# THESIS OF THE PH.D. DISSERTATION

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**Signature of the Supervisor** 

#### 1. Background of the research and its aims

### 1.1. Introduction, timeliness

Contextualization is essential for economic and other human socio-cultural activities. It is particularly important in the period of crises, the subversion of the Western comfort zone, the feeling of loss and the interrelationships of such situations. The processes taking place in the world are constantly raising questions about the future of mankind and the functioning of the systems that serve it. However, the contemporary discourses, as well as the texts of cultural representation, professional and common-language narratives, often differ significantly, which can generate serious interpretative conflicts.

Another aspect of the answers is the moral approach, which is also dependent on the relationships between individuals. However, these are sociological and moral contexts within the cultural system. From this point of view, it seems that the peoples and their characteristic cultures have a particular role in the economy as well.

It is also in this socio-cultural system to interpret the opinions of the major thinkers in relation to the economy. In narrative symbols, the national characteristics and the personal relation to it can be interpreted within the cultural system that is called Western or European. That is the reason, why the economy also symbolizes the system that puts the man into a larger community and, on the other hand, makes it a personal one. At the same time, it must be taken into account that the usual concepts and categories are going through a rapid change of interpretation in today's age, and intellectual and economic paradigm changes are also followed. That is why at the turn of the XX-XXI century, the relativism of historical values and the narrative necessity of the emphasis on ethical and philosophical fundamentals are present simultaneously in thinking. Many of the challenges of our time have been answered in different ways in the international and domestic arena: the assessments and views of modern thinkers and economists of the vision of future show the rationalization of everything in the field from the ground of history. The fact, that macro-level trends override micro-level decisions and needs can be interpreted in a variety of ways.

Some people see the scientific and technological models that are widely accepted in the spirit of economic progress and modernization as the reason for breaking up cultural identification. Others, as a result of continuous integration and then globalization, describe the emergence of ever-increasing command units and the emergence of violence monopolies. Some who regard hedonistic consumerism as a dangerous form of human culture and coexistence explain its propagation with the reduction of work, the shaking of faith, the lack of a solid worldview and

a lack of proper self-restraint. Others interpret globalization as destabilizing, in contrast to locality, where the complexity of phenomenology is the ideology, the priority and genuineness of thinking gives strength to the community and creates economic success. Others contrast the extreme form of healthy self-consciousness and selfishness as an economic problem and warn of the necessity of a long-term approach that can be measured for centuries by mankind's eternal responsibility.

Many shed light on the similarities between money and political power as far as both of them are a tool of human interaction. In a world analyzed through the glasses of innovation, a structure other than a traditional, competitive capitalist model may be an alternative, although the quality of life focus in the global future vision is actually derived from mass-driven consumption, yet there is one who can believe in moral capitalism.

Old and new humanistic ideologies are also overlapping. The generation that creates a utopian version of Christian love elevated to cosmic level can create a new and conscious life. It can build a society of the future in a decentralized network, which is coherent and diverse and replaces the profit with social benefits in the economy, with ecological tools. Other economists, with a holistic approach, emphasize its humanitarian potential, and as the cause of the crisis of the present age, it indicates the crisis of man. This hypothetical economic paradigm is based on changes in thinking. By placing economic philosophy and the operation of the economy in an international context, it is clear that the profit-centred and the human-oriented economy are alongside each other, with the same key terminology that has changed due to the two different contexts. The latter regards reciprocity, the former considers the individual interest to be essential.

#### 1.2. The aim of the research:

The purpose of the research is to identify the place of the economy in the thinking of the period marked in the title and try to explain its cause. Additionally, through the interpretation of the given texts, present the changes in the approach of the society and -if it is possible-capture some constancy.

Through this, it offers an original approach: narrative-linguistic, cultural anthropological and philosophical aspects from the reform ages to the latest developments in the economic history of the period until the end of the II. World War, and a starting point for researching and possibly unlocking the communication scissors described above.

### 1.3. The content, method and justification of the research:

The modern concept of the economy appears as a part of the existence of the modern nation as a problem. The broader context is the issue of modern national identity. For this reason, the nature of the dissertation is an examination of the ideological and spiritual history, including the interpretation of the economy - through language and thinking. From the complexity of the world and the above, the interpretations of the economic concept in the context of language and thinking show the social changes and the nature of public opinion.

From this point of view, this dissertation assumes interdisciplinarity and outlines the concept of economy, its social role, the anthropological method and the qualitative analysis of the intermediary function of wisdom.

The author examines the texts horizontally - in synchrony (expanding at a given time, extending to a given area) and vertically - in diachronic (the given view in its history) in the hope that the past relationship that unfolds from the comparison can also serve as a lesson for the present.

The writer demonstrates that international economic and philosophical currents are ineffective in Hungary - neither in the past nor in the present.

