

Rev. István PÁSZTORI-KUPÁN, MTh, PhD, dr. habil.

Professor of Doctrinal Theology

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Curriculum vitae

Personal data

Family name: Pásztori-Kupán **Given name:** István

Date and year of birth: Tg-Mureș, 1973

Studies, professional formation

- Secondary school, bacalaureat:
 - Colegiul Național „Bethlen Gábor” Aiud, 1991
- Higher Education:
 - Licence in theology: Diplomă de licență în teologie, Institutul Teologic Protestant din Cluj-Napoca, 1996
 - Psycho-pedagogical module: Universitatea Babeș-Bolyai, Departamentul pentru Pregătirea Profesorilor, 1998
 - Master of Theology with distinction, University of Edinburgh, Faculty of Divinity, New College, 1999
 - Doctor of Philosophy, University of Edinburgh, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, 2003
 - Theological Habilitation (dr. habil.): Debrecen Reformed Theological University, 2010

Work experience

- 1996–1998: Colegiul Național „Bethlen Gábor” Aiud – religion teacher in secondary school
- 1998–1999: Reformed Parish in Aiud – youth minister
- 2003–2004: Universitatea „Babeș-Bolyai” Cluj-Napoca, Facultatea de Teologie Reformată – lecturer
- from 1 December 1999 until 31 January 2021: Protestant Theological Institute Kolozsvár/Cluj. Starting from 1 October 2014: university professor, head of Department of Systematic Theology, chancellor and vice-rector (2012–2016), liaison person with ARACIS (2006–2020)
- from September 2010: doctoral supervisor at the Debrecen Reformed Theological University and a member of the Doctoral School
- from 20 March 2015: Károli Gáspár University Budapest, Faculty of Humanities, Department of Arts and General Humanities
- from 1 February 2021: full professor at J. Selye University, Komárno, Slovakia

Some disciplines taught in various academic positions

- History of Christian doctrine; Patristics
- Reformed Dogmatics



- Historic and Cultural Background of New Testament Writings
- Notions and Spiritual Trends in Ancient Christian Times
- An Interactive Introduction Into the History of Greek Philosophy (in English)
- Dialogue Between Ancient Greek Philosophy and Christian Theology (in English)

Major areas of interest and research

- New Testament roots of Early Christian Apologists
- Point of convergence between Ancient Christian theology and Greek philosophy
- Christological controversies of the fifth century, with special focus upon the Antiochene theologians of the period between the Council of Ephesus (431) and Chalcedon (451)
- The life, work and heritage of the Greek Church Father, Theodoret of Cyrus (393–460)
- Christian social ethics
- Teaching and educational principles, philosophy of education

Institutional and scientific management & quality assurance activities

- 2012–2016: vice-rector of PTI with scientific duties, and chairman of the Scientific Research Council of PTI
- 2008–2016: chairman of Quality Assurance Committee in PTI
- 2010–2014: person responsible for quality assurance of the study programme ‘Pastoral Protestant Theology’
- 2006–2020: Person of liaison between the Protestant Theological Institute of Cluj-Napoca and ARACIS, charged with duties of accreditation and quality assurance
- from 2016: Coordinator within the Department of General Humanities of Erasmus+, CEEPUS and Campus Mundi mobility programs at the Károli Gáspár University
- from 2016: scientific mentor of first-year students at the Károli Gáspár University

Languages

- Romanian – advanced, academic level
- Hungarian – advanced, academic level
- English – advanced, academic level
- German – intermediate, open discussion and argumentation level (holding written lectures)
- French – basic, reading, writing (including the capability to interact with specific scientific literature and vocabulary), basic chat

Membership in various scientific organisations

Member of the Public Body of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences:

https://mta.hu/koztestuleti_tagok?PersonId=22499

Joint Commission of the theological dialogue between the Orthodox Church and the World Alliance of Reformed Churches – member

Vice-president of the Theological Committee of CNATDCU (Consiliul Național de Atestare a Titlurilor, Diplomelor și Certificatelor Universitare) – between 2015 and 2020

Editorial Board of the Library of Early Christianity (Catholic University of America Press, Washington D.C.) – continuous membership

Studies in Korean and Hungarian Protestant Theology (PUTS Press, Korea, DRTU, Debrecen) – Series Editor with Ábrahám Kovács, Gyeong Su Park and Jaeshik Shin

Guest lectureships and research grants in foreign institutions

| Period | Institution | Activity |
|----------------|---|-------------------------------|
| Sept-Dec. 2008 | Princeton Theological Seminary | research trip, guest lecturer |
| Oct 2014 | Debrecen Reformed Theological University | Erasmus guest lecturer |
| October 2016 | Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz | guest lecturer, CEEPUS |
| October 2016 | Honam Theol. University and Seminary, Gwangju, Korea | keynote speaker |
| October 2016 | Presbyterian University and Theol. Seminary, Seoul, Korea | guest lecturer |
| December 2017 | Grandhouse International Club, Hun. Academy of Sciences | keynote speaker |
| November 2018 | Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz | guest lecturer |
| May 2019 | Presbyterian University and Theol. Seminary, Seoul, Korea | guest lecturer |
| October 2019 | Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz | CEEPUS conf. presenter |
| October 2021 | Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz | CEEPUS conf. presenter |

Doctoral supervision (in the Doctoral School of Debrecen Ref. Theol. Univ.)

