A historical photograph showing two young boys in the foreground, wearing green military-style uniforms with fur collars and green berets. They both have yellow six-pointed stars pinned to their chests. The boy on the right has a more prominent star. In the background, other children and adults are visible, some also wearing similar uniforms or hats. The image has a grainy, aged quality with some visible wear and tear.

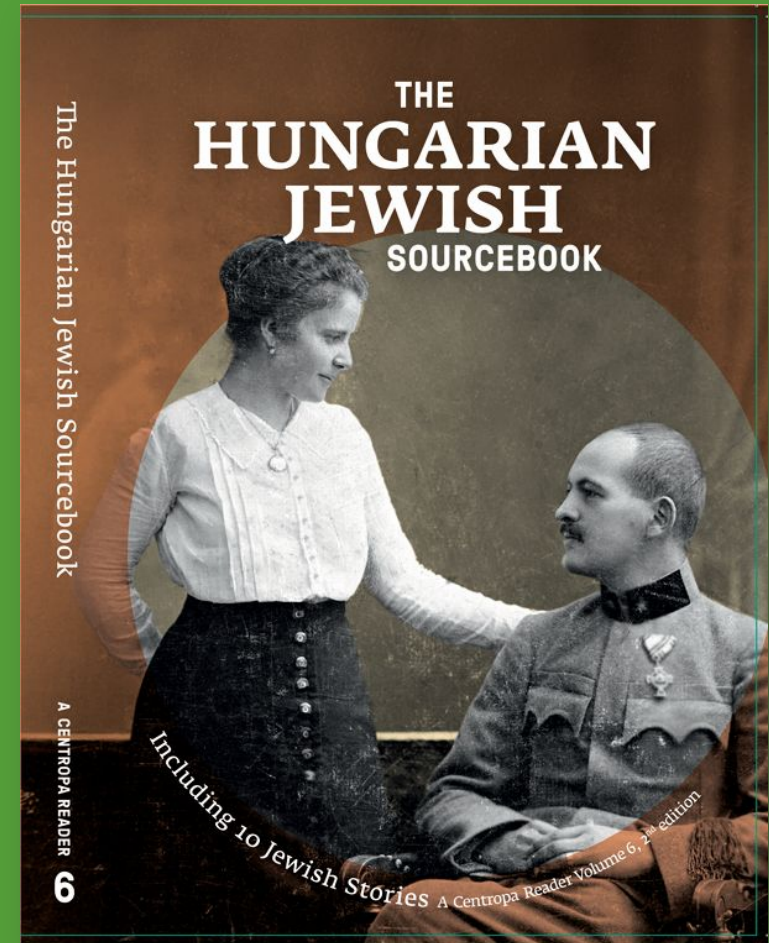
Introduction to the Holocaust in Hungary

Zsolt István Vódlí

Teacher, Member of the Advisory Board at Centropa
Hungary

Introduction to the Holocaust in Hungary

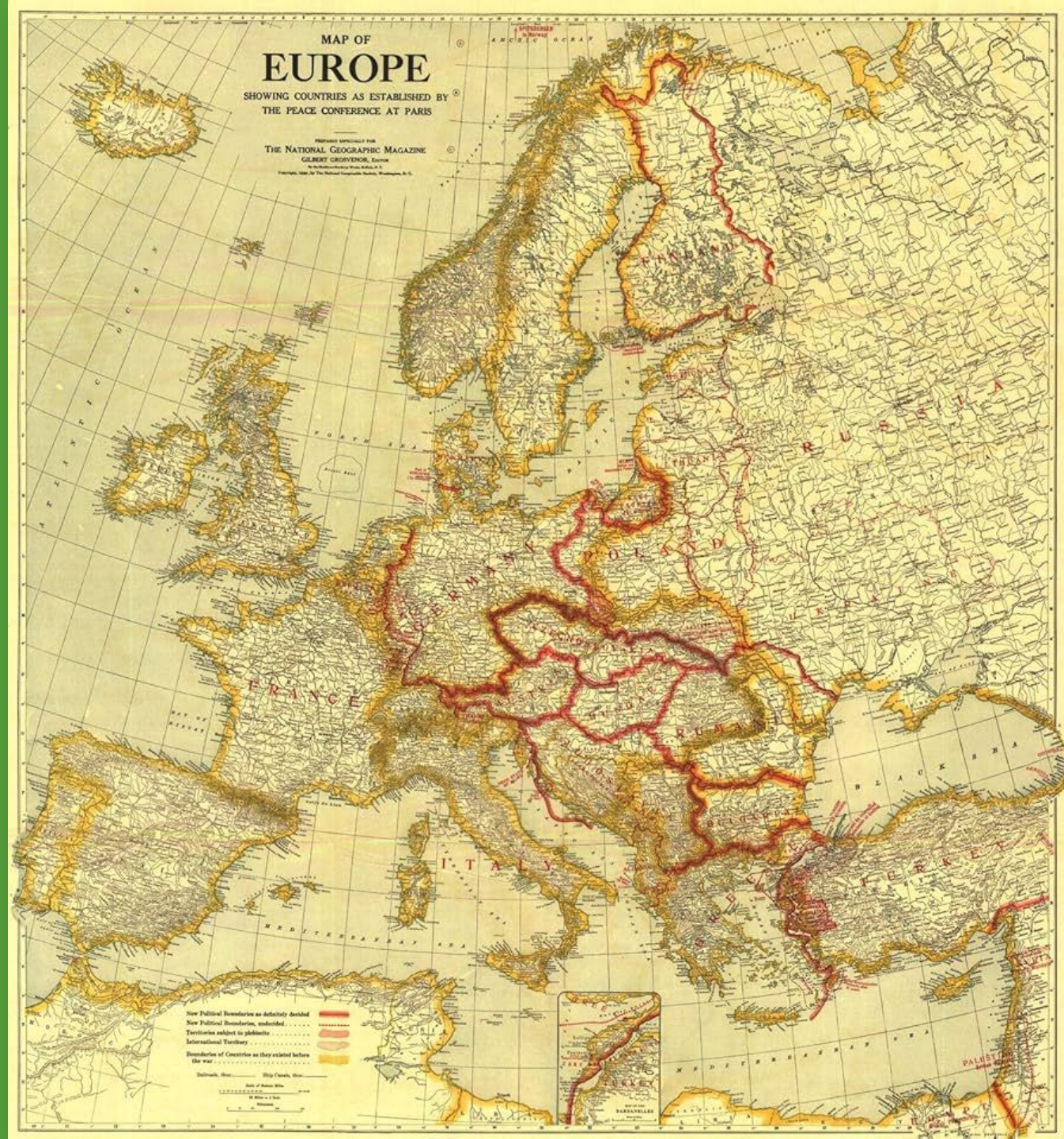
1. The Horthy Era (1920-1944)
2. Deprivation of Rights
3. Holocaust in Hungary
4. Aftermath
5. Remembering the Holocaust



