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## **SPEAKERS**

18.07.2014

**“HUNGARIAN-JEWISH WOMEN’S LIVES” INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**  
in commemoration, reconciliation and setting examples  
in honor of the Hungarian Holocaust Memorial Year  
Venue: Danubius Hotel Gellért, Budapest, Gobelin Room  
Date and time: 21 July 2014, between 10:30 am - 17:30 pm

**AWCDH offers the event to commemorate  
the beloved and respected Friend and Mentor, Judith Müller  
Perfume creator, winner of the Perfume Oscar and the Pro Europe Prize**

### **Ferenczi Andrea President of AWCDH**

Andrea Ferenczi is the 21st century itself, she is the perfect example of an emancipated but not masculine woman. She has travelled around the world, and moves around confidently in it. She is open-minded, sensitive and a humanist. Andrea is an experienced businesswoman and advisor.

She has been working for women's equality not to be a distant dream but to be an aim within reach for 20 years. In 2003 she founded the Association for Women's Career Development in Hungary and implemented Western (incl. American and European) models within a Hungarian cultural framework. The main aim of the Association is to promote women's equality in career development and to foster the empowerment of women.

Since its foundation the Association has aimed to advance the dialogue between the the government, the for-profit and non-profit spheres, higher education. The success of Andrea Ferenczi's team is obviously proven by the fact that AWCDH has been granted the opportunity to cooperate in the work of UN/ECOSOC as the first Hungarian NGO with "Special consultative status with UN-ECOSOC", awarded in 2009.

Andrea is the inventor and organizer of more than 30 international conferences. She organized the World Conference of Hungarian Women in Parliament in 2007, where she met Judith Müller, the world famous perfume creator, awarded with a perfume Oscar. A true and deep friendship developed between them and the Association can thank a lot to the participation of Judith Müller in several of its conferences and her supporting and appreciative statements, at international level as well. Since the death of the respected and beloved Judith Müller in 2012 Andrea Ferenczi, working together with Judith Müller's family, has considered her mission to preserve the name of this admirable woman and to set her life as an example for future generations.

### **Kate Nir, granddaughter of Judith Müller**

Kate – Granddaughter of Judith Müller, 20 years old recently finished her military service. Judith Müller always described herself as one whose roots are Hungarian, her Homeland is Israel and her world-view is Paris. Kate shared her grandmothers' outlook, followed her fields of interest ever since she knew how to walk and is determined to continue her legacy, her philosophy and her memory.

**Szervező: Magyar Női Karrierfejlesztési Szövetség**  
**Organizer: Association for Women's Career Development in Hungary**



**HE Ms. Maria Assunta Accili**  
**Ambassador of Italy in Budapest**

Ambassador Maria Assunta Accili graduated in Political Sciences at the University of Rome "La sapienza" and completed post graduate studies in Management of Public Organizations at the College of Europe, Bruges, Belgium. She speaks Italian, French, English, German and some Chinese.

As a career diplomat she served in various positions and dealt with several topics including political, economic, commercial, cultural and planning sectors. She served in Rabat (Morocco), Beijing (China), Islamabad (Pakistan), OECD in Paris (France), Taipei (Taiwan). She also carried out a range of activities in the field of public diplomacy and was the Secretary General of Italy's Section at Shanghai World Expo 2010.

She was elected Chairwoman of the Foreign Office Trade Unions in Italy before she was appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Hungary where she has actively engaged in promoting bilateral ties in all areas of mutual interest between the two countries.

**Márta Antal**  
**Makeup artist**

She was trained first at home then in Los Angeles. She won the 7th place at the Body Painting World Cup in 2004. She worked for several American film productions shot in Hungary. Her special expertise lies in special effects. In addition, several theatrical masks and creative photo solutions can also be linked to her name. As a make-up advisor for MAC and as an independent advisor she regularly participates in Max Mara fashion shows and fashion photographic events. Her works are often on the cover pages of glossy fashion magazines, such as Glamour. She opened her shop of a new concept called Beauty Bar Galaxy in Budapest in 2013.

