



**Women, Families, Careers –
Effects of the Pandemic on Work/Life Balance in the Visegrad Countries**
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**WOMEN, FAMILIES, CAREERS – EFFECTS OF THE PANDEMIC ON WORK/LIFE BALANCE
IN THE VISEGRAD COUNTRIES**
International Conference

Date and Time: 8 March 2022, from 12:30 pm. to 18:00 pm.

Venue: Rubin Wellness & Conference Hotel in Budapest (1118 Budapest, Dayka Gábor utca 3.)

Language of the conference: Hungarian and English
We will be taking photos and videos at the conference

SPEAKERS
in order of appearance
updated on 7th March 2022

Ms. Andrea Ferenczi, President of the AWCDH, project manager of the Visegrad Project, Chair

Andrea Ferenczi has 30 years of experience in the fields of women's empowerment and career development, including helping women attain leading positions by the implementation of Western (incl. American and European) models within a Hungarian cultural framework. She is an entrepreneur and founder president of the Association for Women's Career Development in Hungary (AWCDH). The AWCDH founded in 2003 is by now a leading professional Hungarian non-governmental organization with 70 members which has been accredited as the first Hungarian consultative NGO to the UN-ECOSOC from 2009. (More information: www.womenscareer.org.) Andrea's aim is to help promote women's employment including women above 50 and 60, to foster a dialogue between the legislature, the government, the corporate and non-profit spheres, education, and the media, in cooperation with NGOs both on the national, cross-border and international level. She has organized more than 45 international conferences, initiated the "Best Workplace for Women Award" in 2007 and the "Women's Career for a lifetime" project in 2009. She has been successfully lobbying for women's career and work / life balance issues for all ages at local, EU and UN level in recent 15 years. Andrea graduated from the Foreign Trade College in Budapest, fluent in German and English. 1991-1995 she gained professional and practical experience in PR and HR within the framework of US training programs. Andrea Ferenczi is founder of PRenergia Ltd.

HE Mr. Tibor Bial, Ambassador of the Czech Republic to Hungary

Career History:

2019 – Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador of the Czech Republic in Hungary
2010 - 2019 CzechTrade – Czech Trade Promotion Agency
09/2010 – 05/2019 director of CzechTrade office in Budapest
01/2012 – 06/2017 Regional director for Central and South Europe
07/2017 – 05/2019 Regional director for Central Europe and Baltic region
2007 - 2010 team Kenlube (Kenlube Hungary Kft. a Kenlube Slovakia s.r.o.)
11/2007 – 08/2010 managing director and export director
2004 - 2007 Arntz Optibelt Group
09/2004 – 12/2005 country manager - Optibelt GmbH.

Coordinator: Association for Women's Career Development in Hungary

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01/2006 – 10/2007 managing director - Optibelt Hungary Kft.

2003 - 2004 Bagi Lubrication Technologies Kft.

04/2003 – 09/2004 export manager

1999 – 2003 VirusBuster Kft.

09/1999 – 10/2002 sales representative

11/2002 – 03/2003 sales director

1998 – 1999 Kenguru Gold Kft.

09/1998 – 08/1999 export officer

Since 2009 publishing and lecturing in the field of tribology (Tribotechnika) and in the field of Czech-Hungarian business relations. Since 2018 lectures at the Faculty of Economics of the University of Miskolc in the field of economic relations of the V4 countries. Initiation of scientific research within the university (PhD.)

Education:

ESBM Praha – sport management, 2019/MBA

MBE Miskolc – Business school - economics, 1999/Bc.

Languages:

Active: Czech, Hungarian, English, Slovak

Passive: German, Russian

Ms. Ildikó Modláné Görgényi, adult education expert, head of research

She is a qualified mechanical engineer, an engineer -teacher, has completed a three-year doctoral school. For six years, until 2011, she was Board member in CEDEFOP for Hungary. She has participated in several trainings in Hungary and abroad (German, Swiss, English, Canadian, Lithuanian, Austrian, Swedish, Czech, Macedonian).

She has gained work experience as an engineer, vocational trainer, high school teacher, university lecturer, specialist in vocational training and adult education, ministerial director, Director General of the National Institute for Vocational Education and Training, and Deputy Director General of the National Labor Office until 2013. She is the author of several professional publications and textbooks, in the fields of development of vocational training and vocational training systems, project planning according to changing circumstances.

Since 2013 she supplies research, educational services, project management and professional studies from within her own company.

Her new start up business together with Andrea Ferenczi is “Development of entrepreneurial competencies and competencies for in-house jobs with e-learning”.