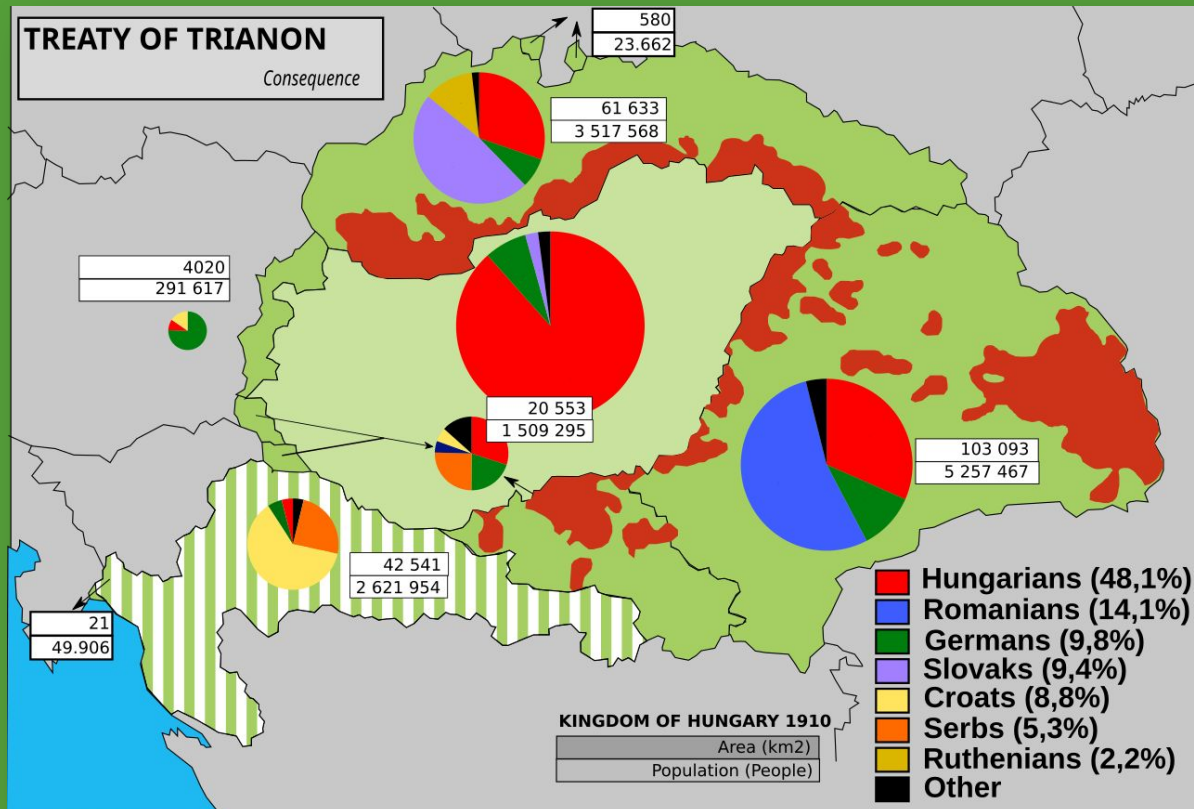
1. The Horthy Era (1920-1944)

- Miklós Horthy (admiral, regent)
- Kingdom without a king
- Limited parliamentary system with authoritarian elements
- Treaty of Trianon (1920)
- Anti-Semitism
- Christian anti-Judaism
- Anti-German sentiments





Treaty of Trianon (1920)



- Losses
- Determined the internal and foreign policy
- Anti-Capitalist sentiments
- Redistribution of wealth
- National census
- MOVE, ÉME, KKV, EX
- Numerus Clausus (1920)

