

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, baccalaureat:
 - 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 Ștefăniță, 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 Pentecostal: 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

Pásztori

- '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 Babes-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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