- No. of students having obtained their doctoral degrees: 2
 - Papp György (theme: Calvin and John Chrysostom on Free Will) – PhD degree obtained in 2016
 - Papp C. Zsolt (theme: The Social Ethics of Reinhold Niebuhr) – PhD degree obtained in 2020

External examiner (opponent) at PhD exams

- Nemes Csaba, Selye János University, Komárno: 2015
- Haris Szilárd, Selye János University, Komárno: 2015
- Dragos Ștefănică, Sibiu, Lucian Blaga University: 2017
- András Szabolcs, Babes-Bolyai University Cluj: 2019
- Hans Bruno Fröhlich, Sibiu, Lucian Blaga University: 2019
- Mihai-Iulian Dancă, Sibiu, Lucian Blaga University: 2021
- Bodnár Lajos, Debrecen University: 2021

External examiner (opponent) at habilitation exams

- Corneliu Simuț, Debrecen Ref. Theol. Univ.: 2012
- Németh Tamás, Lutheran Theological University Budapest: 2014

International research grants obtained

- Overseas Research Students Awards Scheme (Scotland): between 1999 and 2002
- Langham Research Scholarships (John Stott Ministries): 2000–2002
- The Mylne Trust Award: 2001–2003
- Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellowship: June–September 2004
- Caledonian Research Foundation (Royal Society of Edinburgh): June–September 2004
- Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities Fellowship, Edinburgh: 2004
- Princeton Theological Seminary Research Grant, USA: 2008
- Domus Hungarica Scientiarum et Artium, 2010
- Research Grant Bolyai János at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, 2012–2015 (final qualification: ‘excellent’)

Presentations at international conferences (selection)

The Holy Spirit as the Mother of the Son? Origen’s Interpretation of a Surviving Fragment from *The Gospel according to the Hebrews* – *Colloquium Origenianum Nonum* (Pécs, August 2005)

The spirit of religious tolerance – a Transylvanian “extra calvinisticum”? *Calvinism on the Peripheries* nemzetközi konferencia (Debrecen, 24–28 April 2008)



- Theological and secular ethics in the 21st century – Langham International Conference (Berekfürdő, 9–12 May 2013)
- Theology in the Academy: a possibility or a necessity? – International Symposium (Bucharest, Institutul Teologic Penticostal: 22–24 May 2013)
- Could Theology Be the Conscience of Other Sciences? – Presbyterian University and Theol. Seminary, Seoul, Korea, Hun-Han Theological Forum, October 2016
- Identical, but not alike. The resurrection of the body according to Amphilochius of Iconium – Dis/embodiment and Im/materiality: Uncovering the Body, Gender and Sexuality in Late Antiquity, Conference In Memoriam Marianne Sághy (1961–2018), CEU, Budapest, June 2019
- A Far Too Eloquent Silence – CEEPUS international conference, Karl-Franzens-Universität, Graz, October 2019
- One Stage, One Nation – Presbyterian University and Theol. Seminary, Seoul, Korea, The 20th International Academic Conference: A New Imagination for Peace, October 2019

List of publications (selection)

An updated list of my publications until December 2021 can be found here:

<https://m2.mtmt.hu/gui2/?type=authors&mode=browse&sel=10028498&view=simpleList&page=1;1000>

The complete text of some publications can be accessed here:

