



**UNIVERSITY OF
PUBLIC SERVICE**
LUDOVIKA



FACULTY OF WATER SCIENCES
CUM SCIENTIA PRO AQUIS HUNGARIAE!

A Flagship Internationalization Action at LUPS Faculty of Water Sciences

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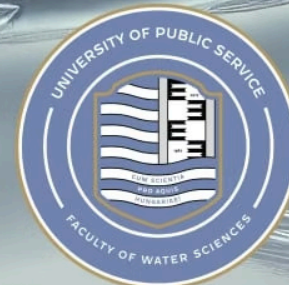
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UNESCO Chair in Water Conflict Management



unesco
Chair



What is a UNESCO Chair?

A global network established by UNESCO that promotes international cooperation in education, science, culture, and communication.

There are about 1000 UNESCO Chairs and UNITWIN networks operate worldwide, connecting the academic world with society, forming a bridge between science, policy, and practice.

Main Goals

- Knowledge sharing and collaborative research
- Capacity building and innovation
- Support for Sustainable Development Goals
- Promotion of intercultural dialogue



UNESCO Chairs in Hungary



Why is Water Conflict Management Important?

Global Water Stress

Water scarcity and water stress are increasing worldwide, with transboundary waters affecting 40% of the global population.

Risk of Conflicts

Climate change, population growth, and political tensions increase the risk of conflicts over shared water resources.

Peace and Cooperation

Water can simultaneously be a source of conflict and a driving force for peace and cooperation.



The UNESCO Chair in Water Conflict Management

📍 Hungary's fourth UNESCO Chair and a regional center for water diplomacy and water conflict resolution.

Founded: March 21,
2024

Headquarters: Faculty
of Water Sciences,
Ludovika University of
Public Service,
Budapest

✅ **Chairholder:** András Szöllősi-Nagy,
Prof, PhD LUPS

Core Team

László Balatonyi

Dejan Komatina

Tamás Pálvölgyi

János Bogárdi

Krisztina Ligetvári

Ágnes Kovács



Our Mission and Strategic Objectives

The UNESCO Chair aims to strengthen international cooperation, education, and research in water diplomacy and conflict resolution, promoting peace and sustainable governance of shared water resources



Education and Training

Development of academic programs (Master's and PhD) and short professional courses



Research and Cooperation

Promotion of politically relevant, interdisciplinary research.



Capacity Building

Building interdisciplinary skills in water diplomacy and conflict prevention.



Open Access

Strengthening public communication and scientific dissemination.



Water Culture and Ethics

Promotion of the ethical, cultural, and heritage dimensions of water.



Educational Programs and Trainings

Master's Program

International Water Governance and
Water Diplomacy Master's Program (from
2020)

Doctoral Program

Development of a Water Sciences
doctoral program

Short Courses

Economic Evaluation of Water Resources,
Drought Prevention Training with the OTS
Institute

Youth Strategy

Connection to the UNESCO Water Youth Strategy

Involving students from the LUPS FOW International Water Policy and Diplomacy MA Programme in the work of the Chair's
Communication and Dissemination group

Research and International Partnerships



We advance water governance and diplomacy through robust research initiatives and extensive international collaborations, addressing global water challenges and fostering sustainable solutions.

Research Initiatives

Joint research across Europe, Central Asia, and Africa on critical water issues.

Leading the "Water, Peace, and Foresight in the Digital Age" initiative.

Developing an Erasmus Mundus "Applied Ecohydrology" doctoral program.

Key Partners

IHE Delft (Netherlands) and other academic institutions (e.g., Algarve, Lodz, Antwerp)

UNECE Water Convention

EYPW (European Youth Parliament for Water)



Regional & Sectoral Collaborations

1

Central Asia
Regional bodies & academic institutions

2

Europe
EU-funded projects & research networks

3

Global Organizations
UN agencies & international NGOs

4

Youth & Civil Society
Young professionals & community projects



Promoting Water Culture and Ethics

Our work emphasizes the integration of ethical, intercultural, and inclusive approaches across all levels of water-related education, cooperation, and diplomacy.

Key Achievements

Youth Engagement

Strengthening international cooperation, education, and research in water diplomacy and conflict management.

Youth Representation

Actively engaging and ensuring youth representation in all UNESCO Chair activities and events, thereby amplifying diverse voices.

Digital Age Exploration

Exploring the cultural and ethical dimensions within the "Water, Peace, and Foresight in the Digital Age" initiative.

Cultural Heritage

Protecting and promoting water-related cultural heritage through dedicated educational programs and awareness campaigns.

UNESCO Chair's Key Events 2024-2025

May 2, 2024

UCW launch event
(Organizer)

Dec 1, 2024

UCW online
platforms launch
(Administrator)

Mar 22, 2025

Water Conflict
Dialogues - UCW
News Letters
(Publisher)

Jun 21, 2025

Danube Day on
Children's Island
(Organizer)

Aug 24-28,
2025

World Water Week
2025 (Participant)

Oct 1-2, 2025

UNESCO IHP ENA
Regional
Conference (Host,
postpone)

Nov 25, 2024

Student Science
Event for L-UPS
students, every
month (Organizer)

Mar 22, 2025

World Water Day
2025 (Participant)

Jun 11-13, 2025

UNESCO IHP 50th
anniversary
(Participant)

Jun 24, 2025

Workshop
"Pathways to
Peace - Engaging
Youth in Water"
(Organizer)

Sep 30, 2025

Conference
"Integrated Water
Policy and Water
Diplomacy"
(Organizer,
postpone)

Future Directions and Conclusion



Expansion

Expanding cooperation in Africa, Asia, and the Balkans



Targeted Trainings

For diplomats, decision-makers, and water experts



Digital Program

Implementation of Water, Peace, and Foresight in the Digital Age

The UNESCO Chair in Water Conflict Management is a flagship initiative for the internationalization of Ludovika. It strengthens the university's role in global water diplomacy, integrating research, training, ethics, and community engagement. It builds bridges between science, policy, and society.

"Water is not just a resource – it is a tool for peace and cooperation."



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