocide there. The School of Public Policy’s Center for Conflict, Negotiation and Recovery will organize the main events—a public discussion, a student-led seminar, and a screening of the new documentary Watchers of the Sky. The roundtable will feature CEU President and Rector John Shattuck, who played a major role in the establishment by the United Nations of the International Criminal Tribunals for Rwanda, and IAN MARTIN, chief of United Nations Human Rights Field Operation in Rwanda from 1995 to 1996, among others.

ACADEMIC YEAR 2014–15 HIGHLIGHTS

SEPTEMBER 19, 2014 | Opening Ceremony, Awarding of Diener Prize (see page 4)*
SEPTEMBER 22–DECEMBER 12, 2014 | Fall Term
JANUARY 12–APRIL 3, 2015 | Winter Term
APRIL 7–JUNE 17, 2015 | Spring Term
MAY 17–JUNE 14, 2015 | Business School NY Module
JUNE 21, 2015 | Graduation*
JUNE 1–JULY 24, 2015 | Summer University

* CEU supporters are invited to join us for these special occasions. Please contact us for further details.
ALUMNI SURPASS HALF-MILLION DOLLAR GOAL
The CEU Alumni Campaign concluded in December after alumni donors raised $513,446 in support of CEU—on time and beyond goal in an unprecedented success for the University. With our alumni’s support, CEU has awarded more than 100 student scholarships, providing important aid to academic departments, and more.

More than 2,000 alumni names were engraved on a plaque presented to CEU Founder George Soros. Photo: CEU/Dani Vegel

NASDAQ SUPPORTS BUSINESS SCHOOL SCHOLARS
The CEU Business School is the first institution throughout Central and Eastern Europe to receive a grant from the NASDAQ OMX Educational Foundation.

As NASDAQ Vice Chairman SANDY FRUCHER told The Street, “NASDAQ Foundation, which was established in 1994, is designed to help educate people on financial markets, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship. We decided to fund Central European University because it’s a prestige university that really focuses on developing markets and developing countries. They take the best and the brightest and really change their lives with their MBA and finance programs.”

CANADIAN COUPLE SUPPORT TEACHING EXCELLENCE
STEVEN and LINDA DIENER of Toronto joined CEU in its efforts to encourage outstanding teaching in Europe by making a generous gift in support of the European Award for Excellence in Teaching in the Social Sciences and Humanities. Led by the Center for Teaching and Learning, the Award is intended to recognize and elevate the stature of gifted professors within social sciences and the humanities in Europe. The Diener’s gift will fund in perpetuity the Diener Prize, a cash prize awarded to the annual recipient. Steven and Linda Diener have long supported educational initiatives in Canada, and they have made this gift in honor of Steven’s mother Ilona Diener. The inaugural Diener Prize will be awarded on September 19, 2014.

Sandy Frucher, NASDAQ vice chairman, discussing the Foundation’s partnership with CEU on The Street

The three-year grant will annually fund three MBA or Master’s of Finance students who hail from countries with emerging economies. The scholarships will support the CEU Business School’s overarching mission to educate managers capable of developing and leading modern financial services hubs in emerging economies from Chongqing, China to Cape Town, South Africa. “We are delighted to partner with NASDAQ to support the education of future business leaders,” said MEL HORWITCH, dean of CEU Business School. “Already, approximately 80 percent of our MBA graduates come from countries with transitioning or emerging economies... With these additional scholarships, we can accept more students who otherwise might not have the opportunity to experience a quality business and finance education.”

USAID FUNDS ROMA WORKSHOP
On May 9th CEU held a USAID-supported workshop to share an innovative method used in Hungary to assess the impact of Roma education on national budgets. Experts from Albania, Macedonia, Serbia, and the Czech Republic attended.

Most European countries lack the data and analysis needed to improve the situation of the poorest and most marginalized minority on the continent. Looking at Hungary’s data on education and welfare receipt, CEU researchers GABOR KEZDI and GABOR KERTESI developed a methodology to measure governmental cost savings and revenue generated through improving the education of the country’s Roma citizens. By demonstrating that rising education levels can produce considerable returns, this powerful framework can be used to push for educational opportunities for Roma and other disenfranchised communities.

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A DIFFERENCE
With a gift to CEU, you are helping to build and sustain a new model for international education; a center for study of contemporary economic, social, and political challenges; and a source of support for building open and democratic societies that respect human rights. Please consider making a fully tax-deductible contribution today.

Contact Tara Stone, CEU Development Officer, at stonet@ceu.hu or visit www.ceu.hu/giving for more information.