Horthy's Attitudes

- "I will shoot into disorderly people, and if the disorder comes from the right, the only difference for me is that I will shoot into it with a sore heart, while I will shoot into a disorderly person from the left with a passive heart." (Miklós Horthy on extremist political forces, 1923)
- "As regards the Jewish problem, I have been an anti-Semite throughout my life. I have never had contact with Jews. I have considered it intolerable that here in Hungary everything, every factory, bank, large fortune, business, theatre, press, commerce, etc. should be in Jewish hands..." (Horthy's letter to Teleki, 1940)

Christian Anti-Judaism

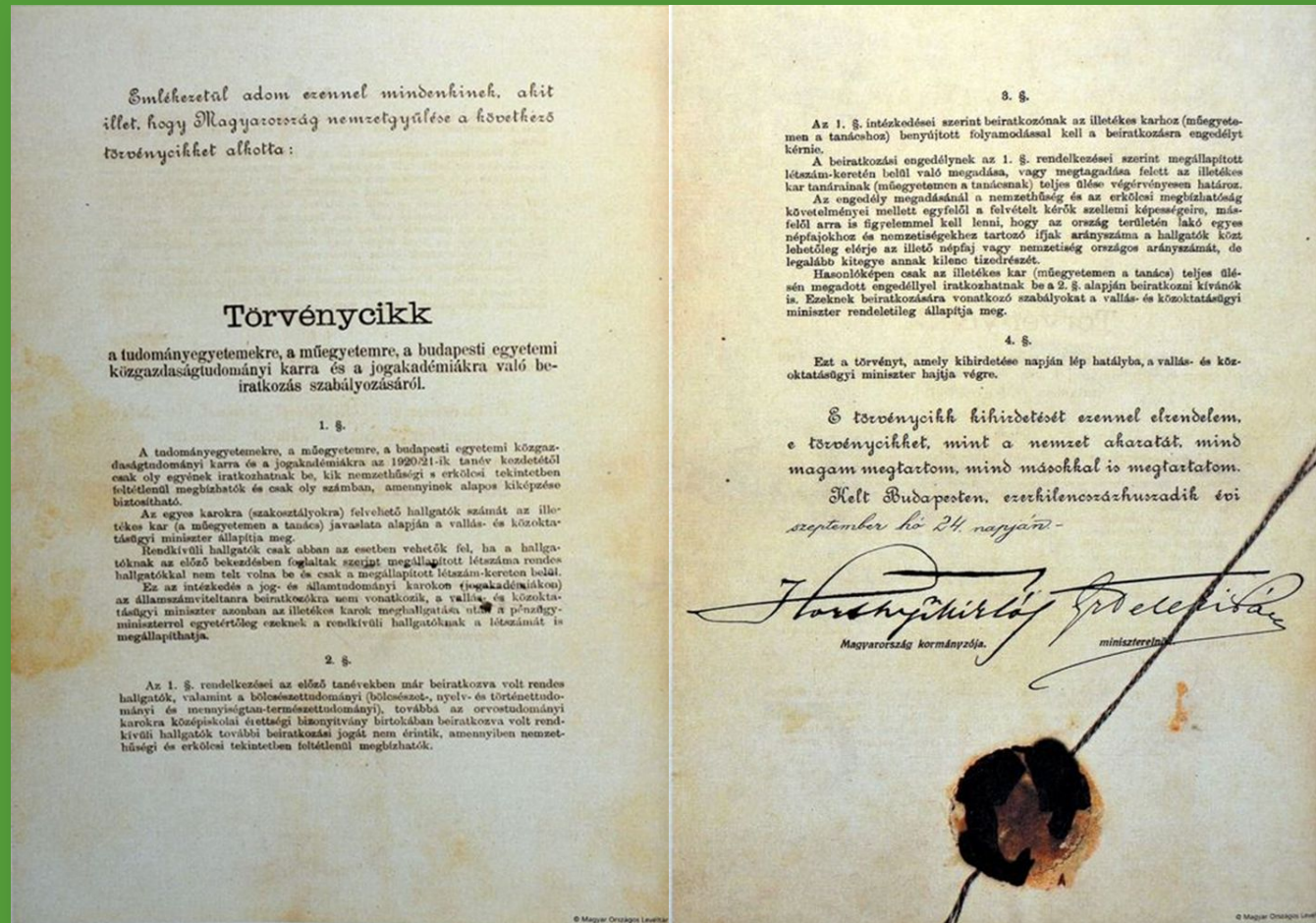
- Ottokár Prohászka



"In our case it is important to note that the Jews are eating us up and we have to defend ourselves against this bedbug epidemic. It is absolutely true that there are good Jews, but Jewry is foreign, a foreign power that suppresses Christianity, conquers and exploits us ... Here we are dealing with the rampage of a cunning, faithless, and immoral race, a bedbug invasion, a rat campaign. There is only one question: How do we defend ourselves?" (1919)

2. Deprivation of Rights / Anti-Jewish Legislation

• Numerus Clausus (1920)



2. Deprivation of Rights / Anti-Jewish Legislation

Hungary	Disenfranchisement of Jews (anti-Jewish legislation) and the Holocaust
Dismembered Hungary (Trianon borders, 1920)	Numerus clausus: limiting Jewish enrollment in universities (6%), defined Jews based on religion
Southern part of Upper Hungary (1938)	1st Jewish Law: defined Jews by religion, restricting Jewish employment in industrial professions to 20%
Transcarpathia (1939)	2nd Jewish Law: limiting economic opportunities and forcing Jews from certain jobs (e.g. jobs in the media and arts, civil servant). This, for the first time, was on a basis of descent and not religion
Northern Transylvania and Székely Land (1940)	-
Southern Territories (1941)	3rd Jewish Law: banning intermarriage between Jewish and non-Jewish persons, on a basis of descent
Hungary in World War II (1941–1944)	1942 – 4th Jewish Law: on a basis of descent, confiscation of land ownership; 'demotion' of the Jewish religion: established □ legally acknowledged; Jews as forced laborers on the front
Hungary after the Nazi occupation (1944–1945)	1944 – Nazi occupation yellow star, ghettos, confiscation of Jewish property, deportations; Holocaust, executions, death marches...

