Attila Bartha (PhD in Economics) is a research fellow at the Institute for Political Science of the Centre for Social Sciences, Hungarian Academy of Sciences and an associate professor at IBS Budapest. He is an editor of the journal *Intersections. East European Journal of Society and Politics* and teaches courses at the Doctoral School of Sociology at Corvinus University, Budapest. His main areas of research are comparative public policy, welfare policy and political economy.

Ervin Csizmadia (Phd), is a senior researcher at the Institute for Political Science of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. His main fields of research are political parties, formal and informal political organisations, political networks and elites as well as comparative political development. His three volume book about the Hungarian opposition was published in 1995. He has written several articles on Hungarian elite conflicts and the relationship of parties and international processes in journals and other forums. He is director of a Hungarian Think Tank, the Centre for Fair Political Analysis.

Márton Czirfusz is a research fellow at the Centre for Economic and Regional Studies, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest and a member of the Collective for Critical Urban Research. He holds a Master’s Degree and a PhD in Geography from the Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest. His main research fields are in economic geography. In previous and current research projects he has explored socio-spatial inequalities of labour, has widened the usage of critical theory and the political-economic approach in Hungarian economic geography, as well as in urban studies.

Katalin Fehér, sociologist, is a junior research fellow in the Institute for Regional Studies, Centre for Economic and Regional Studies, Hungarian Academy of Sciences. She also studies in the doctoral programme of the Institute of Sociology and Social Policy, Corvinus University of Budapest. Her research topic focuses on spatial and social segregation and neighbourhood poverty.

Vera Horváth holds a Master’s Degree in International Relations. She has been working with the Metropolitan Research Institute since 2012, where she was involved in projects concerning housing law, housing poverty and homelessness, innovative social housing solutions, socially sensitive urban rehabilitation, and the cooperation between architects and social scientists. Her previous work experience includes journalism in the fields of economy and international relations, followed by technical assistance (mainly EuropeAid) project management in developing countries in the fields of culture and education, private sector development and public finance. She is also a member of the Collective for Critical Urban Research based in Budapest.

Mariya P Ivancheva (PhD in Sociology and Social Anthropology, Central European University) is currently a post-doctoral research fellow at the Equality Studies Centre, University College Dublin. Mariya has worked and published on the history, legacy, and present of socialism in Eastern Europe and Latin America. The research presented in this article was carried out thanks to the Advanced Academia Fellowship at the Centre of Advanced Study, Sofia in 2014.
Ilgvars Jansons is a research fellow at the Centre for Economic and Regional Studies, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Békéscsaba and a PhD student in geography at University of Szeged. He holds master's degree in Spatial Planning from University of Latvia and double master's degree in International Cooperation and Urban Development from TU Darmstadt and Université Pierre-Mendes France in Grenoble. His current research, as a part of a broader project (regpol2.eu) focuses on household practices and experiences of regional peripheralization in Central and Eastern Europe and exploring the potential of household for spatial research.

Csaba Jelinek is a PhD candidate at the Sociology and Social Anthropology Department of the Budapest based Central European University. His research revolves around the issues of (post)socialist urbanism, the political economy of urban regeneration, the historical sociology of the state, and the study of gentrification. He is a founding member of the Collective for Critical Urban Research, an informal group of young scholars trying to connect critical research with progressive policy making and radical activism in the field of Hungarian and Eastern European urban politics.

Judit Keller, PhD, is a sociologist and a Research Fellow at the Institute for Regional Studies, Centre for Economic and Regional Studies (Hungarian Academy of Sciences). She received her PhD in Social and Political Science from the European University Institute in Firenze. For her research project “First steps towards integration: institutional variations in providing access to crèches services” she was awarded a three year postdoctoral grant by the National Scientific Research Fund. Her research focuses on the governance of socio-economic development and of public policies across state levels and within the EU. She has also conducted numerous research projects on social inequalities and social change in different local communities with a focus on the interaction of institutions.

Deyan Kolev has an MA in Philosophy and History (Central European University). Currently he is doing his PhD in political science. He is chairman of the AMALIPE Centre for Inter-ethnic Dialogue and Tolerance Association – one of the most active Roma NGOs in Bulgaria.

Ádám Kullmann is an economist. He was a programme coordinator in the former National Development Agency (2002-2009). Later he worked at the Open Society Institute where he was the manager of the Making the Most of EU Funds for Roma Programme (2009-2015).