**Countess Éva Csáky-Bornemisza**  
**Founder of the Smiling Hospital Foundation**

Countess Éva Csáky-Bornemisza travelled round the world being the wife of an English Lord-diplomat for many years, from Canada to Kenya.

As charity activity for the Hungarian children she had the opportunity to help support the Pető Institute Budapest first 20 years ago with the help of the „Help the Aged” organization headed by Princess Diana. Countess Éva Csáky-Bornemisza was a member of the organization for 4 years.

After more than 30 years of living abroad, in the middle of the 90s she decided to return to and settle down in Hungary with her second husband, Count Emánuel Csáky. She also continued to work for different child welfare institutions.

In 2004 she founded the independent Smiling Hospital Foundation for children, which was set up with the organization and work of Dr. Albert Royaards. The main aim of the Smiling Hospital Foundation is to create a better, cleaner and more cheerful environment for children suffering from chronic diseases or requiring long hospital stays.

„The joy of the soul helps the recovery of the body.”

The Smiling Hospital Foundation is active in Hungary and 8 other countries and it has become the first mission of Countess Éva and Dr Albert Royaards.

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**Erika Farkas**

**Chief Editor of MR1 Kossuth Radio (Senior Editor)**

She started her career in the District Editorial Office of the Hungarian Radio in Debrecen. She moved to Budapest and started to work for the program Chronicle at Radio Kossuth in 90s, where she was the presenter of the news and political programmes for ten years.

Her program, the Venue started in 2007 with the twofold aim of combining the introduction of venues familiar to only few people with popular scientific educational programmes. The programme has become extremely popular among radio listeners.

Erika Farkas' creed is that a good reporter is simply professional, he/she creates the atmosphere that makes a conversation come to life regardless of whether it is raining or the wind is blowing.

**Gyöngyi Fazekas**

**HR expert, insurance expert**

The secret of Gyöngyi Fazekas is hard work. She graduated from the University of Pécs. She does not know circumstances and does not require conditions. Her favourite objects are her favourite and important books. She is a positive person and makes everything positive. She does not contemplate obstacles, she looks for the solution. She is always on the move, looks ahead. Her past is her completed jobs, her present is creation and her future is all the conceptual-professional trends that can be created, built or started.

She is a businesswoman and an advisor in the area of sales. She joined the Association for Women's Career Development in Hungary founded by Andrea Ferenczi in 2003 with pleasure, and as a patriot in Pécs, she represents the Section of the Association in Dél-Dunántúl and she is very concerned about the interests of rural women. In the framework of her voluntary work for AWCDH, she takes an active role in representing the interests of women and women's organizations, in the formation of their common opinion and she also supports a more explicit protection of women's interests in all areas of life.

She raises her children to be a cosmopolitan. Her daughter, Bianka has taken part in an international course in Taiwan and her other daughter, Dorina has done the same at the University of Jyväskylä, Finland.

**Professor Tibor Frank, M.A., Dr.Univ., Ph.D., D.Litt.**

Professor at Eötvös Loránd University, School of English and American Studies, corresponding member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

Professor of History at the Department of American Studies (from 1997) and Director of the School of English and American Studies (1994-2001, 2006-2014), as well as head of the Ph.D. Program in American Studies (2000-), at Eötvös Loránd University.

He obtained Dr. Univ. in Modern History (1973). He received his Ph.D. in History at the Hungarian Academy of Letters and Science (1979), his Habilitation in History at Eötvös University in 1996, and his D.Litt. at the Hungarian Academy of Letters and Science in 1998.

He is member of several academic societies and he has been a visiting professor at different famous universities (e.g. University of California, Santa Barbara, UCLA, Columbia University). He was a Széchenyi Professorial Fellow (1997-2001). In 2000, he was awarded the László Országh Prize of the Hungarian Society for English Studies and the University of Debrecen. In 2002 he was awarded "Pro Universitate" medallion by Eötvös Loránd University and "Pro Neophilologia in Hungaria" medallion by the Modern Philological Society of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. In 2005 he was awarded the Szent-Györgyi Albert Prize in Hungary.

