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hu Liszt Intézet
Magyar Kulturális Központ Isztambul



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KÜLTÜR YILI

Lecture in conjunction with Hungarian-Turkish Cultural Year

Hungarian Architects in Early Republican Türkiye

by Gergő Máté Kovács

at ANAMED Auditorium and on ZOOM
Monday, May 20, 2024 at 6:00 pm İstanbul

In person lecture at Anamed Auditorium, İstiklal Caddesi, 181, Merkez Han, Beyoğlu



For livestreaming on ZOOM, please register in advance:

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Besides the alliance during WWI, active Hungarian and Ottoman-Turkish cultural and diplomatic relations also marked the 1910s. The cooperation that blossomed during the period led to unique knowledge transfer between the young Republic of Türkiye and post-war Hungary in diplomacy, education and culture, as well as in various sectors of the economy, including industry, agriculture, infrastructure development, urban development and architecture.

The activities of Hungarian architects in the Turkish Republic can be observed in several areas, including the design of buildings in the new capital, Ankara, conceptual proposals for urban planning, landscape architecture, surveys of historic buildings and built heritage conservation initiatives, participation in international design competitions, or

jury membership for competitions and also in education. The presence of Hungarians is not limited to İstanbul or Ankara; Hungarian artisans have left their mark in several areas, from Boyabat to Muğla, Aydın or Milas.

The talk outlines various aspects of Hungarian-Turkish architectural cooperation during the first half of the 20th century. It provides insight into the creation of some buildings, architectural designs, and architectural research, which were carried out in Türkiye by Hungarians as well as the role of Turkish architects working in Hungary.



Gergő Máté Kovács received his PhD (2020), MSc (2013), Specialised Engineer Degree for the Preservation of Built Heritage (2018) from Budapest University of Technology and Economics, and B.A. (2017) in Philology of Eastern Languages and Cultures (Turkish studies) at Loránd Eötvös University in Budapest. He worked on preservation projects of Ottoman buildings in Hungary at the Budapest Program Coordination Office of the Presidency of Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA) and also took part in survey works of historical buildings in Hungary and Turkey. His PhD research covered Ottoman-Turkish and Hungarian architectural relations, and he participated in research projects and organisation of exhibitions on this topic in Türkiye and Hungary. He lectured at Budapest University of Technology and Economics and was a counsellor at the Gül Baba Heritage Foundation. He is the author or co-author of approximately 80 scientific publications and Member of the Public Body of Hungarian Academy of Sciences and the National Committee of ICOMOS. Major research interests include the history of architecture, especially the correspondence of

Hungarian and Ottoman-Turkish architecture in the 20th century. Gergő Máté Kovács works as deputy director – cultural attaché at Liszt Institute – Hungarian Cultural Centre in İstanbul.