Zsuzsanna Pósfai is a PhD student at the Centre for Economic and Regional Studies, Hungarian Academy of Sciences in Békéscsaba, Hungary. Her research is part of a broader research project investigating core-periphery relations and processes of regional peripheralization in Central and Eastern Europe (regpol2.eu). She focuses on how (mainly economic) actors present on the housing market produce these unequal socio-spatial relations, and how the development of the Hungarian housing market is dependent on global economic processes. Housing has been at the centre of her interest for many years now; she is also a member of the housing rights activist group called the City is for All. Previously she worked at the municipality of Budapest and
Authors’ Biographies

has a degree in urban and regional policy. She is also a member of the Collective for Critical Urban Research based in Budapest.

**Szilvia Rézműves** is a social politician. She has been interviewer in several researches analysing the situation of socially excluded communities. She is national project officer of the ROMACT programme which is a joint programme of the European Commission and the Council of Europe.

**Linda Szabó** is a PhD candidate of the Sociology and Social Anthropology Department of the Central European University, Budapest, and a member of the Collective for Critical Urban Research. She has participated in several international research projects concerning social justice, inequality policies, with special attention to gender issues, employment relations, as well as transnational migration. Her most recent projects include a comparative urban research study, Cityscalers, led by the Anthropology Department of the University of Vienna, and an analysis on The Impact of a Trading Diaspora on Urban Transformation in Central Eastern Europe, funded by ERSTE Foundation, both engaged in the scrutiny of interrelations between migration and urban regeneration in Europe. Her PhD project explores the socio-spatial effects of migrant entrepreneurship, with particular focus on Chinese merchants in the post-socialist, semi-peripheral context of Budapest.

**Judit Takács** is a Research Chair at the Institute of Sociology, Centre for Social Sciences, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, responsible for leading research teams and conducting independent research on family practices, work-life balance issues and childlessness as well as social exclusion/inclusion of LGBTQ+ people, social history of homosexuality, and HIV/AIDS prevention. Her most recent publications include *Homophobia and Genderphobia in the European Union* (published by the Swedish Institute for European Policy Studies) and *Disciplining gender and (homo)sexuality in state socialist Hungary in the 1970s* (published in the European Review of History). A list of her publications can be found at [http://www.policy.hu/takacs/publications.php](http://www.policy.hu/takacs/publications.php).

**Zsuzsanna Vidra** is a senior lecturer at Eötvös Lóránd University, Intercultural Psychology and Education (Hungary) and a visiting research fellow at the Center for Policy Studies, Central European University (Hungary). She holds a PhD in sociology from École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, France, an MA in Sociology from ELTE and an MA in Nationalism Studies from the Central European University. Her main areas of research are poverty, ethnicity, migration, education, and media and minorities. She has published several articles on Roma and non-Roma interethnic relations, educational inequalities, labour market and social policy issues. She has edited a volume on Roma migration to Canada, and another volume on the far-right and Roma self-mobilisation and she has co-authored a book on ethnic relations, migration, labour market conditions and informal economy in marginal rural communities. Her latest volume is on child trafficking in Hungary.
Enikő Vincze is professor in sociology at Babes-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Currently she offers courses on European social agenda, critical urban theory and methodology of social research. During the 1990s she conducted research on nationalism, ethnic identity politics and feminism. Since 2004 she has participated on and/or coordinated investigations and published studies on processes and causes of exclusion and marginalisation of ethnic Roma in healthcare, school education, labour market and housing, including the examination of intersectional discrimination of Romani women and the political potential of Romania, and as well as of how capitalism and neoliberal governance are connected to spatial, housing and development politics. Since 2010 she has been involved in housing rights and social justice activism.

Tünde Virág, PhD, is a sociologist and a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute for Regional Studies, Centre for Economic and Regional Studies (Hungarian Academy of Sciences). She received her PhD in Sociology from the Institute of Sociology and Social Politics of Eötvös Loránd University of Budapest, and she was a Postdoctoral Research Fellow and a Bolyai János Research Scholarship recipient at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences between 2007-2010. Her research focuses on poverty and ethnicity, social and spatial segregation, and socio-economic transformation. She has also conducted numerous research projects in different Roma communities focused on spatial and social inequalities and social stratification.