From 2006 he has been Corresponding Fellow of the Royal Historical Society London. In 2002 he won the German Humboldt Award (Forschungspreis) and worked in 2003-2004 in the Max-Planck-Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte in Berlin.

His books and studies have been published in 11 countries.

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**Professor Robert Friedmann,  
Professor Emeritus, Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, Georgia State University  
Author of the book 28 letters**

Dr. Robert R. Friedmann is director of the Georgia International Law Enforcement Exchange and Professor Emeritus of Criminal Justice at Georgia State University's Andrew Young School of Policy Studies. He was the Distinguished Chair of Public Safety Partnerships (2007-2010) and served as Chair (1989-2002) of the Criminal Justice Department at Georgia State University. Dr. Friedmann received his B.S. (Sociology and Anthropology, and Philosophy) from the University of Haifa, Israel (1974); his M.A. and Ph.D. (Sociology) from the University of Minnesota (1978); and his M.S.S.W. (Social Work) from the University of Wisconsin-Madison (1981). He has written several books on community policing, terrorism, and crime analysis. He has also authored numerous articles and research reports on crime and criminal justice focusing on policing and public safety. He was the recipient of several federal grants to improve crime data.

Dr. Friedmann chaired the Georgia Commission to Assess State Crime Laboratory Needs into the 21st Century; he is a Member of the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police (GACP), and a Member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) and its Community Policing Committee. He assisted in security planning and preparation for numerous outstanding events, such as four Olympic Games and for the G-8 in Sea Island, Georgia. He served as a member of the Fulton County Court House Security Commission and he serves on the advisory board of the International Institute for Counter-Terrorism, Herzliya, Israel, the Research Institute for European and American Studies, Athens, Greece, and is a member of the executive committee of The International Counter-Terrorism Academic Community.

At the conference, Dr Friedmann will talk about his mother, a Holocaust-survivor and the book he wrote on her short life based on the 28 letters that his mother wrote to her sister between 1941 and 1947. The book is a memento of how people who lived through the horrors of the holocaust, the infliction of Communism, and the tyranny of the British Mandate in Palestine, coped with the challenge of living beyond surviving. It is also a testament to the victory of humanity and the human spirit over evil.

**Katalin Hajós  
International economist, media expert**

The most important milestones of her career are linked to the world of media and journalism. She started the Hungarian edition of the German Burda, directed the Hungarian publishing house for 8 years and edited the fashion magazines. She was Head of the first German, then Japanese Aegis Media Agency network from 1996 to 2014. Her articles were regularly published at professional fora and she is a regular speaker at media conferences. She is member of the Board of Directors of the International Advertising Association (IAA). In 2013 she was elected one of the 20 most important persons of the media industry. She is also a Founding Board Member of the Association of Women's Career Development in Hungary, founded in 2003.

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**Prof. Dr. János Horváth,**  
former Doyen of the Hungarian National Assembly,  
Chairman of the Board of Patrons invited within the framework of the “Hungarian-Jewish Women’s Lives”  
International Conference of the AWCDH  
economist (PhD), politician

He started his long and eventful career in the 40s as member of FKGP, the Hungarian Smallholders’ Party. He was elected MP in 1945. During his years in Parliament, he worked directly for the Prime Minister, and he was the Director for Economic Policy of the Hungarian Peasant Association and the Director of the Center of the Agrarian Association.

After the breakout of the 1956 Revolution János Horváth became the Executive Chairman of National Economic Council for Reconstruction. After the defeat of the revolution he had to leave the country. He was one of the organizers of the Hungarian Revolution Council in Strasbourg, then he became one of the founders of the Kossuth Foundation in New York.

He studied economics at Columbia University between 1958 and 1966, where he obtained his PhD in economics, then became a professor at the same university. He was Professor of economics at the Butler University in 1968. After the change in regime he visited Hungary several times, and, in 1997 he returned to Hungary. On the request of Viktor Orbán, in 1998 he became the Head of the Committee for Economic Policy. At the 1998 elections, after 51 years he was elected MP again, obtained his mandate on the national list of FIDESZ (Association of Young Democrats), then, again in 2002, 2006 and also in 2010.

