BÁLINT KOVÁCS

Budapest, Hungary

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University of Szeged, Szeged, Hungary September 2023 – Present

- Assistant Professor (Senior Lecturer) (tenured)
- Organising and teaching the following courses: International Economic Law, Private International Law, International Investment Law, The Law of Regional Economic Integration Organisations with a Special View to the EU, The Law of Economic Security.

Sapientia University, Cluj-Napoca/Kolozsvár, Romania February 2017 – Present

- Visiting Lecturer
- Organising and teaching the course International Economic Law.

Miskolc University, Miskolc, Hungary February 2022 – Present

- Visiting Lecturer
- Organising and teaching the course International Commercial Arbitration.

Ferenc Mádl Institute of Comparative Law, Budapest, Hungary October 2019 – Present

- Senior Researcher in the Department of Private Law
- Complex comparative legal research principally in the fields of private law, EU law, and international investment law.

American University Washington College of Law September 2022 – September 2023
Washington, D.C., United States of America

- Visiting Scholar – Post-Graduate Research Fellowship grantee, Hungary Foundation
- Research on international investment law, foreign investment and national security.
- Under the mentorship of Horacio Grigera Naón, Distinguished Practitioner in Residence.

International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes January – April 2023
World Bank Group, Washington, D.C., United States of America

- Short-term consultancy
- Assisting in case administration, and institutional research projects.

Advocacy Group for Freedom of Identity December 2016 – Present
Cluj-Napoca/Kolozsvár, Romania

- Founder/Vice President
- Human rights NGO, providing legal assistance to victims of discrimination, carrying out advocacy work, reporting to international human rights bodies, conducting research, and working on proposals advancing human rights law.

Legal Counsel 2013 – 2019
Cluj-Napoca/Kolozsvár, Romania

- Earlier in my career I worked as a legal counsel, principally for companies (SMEs) in fields such as business consultancy, construction, agriculture, IT, music and arts festivals, insolvency.
- I also worked with a number of civil society organisations, and initiated projects pertaining to youth education and entrepreneurship that are still functioning.

EDUCATION

PhD in International Investment Law and ISDS 2024
- University of Debrecen, Géza Marton Doctoral School of Legal Studies, Debrecen, Hungary
- Thesis title: Small and medium-sized investors' access to investor-state dispute settlement
- With highest praise (summa cum laude); Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Tamás Fézer

Master of Laws (LL.M.) 2017
- University of Debrecen, Debrecen, Hungary
- European and International Business Law

Master of Arts in Law (M.A.) 2014
- Babeș-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania
- Private Law of the European Union

Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.) 2013
- Babeș-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania

Summer/Winter Schools
- 2012 – World Trade Organization Law (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)
- 2014 – Protection of Minority Rights in Europe (Budapest, Hungary)
- 2022 – Basel Winter Arbitration School (Basel, Switzerland)

NOTABLE PUBLICATIONS AND RECENT CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Investment Arbitration and International Climate Change Law: Revaluing Legitimate Expectations, ICSID Review - Foreign Investment Law Journal, siag007, https://doi.org/10.1093/icsidreview/siag007
- Europeanisation of private international law: Balancing national traditions and EU rules, Journal of Private International Law 21:3, 2025.
- Watch for the Ripples, Not Just the Splash: How the EU Position on Investment Arbitration Has Affected the Enforcement of Awards, Central European Journal of Comparative Law, 3(1), pp. 137-160. doi: 10.47078/2022.1.137-160. – ***Recipient of the 2024 ICCA Guillermo Aguilar-Alvarez Award***.
- Legal Aspects of Defence Procurement in the European Union: Funding Incentives and Regulatory Shields, in Zombory, Katarzyna; Szilágyi, János Ede (eds.) Shielding Europe with the Common Security and Defence Policy: The EU Legal Framework for the Development of an Innovative

European Defence Industry in Times of a Changing Global Security Environment, Central European Academic Publishing (2024) 840 p. pp. 215-253., 39 p.

- Screening for Security: The Defence Sector as a Gateway to Broader Economic Control, in European Integration Studies 20/2024, pp. 161-187.
- Facilitating and Scrutinizing National Security Measures: Analysis of an Investment Screening Case in the European Union, Springer Studies in Law & Geoeconomics 2024 Paper: Chapter 24 (2024).
- Complete list of publications available on the website of *Hungarian Scientific Bibliography*: https://m2.mtmt.hu/gui2/?type=authors&mode=browse&sel=10067006&view=simpleList

- Forthcoming presentation: Turning the Shield Inward: The Securitization of the EU Internal Market; at: CFIS 2026 Academic Workshop: Between Peace and War, Economic Statecraft and the Geoeconomics of Conflict, CELIS Institute, Law & Geoeconomics, and Royal Military Academy, in October 2026.
- Contributor at *Investment Security and Investment Arbitration*, closed door roundtable with various stakeholders at Arnold & Porter in London, May 2026;
- Presentation: *Fair and equitable investment screening*, at Budapest conference titled *Current issues in business law*, May 2026;
- Presentation: Sanctions and international investment arbitration, at 2026 World Arbitration Update
- Presentation: The Federation of Free Hungarian Jurists, at 2025 AHEA Conference.
- Presentation: SMEs in Investment Arbitration (based on PhD dissertation), at 2025 Washington Arbitration Update.
- Presentation: Legal Challenges of Accommodating Economic Security, at 2024 Roundtable in International Business Law at Brooklyn Law School, New York.
- Presentation: Developing the Defence Industry: The Business of Defence, at Shielding Tomorrow: CSDP and Defence Developments in Central Europe, Conference organized by the Central European Academy Professors Network, Budapest, Hungary, 2024.