2. Deprivation of Rights / Anti-Jewish Legislation



- Second Vienna Award
- August 30, 1940
- Kézdivásárhely, Transylvania
- 1st and 2nd Jewish Law
- ...you can feel the absurdity of this picture.



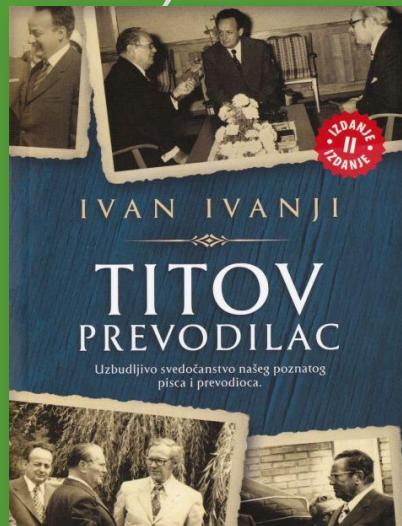
3. The Holocaust in Hungary

- Kamenec-Podolsk (1941)
 - Responsibility of the Hungarian authorities
 - This was one of the first large-scale mass murders perpetrated by Germans.
 - ...numbers...



3. The Holocaust in Hungary

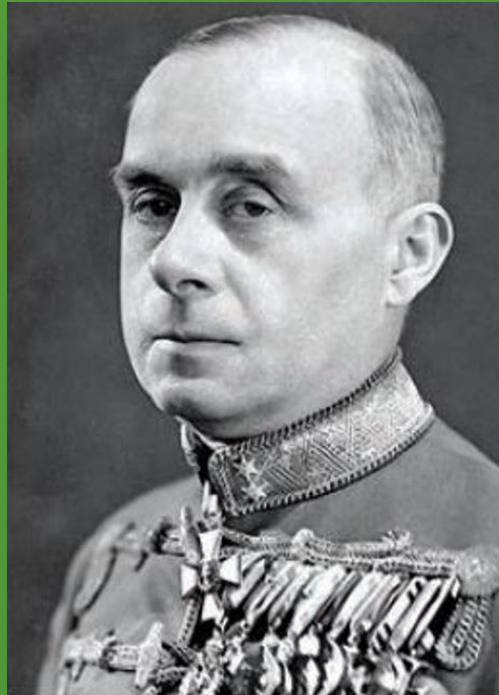
- Novi Sad raid
- January 21-23, 1942
- 3000-4000 civilians (Serbs and Jews)
- Ivan Ivanji





3. The Holocaust in Hungary

- German occupation
- Perpetrators –
Adolf Eichmann and the Hungarian
authorities
- Yellow star
- Ghettos

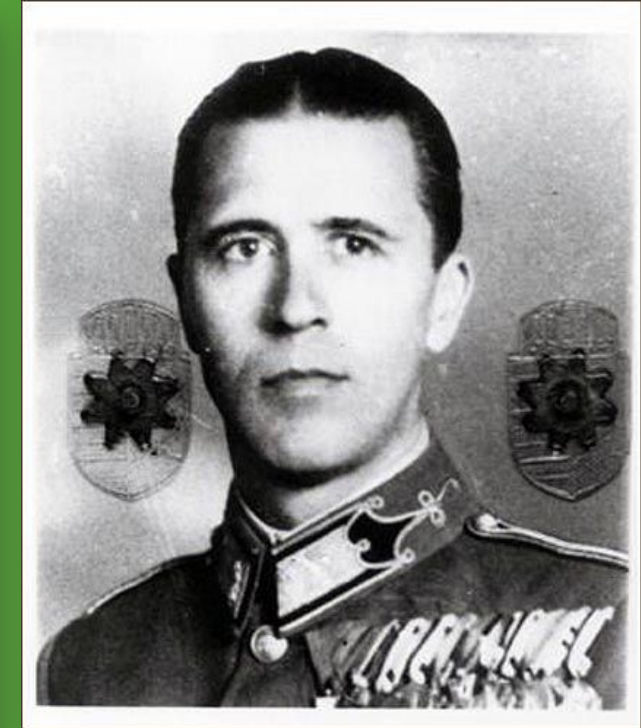
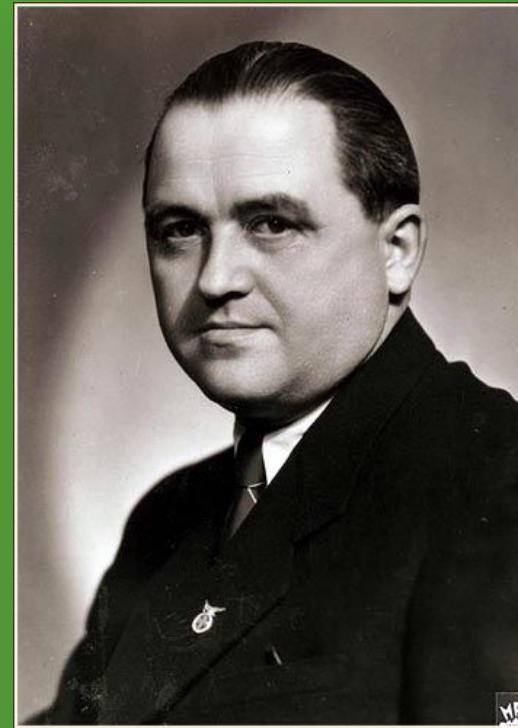
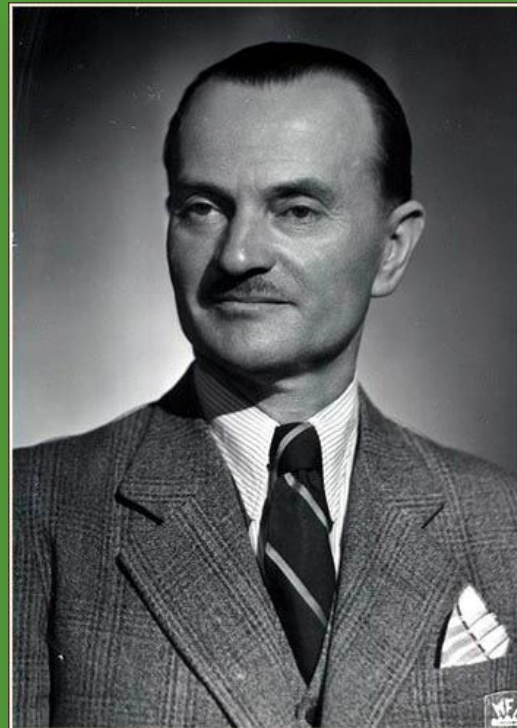