Due to widespread and substantive constraints, the dissertation is confined to Hungarian thinkers in the elaborated time interval, and it only affects the thinking of other nations based on their international outlook. Since the modern development of economics as a field of science and science is the result of the period examined here, the authors listed do not yet separate the economics from other social sciences in their writings, it is considered only as one of the pillars of many but not exclusively a decisive part of life, it is one of the aspects of social functioning. This also draws attention to complexity, the role of science in human beings, the importance and preservation of national characters still living in Europe in addition to globalization aspirations.

With the original approach of the dissertation, in the profit- and money-oriented, present-day consumer society, it may help to reassess the values of economy and culture and their relationship with one another.

#### 1.3.1. The sources of the research

The topic explored in time starts from the reform era (the 1830s) and ends in the 1940s. This period is the stage of birth and unfolding of classical modernity in Hungary. Historical events of the period sometimes bring about a drastic change, but the process of modernity was broken only during and after the II. World War in the area of economy and culture.

Since the modern concept of the economy and the existence of the modern nation appear in parallel in Hungary, research on the two, the economy and the Hungarian peculiarities is broader: the question of modern national identity. Its main components are the question of Hungarian national identity, the evaluation of previous positions and the re-interpretation.

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Thus, Széchenyi, the founder of modern economic thinking and action, followed by the study of Deák and Eötvös's works reflecting another orientation in thinking are examined here.

Jászi, a well-known leftist social scientist, a professor and thinker Sándor Karácsony and pastor and philosopher of art, Lajos Fülep, the Historian Gyula Szekfű, the idealist philosopher Lajos Prohászka and the irreconcilable Dezső Szabó's works are all present in the thesis. The author continues the line with the writer László Németh, who was called the 'middleman'.

The works of Béla Hamvas pursue a completely new approach of thinking, and the followers of the organically Hungarian Christian-social movement, mainly Töhötöm Tóth and István Vida close the line of authors.

By approaching the texts of the above thinkers, the characteristics of the economy of the time, the economic plans, intentions of politics, the reactions and the opinions of different groups can be observed. Based on these, the key ideas of the motives and the side-by-side economic philosophies and the individual-social perception of the Hungarian future can be traced. On the other hand, touching today's phenomena, the paper puts the period under consideration in historical continuity.

#### 1.4. Hypotheses of the research:

The prerequisites can be derived from the sources of research conducted by Hungarian and international authors, their studies on the research topic and their theories.

**H1:** It is assumed that the earliest (beginning of the nineteenth century) of the period under investigation is mainly social philosophical accounts, which accordingly view and interpret the economy primarily in the relation of moral values and in historical contexts. Furthermore, going to the middle of the century, the narrative will become more pragmatic, more realistic and more programmatic.

**H2:** Based on the hundred-year changes that had taken place, it is believed that thoughts about the economy are shifting from unsystematic to systematic.

**H3:** With the emergence and phasing of the economic vocabulary, the expression of the authors becomes more and more complicated and narrative, in parallel with the passage of time, becomes more and more insensitive and unemotional, and the distance becomes wider between the author and the subject being studied.

**H4:** In the examined Hungarian thinkers, the economic values change with the international conception simultaneously and synchronously.

**H5:** The East-West as a cultural-social opposition will be a recurring reference value in the writings of the investigated thinkers.

**H6:** The moral expectations of the world of economics are re-emerging, resulting in practical solutions to the end of the examined era.

#### 2. The result of the research:

#### 2.1. Summarizing the hypotheses

This chapter summarizes or rejects the formulated hypotheses.

Hypothesis	The result of the research
H1:	Not justified
H2:	Not justified
Н3:	Not justified
H4:	Confirmed
Н5:	Confirmed with constraints
Н6:	Confirmed with conditions

On the basis of the above, the author discovered the following new and original scientific results as a thesis based on literature analyzes and textual examinations:

**T1**. While researching the hundred-year-long timeframe, the philosophical accounts of the society, which look at and interpret the economy primarily in relation to moral values and historical goals, are present.

At the beginning of the modern Hungarian economic thinking, Széchenyi - like his followers - is raising the practical questions and trying to find a practical solution to social tensions.

- **T2**. In the processed narrative of the century, the ideas that were generated about the economy can be thematized and formulated around key concepts. The premise -thoughts about the economy are shifting from unsystematic to systematic- is also denied by the conceptualisation of Széchenyi's books -Hitel, Világ, Stádium- but it is also possible to thematize and arrange other authors' work around key concepts from that period.
- **T3**. In the emerging economic vocabulary, it was often necessary to provide more descriptions and more explanations, but approaching today's language is more versatile, more detailed language use and the concepts that have emerged become clearer. Most of the investigated authors' narrative did not become impersonal at the beginning of the XX. century.

In the conceptual structure and word reports of the emerging economic vocabulary it is volatile, but approaches to today's vocabulary, although the concepts are clearer, the subject itself has become more complex and requires continuous linguistic adaptations.