<https://ipasztorikupan.academia.edu/research>

A selection of publications in English

- Theodoret of Cyrus*, The Early Church Fathers (London: Routledge, 2006)
- Theodoret of Cyrus's Double Treatise On the Trinity and On the Incarnation: The Antiochene Pathway to Chalcedon* (Cluj/Kolozsvár: The Transylvanian District of the Reformed Church in Romania, 2007)
- 'An unnoticed title in Theodoret of Cyrus' ΠΕΡΙ ΤΗΣ ΤΟΥ ΚΥΠΡΙΟΥ ΕΝΑΝΘΡΩΠΗΣΕΩΣ', *The Journal of Theological Studies*, 53 (2002), 102–111
- 'Quotations of Theodoret's *De sancta et vivifica Trinitate* in Euthymius Zigabenus' *Panoplia Dogmatica*', *Augustinianum*, 42 (2002), 481–489
- 'The Doctrine of "Communicatio idiomatum" in the Theological Thinking of Heinrich Bullinger', *Emlékkönyv Tőkés István kilencvenedik születésnapjára / Festschrift für István Tőkés zum 90. Geburtstag* (Cluj/Kolozsvár: PTI-EREK-KRE, 2006), 299–323
- 'The Spirit of Religious Tolerance – A Transylvanian "extra calvinisticum"?', *Calvinism on the Peripheries: Religion and Civil Society in Europe*, ed. by Ábrahám Kovács, (Budapest: L'Harmattan, 2009), 155–179
- 'The Holy Spirit as the Mother of the Son? Origen's Interpretation of a Surviving Fragment from *The Gospel According to the Hebrews*', *Origeniana Nona: Origen and the Religious Practice of His Time*, Bibliotheca Ephemeridum Theologicarum Lovaniensium, 228, ed. by György Heidl and Róbert Somos (Leuven: Peeters, 2009), 285–291
- 'Invocation of biblical authority in a secular decision: the theocratic relevance of the Torda Edict (1568)', *Református Szemle* 101/6 (2008), 677–699
- 'Reformer – Since When? An Attempt to Reassess the Young Calvin's Theological Attitude towards the Mediaeval Church', *Református Szemle*, 103/1 (2010), 40–50

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- ‘Confession of Marosvásárhely (1559)’, In: James T. Dennison, Jr., ed., *Reformed Confessions of the 16th and 17th Centuries in English Translation: Volume 2, 1552–1566* (Grand Rapids: Reformation Heritage Books, 2010), 132–139 (Nr. 45)
- ‘The one veneration belonging to the One Son: The union of worship as the criterion of teaching “the One and the same” during the Monophysite controversy’, *Studia Theologica Debrecinensis* 2010/2, 77–94
- ‘The formation and ecumenical importance of the so-called *Nicaeno-Constantinopolitanum*’, *Revista Ecumenică Sibiu* 3/1 (2011), 25–54
- ‘The Teaching Concerning the Lord’s Supper in the 1559 Hungarian Reformed Confession of Marosvásárhely’, in: E. Van der Borgh and P. van Geest, eds., *Strangers and Pilgrims on Earth. Essays in Honour of Abraham van de Beek*, Studies in Reformed Theology 22 (Leiden: Brill, 2012), 503–522 – co-author: Kund Botond Gúdor
- ‘St. Basil as Doctrinal Authority and Spiritual Example for Theodoret of Cyrus’, *Studia Universitatis Babeş-Bolyai Theologia Orthodoxa* 58/1 (2013), 125–134
- ‘Is there a crown without a cross?: Two models describing the duty of Christians in the world’, *Pleroma: Studii și Cercetări Teologice* XV (2013), 159–172
- ‘A Growing Need for a Common Moral Vision: A Cry for Humble Co-operation between Theology and Other Disciplines’, In: Kovács Ábrahám, Schwáb Zoltán, eds., *In Academia for the Church: Eastern and Central European Theological Perspectives* (London: Langham Literature, 2014), 63–75
- ‘Emperor Constantine I. and the Principles of Property Restoration’ In: Ábrahám, Kovács; Jaeshik, Shin, eds., *Church and State. Theological Reflections in the Hungarian Reformed Churches and in the Korean Protestant Churches* (Debrecen, Hungary, Gwangju, South Korea: Debrecen Reformed Theological University and Honam Theological University and Seminary, 2019), 183–199
- ‘A far too eloquent silence: Karl Barth’s inexplicable reluctance to address or comment the bloody avengement of the Hungarian Freedom Fight in 1956’, *Nationalism, Communism and Christian Identity*, ed. Kovács Ábrahám and Jaeshik Shin (Debrecen-Gwangju: DRHE-Honam, 2019), 163–178
- ‘Faith as a Prerequisite to the Initiation into the Mysteries in Theodoret of Cyrus’, *Initiation into the mysteries*, ed. Sepsi Enikő, Vassányi Miklós et al. (Budapest: KRE-L’Harmattan, 2020), 81–91
- ‘The Hungarian Holy Crown and its Significance for National and Christian Unity’, In: *Reformed Legacy in Korea and Hungary: Religious, Cultural and Theological Approaches*, ed. by Gyeong Su Park and Ábrahám Kovács (Seoul: Presbyterian University and Theological Seminary, 2022), 235–249
- Review of Paul B. Clayton, *The Christology of Theodoret of Cyrus: Antiochene Christology from the Council of Ephesus (431) to the Council of Chalcedon (451)*, Oxford Early Christian Studies (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007), *Scottish Journal of Theology*, 64 (2011), 490–491
- Review of John Behr, *The Case against Diodore and Theodore: Texts and their Contexts*, Oxford Early Christian Texts (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011), *Journal of Theological Studies* 63 (2012), 737–739

Budapest, 10 February 2022.


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