

Central European University

Expanding to Meet Global Challenges

The Central European University (CEU) was established to advance open societies in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union through education that examines ideas creatively, critically, and comparatively. In the 10 years since its creation, the environment in which the university operates has undergone substantial change. While continuing to observe its original mission, CEU is now ready to take up new challenges. Based on the success of its activities and considering the challenges of globalization, CEU is establishing new programs and opening existing ones to other areas of the world undergoing transitions to democracy.

The CEU community is engaged in the production of new, socially relevant knowledge, which is rooted in serious scholarship and has a systematic focus on the shifting boundary between the local and the universal. The Center for Humanities, established in 2000, will pursue this new form of inquiry by bringing CEU faculty, doctoral students, and renowned non-CEU scholars together with NGO leaders, mainly from the Soros foundations network, who will offer their knowledge about local developments and problems. The mission of the CEU's Center for Policy Studies is to translate the research conducted at CEU into policy recommendations. In addition, the Center assumes policy projects consistent with the overall mission of the university. The Center's main partner and beneficiary is the Soros foundations network.

During the 2000–2001 academic year, CEU enrolled 818 students. The majority of students were enrolled in master's degree programs, but an increasing number are entering doctoral programs and doctoral support programs. Students were drawn from nearly 40 countries, including those of Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, Western Europe, North America, and Asia.

More than 200 professors from 30 countries teach at CEU. Prestigious visiting professors give frequent lectures and seminars at the university, thus giving students access to highly respected academics from top level institutions in Europe and the United States.

CEU's nine academic departments and two interdisciplinary programs offer Master of Arts (MA) degree programs in Central European history, economics, economy and society, gender studies, human rights, international relations and European studies, medieval studies, nationalism studies, philosophy, political science, society and politics. Master of Law (LLM) degree programs in comparative constitutional law and international business law and a Master of Science (MS) degree program in environmental sciences and policy are also offered.



Main entrance to the Monument Building, Central European University

CEU has continued to move ahead with the development of doctoral studies. In addition to the already accredited doctoral programs in history, legal studies, medieval studies, political science, and sociology, two new Ph.D. programs in philosophy and economics started in academic year 2000–2001. A Ph.D. program in mathematics and its applications will be launched in the academic year 2001–2002 in cooperation with the world-renowned Institute of Mathematics of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and the prestigious Pierre and Marie Curie University in Paris.

CEU is committed to serving its constituency not only through teaching and research at its two teaching sites in Budapest and Warsaw, but also by promoting and supporting intensive regional cooperation. Special and Extension Programs facilitate cooperation between CEU and universities throughout the region, with approximately 1,400 professors a year participating in activities for faculty and curriculum development. These programs, financially supported mainly by the Higher Education Support Program, utilize the pro bono work of CEU professors and staff. Through the Special and Extension Programs, CEU professors meet visiting scholars, host fellows, conduct research workshops, ensure quality control, and engage in a wider debate on these initiatives on a regular basis.

With the new developments in the Balkans after the NATO military intervention in Yugoslavia, CEU has assumed an active role in supporting the development of higher education in the spirit of the Stability Pact. Currently, CEU is cochair of the Working Group on Higher Education of the Stability Pact.

www.ceu.hu

Open Society Archives

As the Open Society Archives (OSA), a part of the Central European University since 1998, celebrated its fifth anniversary in 2000, it continued to add to the most significant collection of materials relating to the period of communism and the Cold War and its aftermath in Central and Eastern Europe. OSA received the documents of the International Science Foundation (ISF) Archives just as the book on the history of ISF was published. The core of OSA holdings is formed by the historical file collection of the Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL) Research Institute and supplemented with other records such as those of the Open Media Research Institute, the personal papers of opposition leaders, and Samizdat publications.

OSA also focuses on materials relating to human rights, thus maintaining a unique collection in this area. In 2000, the OSA library, in conjunction with CEU's History Department, acquired *Testaments to the Holocaust*, the microfilm edition of the Wiener Library, London. This unique historical material covers a time span from the early 1930s to the mid-1960s and provides the basis for studying Nazi Germany, its crimes against the Jews, and the postwar life of Jewish communities. The library is now the first and only public institution in Central and Eastern Europe where the collection is available for researchers.