Sztójay



3. The Holocaust in Hungary

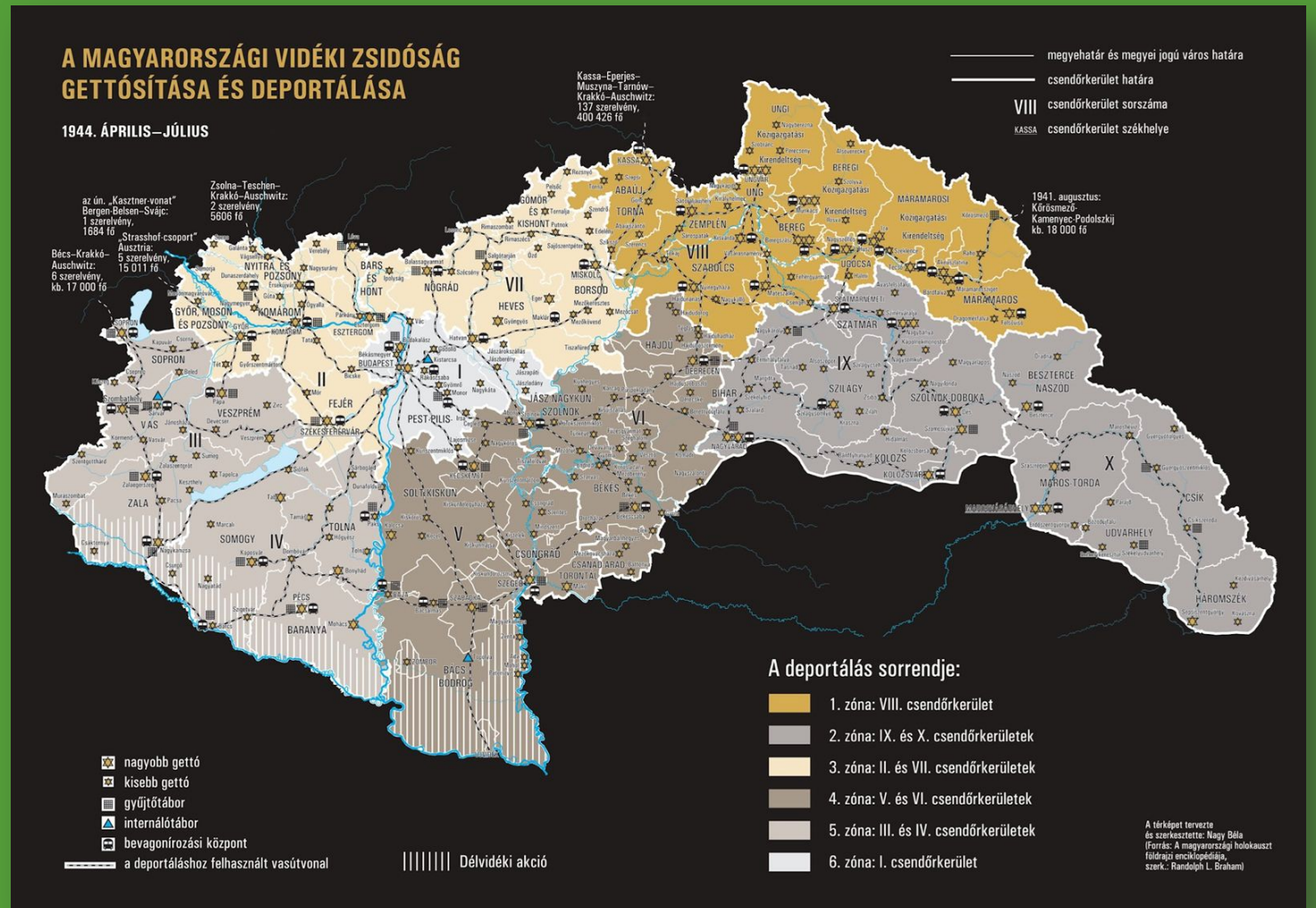
- Perpetrators



Andor Jaross László Endre László Baky László Ferenczy

3. The Holocaust in Hungary

- Deportations
- May 14, 1944
- 56 days
- 437.000 Hungarian citizens
- Auschwitz-Birkenau