**Klára Kósa**  
Ceramist, master of Folk Art

Researcher of Jewish-Christian traditions and specialist of universal symbols

She is owner of the Kósa Renaissance Studio. Everything is hand-made in her shop in Szentendre as if that piece of art were the only one in the world: made with heart, professional skills and spirit.

Klára Kósa speaks with pleasure and has presentations at schools, libraries, at cultural and community centers, universities and colleges. Her speeches, exhibitions, team-building and stress relief gatherings are always a great success in every age group.

**Mrs Gézáné Mészáros**  
The woman who returned from the Shoa

She was deported after graduation from high school in 1944, she was the only one who returned from her family. She had to work at the Spandau concentration camp in inhuman surroundings, starving, from dawn to dark night, amongst the ferocity of the guards. She met her future husband on the way home from the concentration camp, with whom she lived in a happy marriage for 46 years.

After the war she worked as an HR expert for the company Volán, then, after her retirement, she started a new career, she founded a successful matchmaking agency by the name of the Matchmaking Agency of Mrs Györgyi. Her mission is to help find happiness for those who turn to her agency just as she found happiness by the side of her beloved husband. She talks about her matchmaking experiences in her book *The Bridge of Desire*. In the foreword of her book she emphasizes her creed that to find happiness is everybody’s dream and a conscientious, tactile and discreet matchmaker can help find it.

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**HE Dr. Andor Nagy**  
**Hungarian Ambassador to Israel**

Lawyer, founding member of FIDESZ

He was Chief of Cabinet during the first Fidesz government, he was elected Member of Parliament in his district in the first round in 2010. Before his appointment as ambassador he was Vice President of the Committee for Sustainable Development and member of the Committee for Foreign Affairs in Parliament. He was also president of the German-Hungarian Parliamentary Friendship Society.

He speaks German and English at an advanced level. He has been awarded the *Commandeur de la Légion D'Honneur* and the *Stauffermedaille*: he received the latter from the Prime Minister of Baden Württemberg County in 2012.

**Éva Pusztai-Fahidi**  
**Author of the memoir „Anima Rerum – The Soul of Things”**

She was the only one in her immediate family who survived the Holocaust, which changed her life, as it changed the life of all people who experienced the deepest of human brutality. According to Éva Fahidi anyone who has been in Auschwitz has two lives, a life before it and a life after it. In her biographical book *Anima Rerum* she presents her two lives. The book is about the dramatic opposition of the two lives: the idyllic, happy childhood in Debrecen, when everything was normal and peaceful and the unbelievable humiliation and brutality that the deported had to face in Auschwitz.

Éva Fahidi thanked her life to the warmth and normality brought from home: the women who were relatives or acquaintances stuck together and survived the horrors of Auschwitz aiding each other as best they could without any arguments or quarrels.

After the war Éva Fahidi worked in foreign trade owing to the fact that she speaks German, French and English.

**Ráchel Raj**  
**Cake designer**

Rachel Raj is one of the most popular cake designers in Hungary. She was trained as a fashion designer, then after some years of practice at the family confectionery she opened her design confectionery called *Cake Salon* in the inner city of Budapest 10 years ago. Presently she has 3 confectioneries (*Raj Ráchel Cake Salon*) in Budapest. Cake design and the new approach to making design cakes has made her very popular: she pays particular attention to the quality of ingredients, her cakes are made exclusively of organic ingredients and they are decorated with real marzipan, so the cakes are not only beautiful but also light and tasty.

Cake designer Rachel Raj approaches cake design as a fashion designer, she draws 'fashion drawings' of the cakes first, then based on the drawings she creates the figures of cream, sponge cake and marzipan as if she were making a real sculpture or a piece of art. After that she forms the character of the cake miracle with a detailed artistic work using marzipan or real flowers.

She teaches cake design at the *Cake Design Workshop*, and she also taught at a cooking school.