Prof. Jolanta Maćkiewicz, PhD Pedagogical University of Krakow

Associate Professor (PhD with habilitation)- researcher and teacher academic with over 15-year work experience at Pedagogical University of Krakow in Poland and short-term stays at different universities in Europe. Her research area focused on social, educational and gerontological problems issues. Participated in several dozen scientific conferences (Polish and International level). Author (and co-author) over than 60 publications (also indexed in JCR). She is Scholar of the Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange and Ministry of Science and Higher Education (among others: Scientific Internship at the University of La Laguna in Spain, study visit at University College London, UK). She is a member of (inter)national organisations, including: International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA) – National Representative; Polish Academy of Sciences – Section of Gerontology. Jolanta Mackowicz also serves as a reviewer on several international and national scientific journals,

and she is an independent expert and reviewer of the European Commission Research Programme HORIZON 2020 - HORIZON EUROPE (ID EX2015D229820)

Ms. Ingrid Šurova board member, Business & Professional Women CR z.s.,

Ms. Ingrid Šurová, Managing Director, Member of the Business & Professional Women CR Presidium Ingrid has held managerial positions in large international corporations and has experience in project management in a global and multicultural environment. She is currently the owner of the company and a franchisee of The Alternative Board region in Prague and helps small and medium-sized businesses develop their companies to be more efficient and successful.

She coordinates international projects for BPWCR and helps in management development. She is a facilitator of the Academy for Women Entrepreneurs (AWE) supported by the US Embassy in Prague.

Ms. Ivana Kondášová director, Association of Businesswomen and managers

has a longer year of experience with supporting of entrepreneurs, helping them to find new opportunities and cooperation with domestic and international companies. She is also experienced project manager working on various international projects funded by the EU. Mainly focused on support of entrepreneurship, start-ups, potential cooperation and women entrepreneurs. In the frame of Association of Business women and managers they offer various educational and networking activities with the aim to support women entrepreneurs and women in a leading positions.

Dr. Júlia Fodor, president, Hungarian Red Cross

Dr. Julia Fodor has graduated JD at the University of Miskolc, Faculty of Law.

She also has a degree of the College of State Administration.

1991-2014 she held leading positions in the local government of Szigetszentmiklós.

1994- 2006 she was a mayor, later a deputy mayor.

Since 2014 she has been a member of the municipal commission.

In the meantime she has been a member of the management board of the National Association of Local Authorities (TÖOSZ), while holding the positions of President of the Women Mayors Section and Head of the Pest County Mayor Section.

Dr. Fodor is an Instructor and Examiner in the professional public administration field.

Since 1972 she has been a member of the Hungarian Red Cross, and since 2008, a member of the Pest County Red Cross Management Board and a national delegate. Since 2012 she has been President of the Pest County Hungarian Red Cross, and since 2016, Vice President of the Hungarian Red Cross.

In September 2021 she was elected President of the Hungarian Red Cross.

She has been active in the local "Together for our City" Association of Szigetszentmiklós.

She is member of the AWCDH and has made several presentations at international conferences on the themes of the "Local governments, women for sustainability and rural women" chapter.

Ms. Katalin Balla, Policy officer, National Association of Large Families – NOE

Katalin is former board member of the Large Families Association of Hungary (NOE in short) and a regional chairperson of a NOE group in the 14th district of Budapest since 2015. She attended some Family Law and Management Trainings before she took the positions.

She and her husband have 3 teenage boys at home, this is why they got first in contact with the local NOE group short after they have moved to Hungary.

Between 1996-2006 they led a Hungarian Saturday School in New Jersey, where Katalin was teaching Hungarian Language, Geography and Folklore while her husband was leading the History classes.

Both of them were heavily involved in the boys and girls scouting programs. Katalin is also a member of the Washington DC based American Hungarian Educators Associations (AHEA) since 1998. Until 2000 she was employed by the US Census Bureau Federal Government in a mid-manager position. She took a big step in 1996 and went to the US for educational purposes, there she got to know her Hungarian-American husband and they settled down in New Brunswick, New Jersey. She got her Hungarian and German Language Education Diploma from the University of Szeged in 1995. After completing the KIT Tour Guide Training, she guided tourists throughout Hungary while working in a language school in Budapest. She was born in Pestszentimre, where during her high-school years she was a founding member of the local Historical Committee.

Ms. Éva Horváth, president, Women's Entrepreneurial Club of Győr-Moson-Sopron County Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Mrs. Éva Horváth has been working for more than 10 years to promote equal opportunities for female entrepreneurs. As an entrepreneur and member of the Chamber for 30 years she found that there are few women in decision-making roles. As a continuation of women entrepreneurial programs within the Chamber, in 2014, she officially founded the Women's Entrepreneurial Club of Győr-Moson-Sopron County Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The purpose of the Club is to provide entrepreneurial women with leadership knowledge and good practices to use in their everyday work and through this to contribute to their success. As the president of the Club, she has been working on networking with other entrepreneurial and women's organizations in Hungary and abroad, especially in the neighboring countries.

Eva has been active in maintaining strategic relations between the women members of the Chamber and the AWCDH in the field of women's employment and entrepreneurship issues for 12 years. Following their recommendation, the AWCDH has three times awarded Best Workplace for Women Award to local organizations in recent years.

