



BUDAPEST AMERICAN
STUDIES FORUM

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

On November 13-14, the Antall József Knowledge Centre (AJKC) will welcome 16 students at the second Budapest American Studies Forum.

Even if you are still at an early phase of your formal studies but have closely followed US politics, we are willing to bet that you have strong opinions about the state of the country—and we are offering you a chance to share them with your peers and four American experts over the course of a two-day conference in Budapest.

We have also invited four distinguished experts and commentators to share their own views on the issues and facilitate intense discussions in a friendly atmosphere:

SESSION I REPUBLICAN DOMESTIC REFORMS

Host: **Christopher Butler**, Executive Director of Americans for Tax Reform (ATR), where he manages all of the organization's day-to-day activities and sets priorities and policy positions for ATR and its affiliated groups.

SESSION II TRUMP ON THE GLOBAL STAGE

Host: **Mike Gonzalez**, Senior fellow at The Heritage Foundation and a widely experienced international correspondent, commentator, and editor who has reported from Asia, Europe, and Latin America. He served in the George W. Bush administration, first at the Securities and Exchange Commission and then at the State Department, and is the author of *A Race for the Future: How Conservatives Can Break the Liberal Monopoly on Hispanic Americans*.

SESSION III PRESIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION

Host: **David Litt**, Speechwriter to President Barack Obama and author of *Thanks, Obama: My Hopey, Changey White House Years*. He is currently the head writer/producer for *Funny or Die's* office in Washington, D.C.

SESSION IV SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND THE MODERN MEDIA

Host: **Cheryl W. Thompson**, Award-winning investigative journalist, Vice President of Investigative Reporters, and Editors (IRE), and Associate Professor at George Washington University's School of Media and Public Affairs who contributes investigative stories to *The Washington Post*.





WHO CAN APPLY

Students (regardless of citizenship) currently enrolled in BA or MA programmes in American Studies, International Relations, Diplomacy, or Political Science/Communication with a deep interest in US politics and well-articulated, thought-provoking views.

For further information, please contact Diana Wiszt at wiszt.diana@ajtk.hu.

HOW TO APPLY

Please introduce your own personal views on at least two of the following topics in no more than 300 words/topic:

1. How (if at all) will the GOP tax reform make America great again?
2. Is 'America First' a recipe for success in foreign policy?
3. Should politicians emulate Trump's communication style?
4. How will we look back on #MeToo, #BLM, and #NeverAgain in 10 years?

Please send your submissions to BASF@ajtk.hu
Deadline: **September 17, 2018**

WHAT WE ARE OFFERING

If you are selected to participate in the conference, all of you travel and accommodation expenses (plus lunch, coffee, and snacks on both days) will be covered by AJKC.

The 16 students selected will be assigned to one of the four sessions of the Forum and asked to expand their essay into a short presentation. Each session will feature presentations by 4 students—in addition to an opening lecture by the panel's moderator—, with the other 12 participants also invited to join the discussion.

VENUE

The Forum will take place in AJKC's Lecture Hall at Corvinus University in downtown Budapest.

PROGRAMME

12 NOVEMBER

Arrival of guests, check-in at hotel

13 NOVEMBER

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|------------------|--------------------|
| 9:20am - 9:30am | Welcome address |
| 9:30am - 12:00pm | Session I |
| 12:00pm - 1:30pm | Lunch |
| 1:30pm - 4:00pm | Session II |
| Evening | Cultural programme |

14 NOVEMBER

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|------------------|---------------------|
| 9:30am - 12:00pm | Session III |
| 12:00pm - 1:30pm | Lunch |
| 1:30 - 4:00pm | Session IV |
| Evening | Departure of guests |

All sessions will feature a roughly 20-minute coffee break.