

You are cordially invited to the guest lecture
given by **Dr. Balázs Ablonczy**
(Institute of History
Hungarian Academy of Sciences,
Budapest):

The Finno-Ugric Kinship Movement in Inter-War Hungary

Ort: Institut EVSL / Finno-Ugristik,
Campus Spitalgasse 2-4 Hof 7.2, HS I
Zeit: Dienstag 19.11.2019, 18:00



Hungarian Turanism, the idea of kinship between Hungarians and the mighty warrior peoples of the Eastern steppes, experienced its days of glory between 1916 and 1918. After World War I, the movement split into many fractions and groups, whereby – in complete contrast to today’s ideologies – the linguistically based Finno-Ugric relatedness was not necessarily seen as incompatible or problematic.

The authoritarian Horthy regime wholeheartedly supported the Finno-Ugric kinship movement by funding the teaching of Hungarian in Finland, awarding grants, introducing the Finno-Ugric Kinship Day in schools and organizing international events, such as the Finno-Ugric cultural congresses.

What is the explanation of these politics? What was the reason for such an involvement from the government’s side? What kind of relations did political decision-makers maintain with the diverse, powerful Turanist fractions? How could this idea of kinship be transformed into a political agenda, from the introduction of the *Kalevala* into Hungarian public education to the sending of Hungarian volunteers to the Soviet-Finnish Winter War in 1939–1940?

Dr. Balázs Ablonczy is a historian specializing in the political and cultural history of inter-war Hungary. His recent publications include monographs about the life and death of Prime Minister Pál Teleki (*A miniszterelnök élete és halála. Teleki Pál (1879–1941)*, 2018), the war-time re-annexation of Northern Transylvania (*A visszatért Erdély, 1940–1944*, 2017) and the history of Hungarian Turanism (*Keletre, magyar! A magyar turanizmus története*, 2016).