- **T4.** The interpretations of the Hungarian authors examined bear the values and emotions of people. The economic values of the examined Hungarian thinkers can be found in simultaneous sync with international conception. The essay shows that Hungarian thinkers, on the one hand, drew on the epochs of the international spirit, and even they themselves, on their own, came to the same or similar conclusions that conform to the particular Hungarian way of thinking. Parallels clearly demonstrate the maturity and modernity of Hungarian thinkers.
- **T5.** The East-West as a cultural-social opposition is a returning relative valuation in the examined period.

The hypothesis is proved by the stipulation that in the Christian social movements this relationship is not a basic criterion, others want to eliminate this distinction either because of the risk of the formation of group conflicts (Németh).

**T6.** The economic criticism of our authors results in more realistic, programmatic, more practical solutions at the end of the examined period, in which the practical and moral motifs do not exclude each other.

The authors try to find a solution in different ways. In this process there are those, who give a concrete practical example (Széchenyi, Deák, Szabó, Vida), and others, (Fülep, Németh) who move on the level of principals and form moral motives, but those ideas cannot be separated by a sharp line most of them cannot draw a sharp line between them.

## 2.2. New results:

- 1. The genuineness of the dissertation is its approach (anthropological qualitative examination): the 100 years studied have been elaborated from historical, philosophical and social considerations, but not specifically on the economy, the philosophy of economics and the related segments.
- 2. Research has shown that thinking about the economy as a historical concept closely fits into the process of thinking about the Hungarian nation. The works of the examined Hungarian authors are both explorers and sculptors of the future.
- 3. The results of the research have shown that the views of the economy are best suited to the Hungarian conditions of the age.
- 4. It has become clear that the economic vocabulary is expressed in the Hungarian language with the reinterpreting of the old terms and with the creation of new terms, and it is fully in line with the communicative functions, so the Hungarian vocabulary itself is suitable for formulating specific content.
- 5. The study confirmed that an essential part of thinking about the economy is taking into account the moral order and traditions.
- 6. Research has shown that most thinkers have formulated the strategy of a non-isolated entity, but taking into account national features, integrating into the European and global system.

#### 3. Conclusions:

The study of the texts of the above-mentioned Hungarian thinkers has confirmed that the creation of the future will always depend on the work of the present, the influence of the moral and the elements of past traditions, the consideration of historical lessons and the effects of the international environment. The examined philosophical arc can be rewritten in general in the answers to today's challenges.

In the present, these same spiritual problems arise, as the statements of the contemplated thinkers continue. Therefore, it is not necessary to look for completely new ways, but the forgotten or underdeveloped thoughts need to be reinterpreted and associated with the modern strategy. In the modern dimensions of preservation and retention, the determinant of identity, the national heritage, should be valued.

Based on the above-stated thoughts, education must be promoted as a primary value and must be considered more important than the classical economy, since the latter's function derives from the former. Only educated individuals can create a functioning economy. Innovations are needed at every age, but the redefinition of existing values as well. For this, the world's thinking and its own characteristics must also be understood in a spiritual and linguistic context. Appropriate, meaningful use of the Hungarian technical language and, through this, nation thinking is not a goal, it is a tool. Along with the recognition and adaptation of the processes of the global macro environment, it is necessary to formulate the features of the locality and the local applications of the individual image.

#### **Publications:**

# Publications published in Hungarian language journals:

- 1. Speech production and opportunities for improving access to media for media students. Training and Practice: 13: (1-2) pp. 203-220. (2015)
- 2. Linguistics and language use Questions and answers based on the language used by kindergarten teachers. Training and Practice: 12: (3-4) pp. 35-49. (2014)

### **Published in Hungarian edited volume:**

- 1. Sopron and its surroundings given their nationalities given their international relations. In: RAJNAI Z., FREGAN B., J. OZSVÁTH (eds.): Study Conferences of the 5th Báthory-Brassai Conference. 709 p. Budapest: University of Óbuda Doctoral School of Public Safety, 2014 pp. 156-165. 1-2. Vol.
- 2. Report and philosophy in the Hungarian Economic Terminology. KARLOVITZ J. T. (ed.): Social-scientific thoughts at the beginning of the third millennium. 317 p. Conference Vol. Komárno: International Research Institute, 2013 pp. 137-144.
- 3. Creativity in the Hungarian Economic Terminologyy. In: NymE KTK. Talent and creativity in science. Conference Vol. Sopron: NymE KTK, 2012. pp. 370-386.

### Publications published in a foreign-language lectorated journal:

Meaning and Philosophy in the Hungarian Economic Terminology. Linguistics and Literature Studies 4: (4) pp. 243-251. (2016)

# Other publications / book reviews:

- 1. The "elite member should become the servant of his own people" The Politics and Economy of the Bible and the Koran. Economy and Society 2015: (1-2) pp. 89-94. (2015)
- 2. "On the two sides of the Iron Curtain": Molnár Csilla: On both sides of the Iron Curtain Life story narratives on the Austrian-Hungarian border. Economy and Society 2013: (2-3) pp. 132-135. (2013)