She has run her food trading business for more than 30 years and is a voluntary member of the Győr-Moson-Sopron County Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

She is member of the board, national delegate and president of the Food Division, in the framework of which she is representing the interests of 76 food trading companies and plays an active role in the preparation of legislation affecting the sector at the chamber level.

In recognition of her outstanding professional achievements, she has been awarded several recognitions, among them at the highest level are the Silver and Gold Medals of Honor awarded by the President of the Győr-Moson-Sopron County Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Éva Horváth graduated from the Révai Miklós Grammar School in Győr, then graduated from the Győr Service SZC Pálffy Miklós Commercial and Logistics Gymnasium.

Ms Sütő-Nagy, international business development and marketing expert

Ms Kata Sütő-Nagy followed business studies in Hungary and France. She has gained extensive working experience in an internal environment in the multinational and SME sector as well. Her main areas of expertise are marketing communication and international business development. For over 4 years she was in charge of the international expansion of Organica Water's sustainable wastewater treatment solutions. Since 2017 she acts as a business coach in the Horizon 2020 framework program of the European commission aiming to support European innovations on the international markets. today she is responsible for the national communication of the Hungarian Enterprise Europe Network consortium and provides business development consultancy for small and medium sized companies.

Ms. Katalin Hajós, “women in leadership” expert, representing AWCDH in the Best Workplace for Women Award Evaluation Committee

The most important milestones of her career are linked to entrepreneurship, media and journalism. She started the Hungarian edition of the German Burda magazines, directed the publishing house and edited the fashion magazines for 8 years. She was CEO of the DentsuAegis media agency network in Hungary for almost 20 years. Katalin is one of the founders of the only women's radio in Hungary. With her daughter she established a family business in 2008 specializing in makeup and prosthetics for the film industry providing services for major international productions.

She is a founding board member of the Association of Women's Career Development in Hungary, founded in 2003. Within this capacity she has been a regular contributor at international conferences in Hungary and abroad on “women in the media” issues. Her favorite topic, which could even be described as a mission, is “older women in the media” thus calling attention to the missing or stereotyped representation of mature women in advertising and media in general.

Katalin graduated at the University of Economics in Budapest and worked abroad for several years. She speaks English and German fluently. She is member of the Board of Directors of the International Advertising Association (IAA), Hungarian Chapter.

Ms. Lenka Šťastná, President, Founder and Manager of Business & Professional Women CR

Lenka had held senior management positions in the banking sector for seventeen years, served on boards of directors and supervisory boards in industrial companies, and has been creating and managing projects to help other women secure economic security and find suitable employment in the labor market for 12 years. The projects are mostly educational, mentoring and networking is often involved. Many projects are aimed at startups and young people - its aim is to teach them not to be subject to stereotypes.

Lenka Šťastná has turned the new non-profit organization BPWCR into a respected organization that supports other NGOs and passes on its knowledge and experience internationally.

Ms. Nina Gabryś, Plenipotentiary of the Mayor of Krakow for Equality Policy and chairman of the Equal Treatment Council, which was established in Krakow in 2019.

She is an author of numerous initiatives, among others creation of a breast cancer prevention program for young women and a campaign against domestic violence. Co-creator and Vice president of 'One Hundred Years of Women's Voice' Association, one of the main organizations in Krakow working for women's rights.

Ms. Marta Sliwa, Student of Pedagogical University of Krakow

Majoring in Painting in the Institute of Painting and Artistic Education. She gets involved in events organized by the Active Women Association, as well as in various social and aid actions as a volunteer

Dr. Ágnes Szuromi-Kovács, Managing Director, Családbarát Magyarország Központ (Family Friendly Hungary Center)

Dr. Ágnes Szuromi-Kovács economist, lawyer, mother of four children.

She began her professional career in the banking sector. After a few years at CITIBANK as a customer relationship manager and later as a deputy head of department, she worked for the DEUTSCHE BANK Hungary team for almost 10 years as a sales director and board member.

Building on her professional knowledge and experience, she worked as the managing director of Pénziránytű Alapítvány (Money Compass Foundation) where it became her mission to promote and deepen financial awareness. In 2019, as a recognition of her work in developing financial culture, she received the Pénz7 Ambassador of Financial Culture Award.

She remains committed to developing financial awareness and, where possible, helps in this socially important matter.

During her time in the financial sector, she became increasingly interested in the issue of families, since as a mother of a large family herself, she was not only aware of the great strength a family can provide, but also of the challenges and struggles that it entails. As a mother, and as a woman working in a leadership position, she was constantly practicing the management of her physical and mental energies, her time and balancing family life and work.

As a result of all this, she decided to direct her attention and knowledge towards supporting families. Since August 2020, she has been working as the managing director of the Family-Friendly Hungary Center, where one of the most important tasks is to directly help families via the sharing of knowledge, in other words, spreading knowledge about creating homes, raising children, learning, healthy living and strengthening commitment to family life.