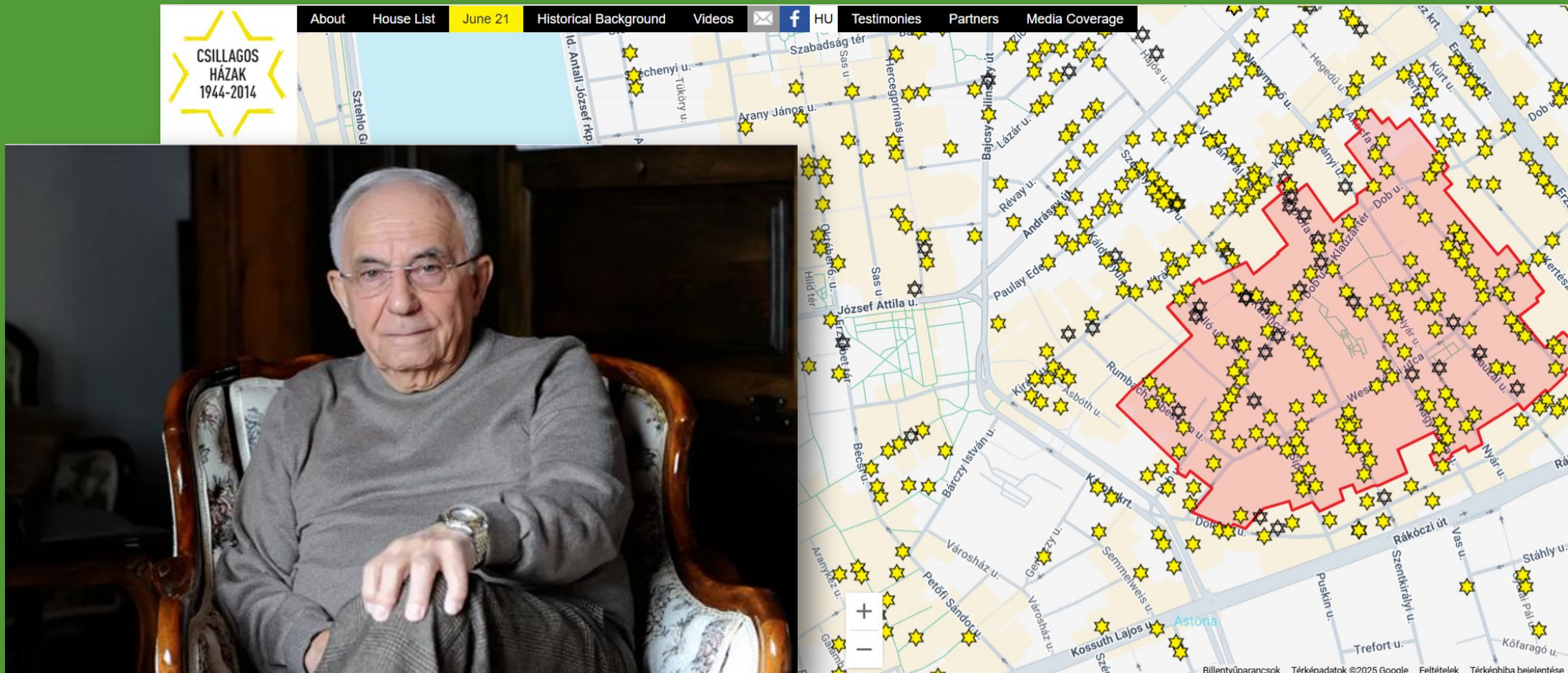
3. The Holocaust in Hungary

- Auschwitz – Birkenau
- Lili, Yisrael and Zelig Jacob
- Auschwitz Album



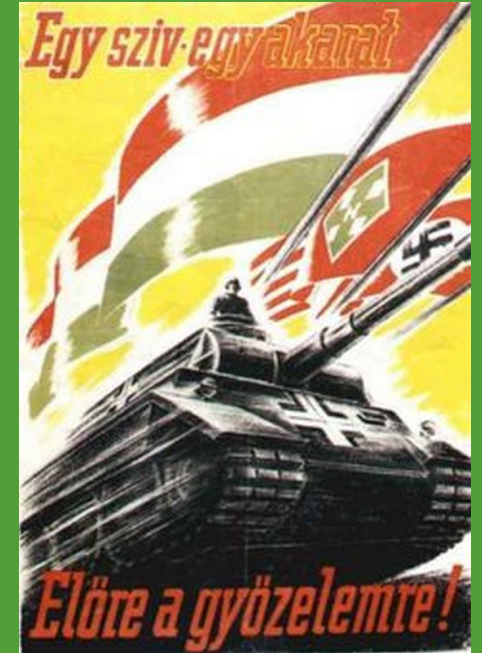
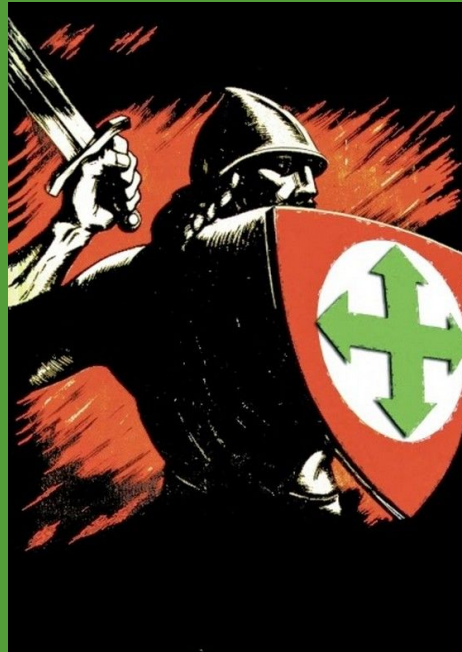
3. The Holocaust in Hungary