**Dr. Tamás Rozsos**  
**Plastic surgeon**

Co-owner and director of *Best of You Surgical Clinic*. He has held more than 50 scientific lectures in Hungarian and English. His beauty clinic has been operating at the same venue for more than 15 years and besides plastic surgeries he does one-day surgeries as well.

He regularly takes part in international and national conferences, he has had several lectures on his experience this year as well. He pays all his attention to patients, he helps choose the appropriate surgical plans or treatment by detailed consultations. The aim is to create a beautiful, harmonious body emphasizing one's unique features.

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**Anna Smith Lacey**

**Congressional liaison - Political attaché, Embassy of Hungary, Washinton D.C.**

She is third secretary responsible for congressional affairs at the Hungarian Embassy in Washington DC. Earlier she was US desk officer at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Hungary and the editor of the Hungarian Political Almanach. She obtained her MA in International Relations at Corvinus University, and pursued an MA in American studies at Eötvös Loránd University, at the Sorbonne, Georgetown University, and Bard College. She speaks English, French, German and Italian.

She also co-founded and directed the Common Sense Society. The Society promotes civic engagement, entrepreneurship and the idea of responsible liberty.

**Klára Szilárd**

**Painter**

Painter, glass window maker, sculptor.

She studied art at the free art school of Tibor Gallé, Loránd Sárkány, Kálmán Istókovits, Károly Koffán és Aurél Bernáth. She graduated from the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Geneva in 1945/46. Before her return to Hungary, after a 6-year stay in Israel she lived in Israel for 42 years, where she was member of two artist colonies. She worked in Jaffa-Old Town and EIN-Hod. In fame of her field trip she studied glass and fresco painting at the Accademia di Belle Arti, Ravenna in 1955. She designed and built theatrical scenery and monumental glass windows and painted in Israel: she designed and built 14 synagogues and 4 public buildings.

Her graphic works are also outstanding. She has prepared welded iron sculptures since 1986. She returned to Hungary in 1993, since 1995 she works in her studio in Szentendre every summer. She created a sculptor park of her welded iron sculptures. She has had 70 exhibitions worldwide, including 10 in Paris.

She has been awarded the Gold Cross of Merit of the Hungarian Republic and several other international awards. She has been awarded the acknowledged the Lifetime Achievement Award of the Hungarian Artists' Association this year.

**Judit Szöllősy**

**Literary translator**

Judith Sollosy was whisked out of Hungary along with her younger sister Klara and most of her family just before the defeat of the Popular Uprising of 1956. She grew up on Long Island, New York. She studied for her B.A. at Barnard College, Columbia University, where she majored in literature and minored in art history. She received her M.A. at the State University of New York at Buffalo, where she also studied for her Ph.D. and pursued the study of film history. She married Hungarian film director Imre Fehér and settled in Budapest Hungary. She worked as senior editor at Corvina Books, Budapest, she also contributed cultural reviews and features for the English-language weeklies "Budapest Sun" and "Budapest Week". Throughout the years she has lectured on translation at Miskolc University and ELTE University, Budapest. After the change in regime she taught full time at the Department of Applied Linguistics at ELTE, when she contributed two chapters to the college Internet textbook, "Netting America".

Judit Szöllősy is also a very successful translator: several of Arthur Miller's plays have been staged in her translation, and she has translated Péter Esterházy's books into English with great success.

Her translations into English have appeared in the U.S, Canada, the U.K, Australia and Hungary and in journals and magazines including "Cross Currents", "Common Knowledge", "Partisan Review", "The New Yorker", and "PEN America". She is furthermore a speaker, panelist, presenter and workshop leader on translation and women's issues. In 1996 she was awarded the Hungarian PEN Club's Ady Medal for popularizing contemporary Hungarian literature in the United States.

She is also a Founding Board Member of the Association of Women's Career Development in Hungary, founded in 2003.

**Further information: Andrea Ferenczi (36 30 9827093) [ferenczi@t-online.hu](mailto:ferenczi@t-online.hu)**

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