

New Beginnings – A New Era in the Life of the Hungarian Yearbook of International Law and European Law (instead of Editorial)

Foreword to Vol. 12 (2024) of the Hungarian Yearbook of International Law and European Law

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Eleven years ago, in 2013, the first issue of the Hungarian Yearbook of International Law and European Law was published, which, according to the Editorial Introduction, “[was] compiled in the common effort of all Hungarian law faculties' departments for international and European law.”¹ In founding the Hungarian Yearbook, we were guided by the desire to present abroad the achievements of Hungarian international law (and European law) scholarship, which had been marginalized during the socialist era for known political reasons (and the pursuit of the so-called “Soviet view of public international law”).² 100–150 years ago, the scientific achievements of Hungarian international jurisprudence were at the forefront of the world at that time, because of the numerous practical international law problems that arose in Hungary because of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. For example, the first textbook on international law in Hungarian (titled in English: ‘European International Law’) was published 148 years ago, in 1876,³ and

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1 Marcel Szabó, ‘Introduction’, *Hungarian Yearbook of International Law and European Law*, Vol. 1, 2013, p. xi.

2 About the foundation and the mission of the Hungarian Yearbook, see Marcel Szabó, ‘The Past, Present and Future of the Hungarian Yearbook of International Law and European Law: An Evolving Story’, *Netherlands Yearbook of International Law*, Vol. 50, 2019, pp. 169–182.

3 István Kiss, *Európai nemzetközi jog*, Eger, 1876.

the Hungarian Branch of the International Law Association celebrated its centenary just one year ago, in 2023, as we commemorated in last year's issue of the Hungarian Yearbook.⁴

The first 11 volumes of the Hungarian Yearbook (2013–2023) were published by Eleven in The Hague, which, thanks to the publishing house and especially to its director Selma Hoedt, made it possible for the Hungarian Yearbook to be published abroad (in one of the cradles and centers of international law, the seat of several international judicial forums), rather than in the home country (Hungary), in a unique way in the Central and Eastern European region. In the past decade or more, the Hungarian Yearbook has achieved a number of outstanding professional achievements: it is now indexed by Scopus and ERIH Plus, it is included in the HeinOnline database, and it is included in the list of journals of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. We cannot be grateful enough to Eleven and Selma personally for all the professional support we have received over the past decade.

But this volume marks the beginning of a new era in the life of the Hungarian Yearbook. Our 2024 issue will be published by Nomos and the journal will be gold open access, meaning that all our articles will be available in full for free after publication. We hope that this change will be beneficial for our authors (who will have immediate 'international visibility' in the Hungarian Yearbook) and of course for the journal (as the number of clicks and links to our articles will also influence the professional value of the Hungarian Yearbook and its position among law journals). We would like to thank the Pázmány Péter Catholic University and the National Media and Infocommunications Authority (NMHH) for their support in ensuring the conditions for Gold Open Access status.

In the past years, the editors of the Hungarian Yearbook have always introduced the current issue with an Editorial, explaining their position on a current issue of international law or EU law (in our 2023 issue, Petra Lea Láncos explored the question of what is the language of Hungarian science: Hungarian or English⁵). This year, instead of an Editorial, we

4 Vanda Lamm, 'On the Centennial of the Hungarian Branch of the International Law Association', *Hungarian Yearbook of International Law and European Law*, Vol. 11, 2023, pp. 99–106; Péter Kovács, 'A Tribute to the Two ILA Conferences Organized in Hungary', *Hungarian Yearbook of International Law and European Law*, Vol. 11, 2023, pp. 107–114.

5 Petra Lea Láncos, 'Editorial Comments: What Should Be the Language of (Hungarian) Legal Scholarship?', *Hungarian Yearbook of International Law and European Law*, Vol. 11, 2023, pp. 9–17.

felt it appropriate to commemorate the biggest change in the Hungarian Yearbook's post-founding history.

On behalf of the entire Editorial Team, we wish you a good read and hope you enjoy the current Volume of our Hungarian Yearbook.

Budapest, 31 July 2024