Besides obtaining, preserving, and making these resources available to researchers and the general public, OSA provides archival services to all parts of the Soros foundations network, including the Central European University (CEU), where OSA is located. The Archives hold 3,341 linear meters of textual records and maintains its own library and a growing audiovisual collection. A sophisticated catalogue is accessible on the OSA website, which is regularly updated and has gained international recognition from such organizations as CNN and Memorial, the Russian human rights documentation center, which have linked their websites to OSA's site.

As an open facility, practically anyone can apply to use the archives and its associated noncirculating

library. Reference services are provided on-site and through the Internet or by telephone, fax, e-mail, and regular mail. OSA also encourages journalists and researchers to use its resources and services through grants to individuals and organizations. In 2000, the Archives awarded 20 fellowship research grants to individuals, covering the costs of travel and accommodations in Budapest for researchers from several different countries in the region. In November 2000, OSA launched its Internship Project for Hungarian archivists to strengthen its relationship with other archives and related institutions.

The Archives, through its Regional Cooperation Program, continued to support the cataloguing project of the Russian State Film and Photo Archive at Krasnogorsk, Russia’s premier archive of nonfiction films and photos. OSA provided funds for two lecturers and five participants at seminars conducted by St. Petersburg University’s Archival Training Program. After a fact-finding mission to Kosovo, OSA’s senior archivist prepared and published recommendations on the most urgent needs of the archives of the war-stricken region. As a first step, OSA purchased 500 acid-free archival boxes and shipped them to Kosovo.

At the 14th International Congress of the International Council on Archives (ICA) in Seville, OSA called for the forming of an International Federation of Human Rights Archives to serve as a forum for similar organizations. OSA also announced an initiative to declassify and catalogue Warsaw Pact documents. As a follow-up to the Kosovo Project, OSA asked national archives to donate archival boxes to the Kosovo archives and received a favorable response from European states as well as individuals throughout the world.

OSA continued to provide advice about information policy, legislation, and records management to Soros foundations and regional programs through its annual two-day workshop, which focused on the Archival Policy of the Soros foundation network as approved by the International Board of OSI.

OSA held exhibitions on “The Siege of Budapest;” “Angkor,” the lost Cambodian city; the media war during

the Kosovo conflict; and the production and distribution of Samizdat publications in the region. The 2000 CEU Summer University training course hosted by OSA was “Access to Information: Access to Archives,” which presented an overview of the principles and examples of openness and secrecy in the newly democratic countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

www.osa.ceu.hu

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$18,466,000
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Application Information

The most current and complete application guidelines and information can be found on the Soros foundations network website www.soros.org.

Soros Foundations

The Soros foundations are independent entities with their own boards of directors, staff, program priorities, application guidelines, and grantmaking procedures. In addition to operating their own programs, the foundations award grants, but principally to local organizations and individuals. Some foundations also award grants to foreign organizations working in partnership with local groups. Potential grant applicants should contact individual foundations for information about their application procedures. Contact information for the Soros foundations can be found in the directory starting on page 177.

Network Programs

In general, network programs do not award grants directly to individuals or organizations, but rather work through the Soros foundation in a given country or region to implement programs. From time to time, network programs establish partnerships with other international organizations, nongovernmental organizations, or governments. Contact information for network program staff in New York or Budapest can be found in the directory.

U.S. Programs

Organizations and individuals interested in applying for funding from the Open Society Institute's U.S. Programs should contact the relevant program officer or director for specific application guidelines. Please do not submit a complete application before contacting the relevant program for specific guidelines. Contact information can be found in the directory.

Other Initiatives

The Open Society Institute's other initiatives include four that accept proposals for grants: the Burma Project, the Landmines Project, the Central Eurasia Project, and the Roma Participation Program. Contact information can be found in the directory.