



INSTITUT FÜR HÖHERE STUDIEN  
INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES  
Vienna

## PUBLIC LECTURE

**Zsuzsa Csergő**  
Queen's University

### "Historical legacy and current patterns of minority political integration in Central and Eastern Europe"

Monday, May 30, 2011, 17.00 pm  
IHS, Stumpergasse 56  
1060 Vienna, Lecture Room SZ VI

In the process of "Eastern Enlargement," the European Union created arguably the most densely institutionalized minority rights regime in any region in the world. Although the specific forms that minority-friendly politics should take were not mandated, a broadly shared expectation emerged that "Europeanization" would lead to better minority accommodation in the new member states, and eventually to increased minority integration at various levels of democratic governance in the EU framework. Instead, minority political integration remains an increasing challenge throughout the region. Despite the high political salience of the issue, however, we know remarkably little about the patterns of minority political integration and exclusion. Much of the available comparative scholarship focuses on policy changes (primarily in the framework of EU membership conditionality). This project develops a bottom-up approach to political integration, exploring the ways in which various kinds of minorities "inhabit" political institutions. The lecture will focus on a particular aspect of this variation: the way historical continuity claims serve as institutional resources for current minorities in new member states in Central and Eastern Europe.

**Zsuzsa Csergő** is Associate Professor of Political Studies at Queen's University in Canada. Her research addresses questions of nationalism and "Europeanization" in Central and Eastern Europe. She is the author of *Talk of the Nation: Language and Conflict in Romania and Slovakia* (Cornell University Press, 2007). Her articles have appeared in *Perspectives on Politics*, *Foreign Policy*, *Nations and Nationalism*, *East European Politics and Societies*, as well as other journals and edited volumes. She has held a Fernand Braudel Senior Fellowship at the European University Institute in Florence, Italy (2006), and received research grants from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, the American Council of Learned Societies/Social Sciences Research Council, and the Institute for the Study of World Politics in the US. Csergő serves as a Vice President of the Association for the Study of Nationalities and Associate Editor of *Nationalities Papers*. During the 2010-11 academic year, she is a guest fellow at the Institute for Advanced Studies (IHS) in Vienna.