



International Fair Trial Day

# 2026 INTERNATIONAL FAIR TRIAL DAY CONFERENCE & EBRU TIMTIK AWARDS

## HUNGARY

### Date

Thursday, 18 June 2026  
13:30 - 20:30 CEST

### Venue (in-person and online)

Central European University, 1051 Budapest, Nádor u. 15 & Zoom

**Limited seating - RSVP required**  
**Register by completing [this form](#)**

To learn more about the IFTD, visit: <https://iftd.org/>

Further information will be provided upon registration.  
For any questions, please email [balimidil@gmail.com](mailto:balimidil@gmail.com)



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## International Fair Trial Day

The 2026 edition of the International Fair Trial Day will focus on Hungary. In recent years, Hungary has undergone a systematic process of democratic backsliding, marked, among other things, by the progressive undermining of judicial independence and the erosion of fair trial guarantees. The recent political change, however, opens a new chapter: an opportunity for Hungary to reverse course and embark on a genuine process of Rule of Law restoration.

Against this backdrop, the 2026 IFTD Conference will bring together Hungarian and international experts, legal practitioners, and civil society representatives to examine the state of fair trial rights in Hungary and the conditions necessary for a democratic transition.

The conference will conclude with the Ebru Timtik Awards Ceremony, at which an independent jury will present the Award to an individual or organisation who has demonstrated outstanding commitment and sacrifice in upholding the right to a fair trial in Hungary.

## AGENDA

13:30 - 14:00	<b>Welcome and registration</b>
14:00 - 14:40	<b>Opening remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Ceren Uysal</b>, Co-Secretary general of European Association of Lawyers for Democracy and World Human Rights (ELDHR), PEN Norway legal advisor</li><li>• <b>Dr Anna Madarasi</b>, Judge at Budapest Metropolitan Court, Co-chair of Res Iudicata Association of Judges</li></ul> <b>Keynote speeches</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Ögmundur Jónasson</b>, Former Minister of Justice of Iceland</li><li>• <b>Professor Margaret Satterthwaite</b>, UN Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers [online]</li></ul>



## International Fair Trial Day

<p>14:40 - 16:10</p>	<p><b>Session 1: Judicial Independence in the Context of the Restoration of the Rule of Law in Hungary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Professor Dr András Osztovits</b>, Head of Department of EU Law and International Private Law at Károli Gáspár University of the Reformed Church and Judge at the Hungarian Supreme Court (Curia)</li><li>• <b>Professor Dr. Pál Sonnevend</b>, Head of Department of International and European Public Law of the ELTE Law School</li><li>• <b>Kate Fox</b>, Rule of Law Unit, UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights</li><li>• <b>Dr. Julia Gebhard</b>, Deputy Head of Democratization Department, OSCE ODIHR</li></ul> <p>Moderated by <b>Mariarosaria Guglielmi</b>, President of the European Association of Judges and Prosecutors for Democracy and Freedom (MEDEL)</p>
<p>16:10 - 16:30</p>	<p><b>Coffee break</b></p>
<p>16:30 - 18:00</p>	<p><b>Session 2: Equality of Arms: the Right to a Defence</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Dr Erzsébet Kadlót</b>, Hungarian lawyer and former judge and chief advisor to the Constitutional Court</li><li>• <b>Dr András Kádár</b>, Co-Chair of the Hungarian Helsinki Committee</li><li>• <b>Chryssa Mela</b>, Senior Legal Officer at Fair Trials</li></ul> <p>Moderated by <b>Francesca Restifo</b>, Senior Human Rights Lawyer &amp; UN Representative, the International Bar Association's Human Rights Institute (IBAHRI)</p>
<p>18:00 - 20:30</p>	<p><b>Ebru Tımtık Award Ceremony, followed by refreshments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Mr. George Katrougalos</b>, Independent Expert on international order, former foreign minister of Greece [online]</li><li>• <b>Bernadette Somody</b>, Jury Representative, Associate Professor, ELTE Faculty of Law</li><li>• <b>Sevinç Çalhanoğlu</b>, 2026 Ebru Tımtık Award Artwork's Artist</li></ul> <p>Moderated by <b>Triona Lenihan</b>, International Policy Adviser on Rule of Law and Human Rights, the Law Society of England and Wales</p>