- Yellow-Star Houses and the Ghetto in Pest



3. The Holocaust in Hungary

- Szálasi and the Arrow Cross Party
- Ghetto in Pest, Yellow-star houses
- Killing sites and death marches

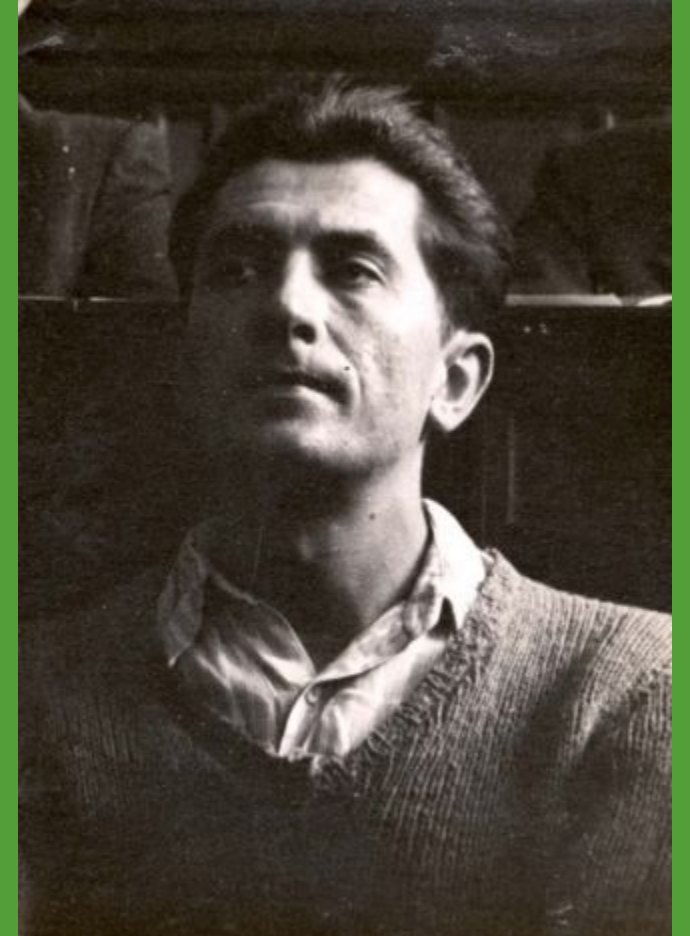


3. The Holocaust in Hungary

- "In the holy name of Christ! Fire!"



