

ABSTRACTS

János Pál: *Paradigm Change in a Minority's Fate. The Economic Reorganization in the Unitarian Church between 1920–1940 (2)*

Prior to 1920 with the war, social and economic problems were omnipresent and there was less emphasis on church life. After Trianon this changed substantially. Because it had lost importance as a result of state's discriminatory politics, the Church was forced to increasingly depend on its followers. However, discriminatory politics also weakened the economic power of the Hungarian community. The pauperization of the congregations and the grave economic situation forced the church to get involved in the organization of the economic life of the community. Besides the church's own welfare, it also importantly had the aim of solidifying ethnic Hungarian identity.

In this we can recognize two periods. The first was from 1920 until 1930. This decade contained the first stream of the Romanian state's discriminatory measures; both the Church and the Hungarian minority lost economic ground. This was the period of reappraisal regarding the role of the Church and Hungarian ministers, and the clarification of the strategies which would follow.

The second decade saw put into practice these economic strategies and the successful institutional consolidation. The church's economic reorganization was motivated by a combination of national, social, theological, moral and pragmatic factors. In addition, existing traditions were maintained, ministers continued to study abroad, and ethnic Hungarian society's material and moral solidarity were sought to be maintained.

Dénes Máthé: *The "Christian Sower" During State Censorship (1971–1989)*

This paper provides an analysis of the editorial structure of the Hungarian language *Christian Sower*, published during the years of State censorship (1971–1989). Its central object is to sketch the character of the relationship between the Romanian socialist ideology of political power and the religious content of this periodical.

The relationship between the State and the Church was not as simple as in the Western European democracies, but rather marked by contradictions, social,

cultural and religious aspirations were subordinated to the unilateral ideology of the Socialist Party. It was compulsory to write about August 23rd (when the Romanian Kingdom became an ally of the Soviet Union in 1944), December 30th (the celebration day of the abolition of the limited monarchy in Romania in 1947), the main political events of the Socialist State, the birthday of the dictator, Nicolae Ceaușescu, etc. This was obligatory not only for the editorials of the non-religious cultural and scientific periodicals, but also for the religious ones.

However if we read these texts carefully, we can find some indirect allusions to the absurdity of this controversial subordination, dominated by the dictatorial manner of the Socialist leadership. In addition, articles which informed the readers about the events of international organizations advocating for religious freedom or about cultural publications, made it possible to grasp a world based on individual and community freedom.

Péter Cseke: *The Unitarian Contributors of the Publication “Transylvanian Youth”*. Dedicated to the Memory of Ferenc Balázs and Imre Mikó

Imre Mikó, born a hundred years ago, was not even 20 years old when *Erdélyi Fiatalok* (*Transylvanian Youth*) started, but he was already considered one of the leaders of the Unitarian youth movement. The other was Ferenc Balázs, who had just arrived home from his 5-year journey around the world, and was greeted by Mikó – a high school student at that time – on the pages of the *Unitárius Közlöny* (*Unitarian Herald*) as his idol. Ferenc Balázs belonged to the first generation of Hungarian minority writers; Mikó, who was 10 years younger than Balázs, to the second generation.

In the past 30 years the author of this study has written several times about Ferenc Balázs, Imre Mikó and László Szabédi, writers and major representatives of the Unitarian community. Now, after re-reading the ten years of the periodical *Transylvanian Youth* from a Unitarian point of view, he realizes that besides the above mentioned writers there were many young Unitarians publishing their writings in the *Erdélyi Fiatalok*, who also later became leaders of the Unitarian Church bishops, vice bishops theological professors or ministers, district deans, teachers, doctors, lawyers, music teachers, choristers and, yes, farmers. Among these are György Boros, János Erdő, József Ferencz, Elek Kiss, Lajos Kovács, Sándor Szent-Iványi; Lajos Kelemen, Sámuel Szabó; György Bözödi, István Dobai; Géza Delly-Szabó, Gyula Péterffy, Emil Bede, László Lőrinczi, Mihály Lőrinczi, Mór Rázmán, Károly Ürmösi and others.

Miklós Csapody: Imre Mikó – The Start of a Career (1928–1933)

Imre Mikó (1911–1977) was a lawyer, a historian, a politician and a publicist. Like many other intellectuals of his generation, he made his appearance in Transylvanian Hungarian public life in the 1930s, some ten years after Transylvania was annexed to Romania. This period was marked by the worldwide economic depression, anti-Hungarian actions by the Romanian authorities and fierce ideological fights. He graduated from the Unitarian College in Kolozsvár, and was one of the founders of the movement and the similarly named journal *Erdélyi Fiatalok* (*Transylvanian Youth*). The movement advocated the ideas of “Transylvanianism”, a peaceful and historical living together of all communities in Transylvania and total equality before the law. Mikó was a rare exception to the prominent personalities of his time since the beginning of his career preceded his graduation. Mikó’s historical-sociological work called *Az erdélyi falu és a nemzetiségi kérdés* (*The Transylvanian Village and Nationality Issues*) was published in 1932 and is still well known today. Later he gave up his post in *Erdélyi Fiatalok* and, following his studies in Paris (1935–1936), he directed the Bucharest bureau of *Országos Magyar Párt* (the National Hungarian Party). He became a Member of the Hungarian Parliament (1940–1944) after Transylvania reverted to Hungary. This essay deals with Mikó’s remarkable work and further stages of the start of his career.

György Gaal: Imre Mikó’s Career Beginnings in the Unitarian College

Imre Mikó was born one hundred years ago. He studied at the Unitarian College in Kolozsvár between 1919–1928. He became a famous jurist, sociologist, and a politician as well. After World War II following his captivity in the Soviet Union, he first worked as a teacher of Russian language, then as a bookseller, and later on as a book editor. During this period of time he wrote several essays and novels.

This study presents his early years in school at the Unitarian College in Kolozsvár. He was an outstanding student, a leader of his peers. His first translations and articles were published in the handwritten school review, *Remény* (*Hope*). He was also elected president of the students’ literary society “János Kriza”. This study presents the articles appeared in the school review, *Remény*. It also quotes Mikó’s last work, his autobiography titled *A csendes Petőfi utca* (*The Silent Street “Petőfi”*) where he includes some recollections from this time.