



CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

International Symposium
on
***Navigating Systemic Change:
Political Responses in Central and Southeastern Europe***

Theories of International Relations conceptualize systemic change as a profound transformation of the global framework that reshapes the interactions and behavior of international actors. The shift destabilizes existing norms, power structures, and alliances, leading to periods of instability and conflict until new systemic patterns stabilize. In this context, states are forced to recalibrate their domestic and foreign policies to adapt to the demands of changing global and regional dynamics.

The spillover effects of the ongoing systemic change affect all regional subsystems. Among these, Central and Southeastern Europe is also confronted with various challenges, including geopolitical shifts, the rise of populism, technological innovations, environmental and social transformations, as well as health crises and economic uncertainties. These multiple pressures require countries in the region to develop adaptive public policies with innovative responses and creative solutions. The [Group for Central and Southeast European Political Research](#), founded by the *University of Pécs*, *Istanbul University* and *University of Warsaw*, invites contributions to its first symposium that address these responses from theoretical and/or practical viewpoints. Paper proposals may include Central and Southeastern Europe-related topics in the following areas:

1. Transformation of Political Regimes and Systems
2. Geopolitical Stability and Security
3. Foreign Policy Concepts and Shifts
4. Economic Resilience, Innovation and Competitiveness
5. Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability
6. Migration Dynamics, Social and Demographic Shifts
7. Digital Transformation and Technological Advancements
8. Subnational Politics and Civil Society

Symposium format: The symposium aims to combine conventional conference presentations with workshop discussions. Brief panel presentations of 15 minutes will be followed by one-hour roundtable sessions in which the papers presented and submitted in advance of the symposium will be explored by the participants with the assistance of a Section Chair and a Discussant.

Dates and deadlines:

The symposium will be held in Pécs, Hungary on *8-9 May 2025*. There will be no online presentation option. Abstracts submitted should not exceed 500 words. Full papers prepared for the symposium may be published in [Polarities](#), depending on peer review. For detailed guidelines and further information, please visit the [submission page](#).

Abstract submission: *30 January 2025*

Full paper submission: *25 April 2025*

Publication of submitted papers by *Polarities*: *September-October 2025*.

Abstracts and full papers should be submitted to gcsepr@pte.hu

Organizing partners