Father Kun



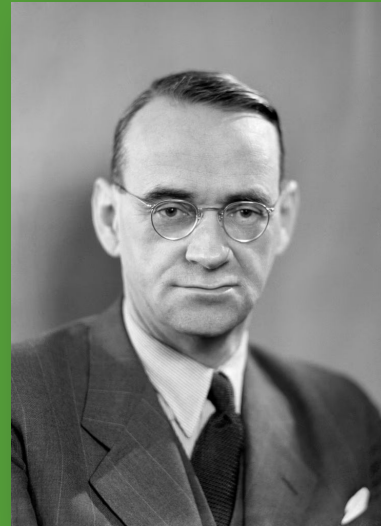
András Kun

3. The Holocaust in Hungary

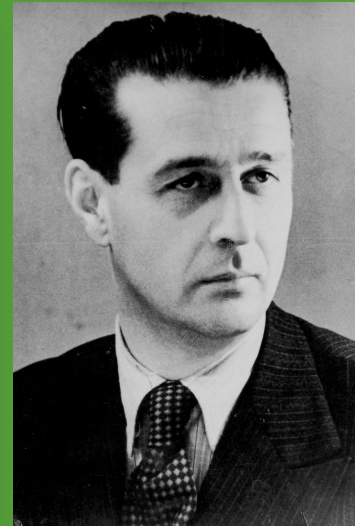
- Rescuers



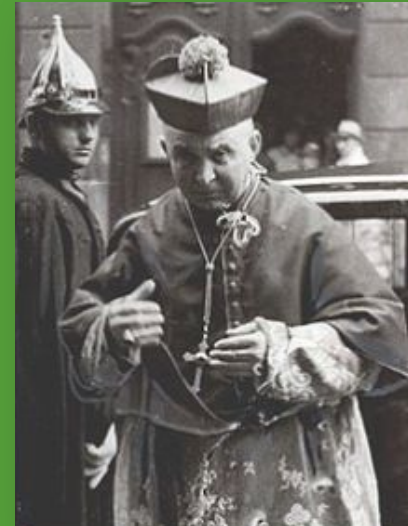
Wallenberg



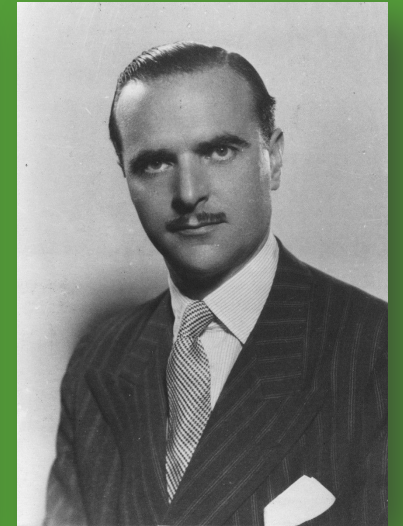
Lutz



Perlasca



Rotta



Sanz Briz

3. The Holocaust in Hungary

- Rescuers



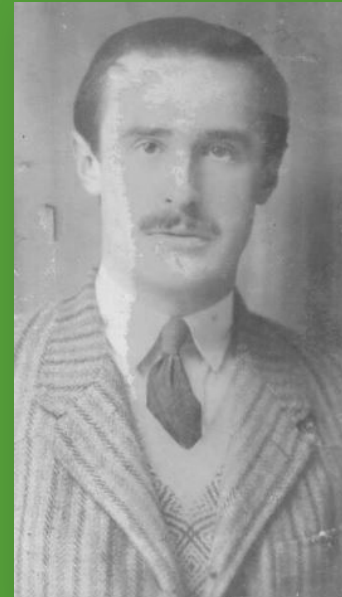
Slachta



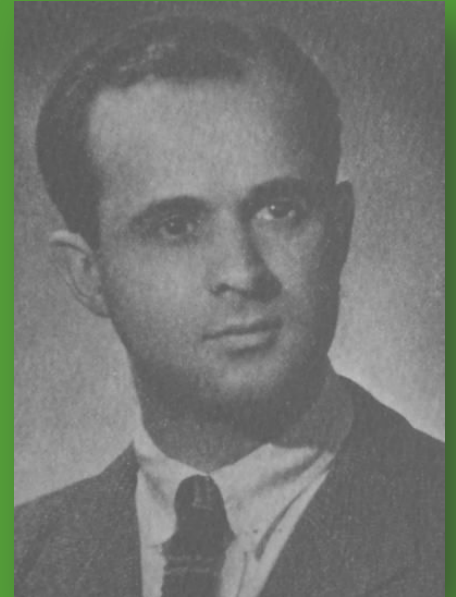
Salkaházi



Sztehlo



Ocskay



Szalai

3. The Holocaust in Hungary

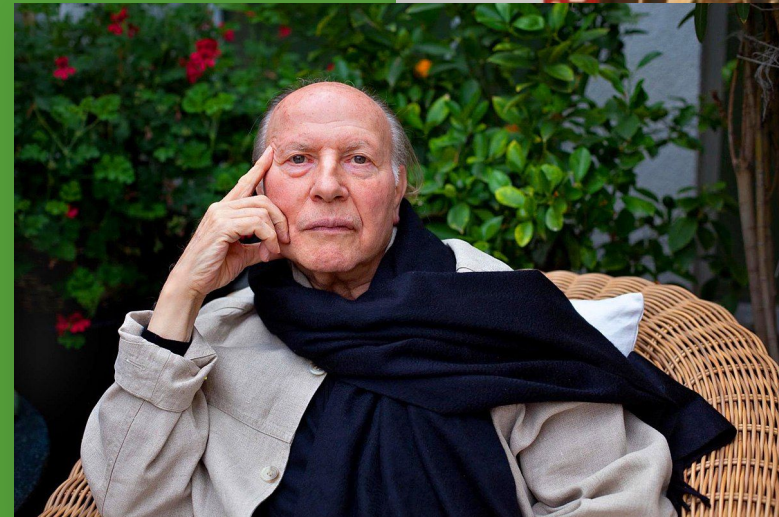
- Between 1941 and 1945, more than 500.000 Hungarian Jews were victims of the Holocaust.
- Every tenth victim of the Holocaust, and every third victim of Auschwitz-Birkenau was a Hungarian citizen.





4. The Aftermath of the Holocaust in Hungary

- "The Jews Are Coming Back"
- ...and those who stayed...
- Anti-Jewish atrocities in Hungary (1945-48)
- Emigration
- Aliyah to Israel (1949-53, 1990-)



5. Remembering the Holocaust in Hungary

- Memorials
- Institutions
- Memorial day(s)
- March of the Living
- Field trips / Study tours
- The National Pedagogy of Memory Programme



5. Remembering the Holocaust in Hungary

- Controversies in remembrance
- A memorial dedicated to the victims of the German occupation
- Memorial plaques
- House of Fates



5. Remembering the Holocaust in Hungary

- Memorials
- Institutions
- Memorial day(s)
- March of the Living
- Field trips / Study tours
- The National Pedagogy of Memory Programme
- NGOs



80 years after...



- “Daddy, imagine, I am standing here in the Parliament and in my speech, I am recalling what happened then. In the Parliament, in which the Jewish laws were born, with a kippah on my head (...)” - Chief Rabbi Péter Kardos, 2024