



OTTAWA 2023

64TH WORLD STATISTICS CONGRESS



IPS 280

The Hundred Years Old Hungarian Statistical Association: Women's Roles in the Society

Eva Laczka, Ph.D.

HSA/HCSO

Wednesday, 19 July 2023, 10:00AM-12:00AM



Motivation

- *HSA's 100th anniversary*
- *Women's role in Statistics*

Outline

- *History of the HSA in a nutshell*
- *Successes and failures*
- *Women in Statistics in Hungary, roles in the Association*



The Roots



- **1825** – *Hungarian Academy of Sciences established*
- **1848** – *National Statistical Office was set up (for the first time)*
- **1860** – *Committee on Statistics (within Hungarian Academy of Sciences) established*
- **1867** – *National Statistical Office (in the form a ministerial department) founded*
- **1871** – *independent Statistical Office established*
- **1894** – *Hungarian Economic Association founded (as Department)*

The Milestones



- **1922** – *Hungarian Statistical Association (HSA) established*
- **1949** – *HSA terminated by the government for political reasons*
- **1960** – *the HSA joined the Hungarian Economic Association*
- **1990** – *HSA became an independent Association again*



The HSA between 1922-1949



- *Development of the operational and legal bases*
- **Issues in focus:**
 - *Economic Statistics*
 - *Methodology of National Income Statistics*
 - *Hungarian Agricultura, Agricultural Statistics*
 - *Population trends in Hungary*
- *In the 1940s, due to the war the activity was minimized*
- *In 1949 – due to political reasons – the operation of the HSA ceased*



The HSA between 1960-1989



- The HSA joined the Hungarian Economic Association (HEA) as a Department
- Issues in focus:
 - *Methodology of representative surveys*
 - *Compilation of input-output tables*
 - *Living standards in Hungary*
 - Comparisons with EU countries

Between 1960-1989 the Statistics Department within the HES enjoyed a very high degree of autonomy!

*„The crown diamond of the HEA has fallen out”
(HEA president)*



The HSA between 1990-2020



- **1990** – *the HSA independent again!*
- **Issues in focus:**
 - *Statistical challenges, transition to the market economy*
 - *Employment Statistics, macro-statistics*
 - *Access to the European Statistical System*
 - *Improvement of Statistical Culture*
- **2004** – Hungarian Code of Ethics adopted
- **2005** – V6 group of national statistical societies (*Hungary, Austria, Slovenia, Czechia, Slovakia, Romania*) established
- The HSA joined FENStatS, IFCS
- *Close cooperation with the Croatian Statistical Society*



Statistical Culture



- **2016** – *2 day Conference with the Partium University in Nagyvárad: „From Fényes Elek to the European Statistical System” ~ a study volume published*
- **2017** – *Joint Conferences with the Óbuda University (how to fall in love with Statistics, Statistics that permeate our lives, etc.)*
- **2010s** – *series of programs in the OpenAir (village) Museum in Szentendre*



OpenAir Museum Szentendre



Families are working on Statistics



Skanzen's main street



The Most Successful Events



- **Series of Conferences with the Óbuda University**
 - *Role and use of Statistics in different fields of Sciences*

- **OpenAir Museum (Skanzen) Programs**
 - *Statistics Library, statistical publications, usefulness of Statistics, role of statistical data in our life*
 - *Quizzes for families, adults and children*
 - *How to use statistical data in practice*



Women in Statistics in Hungary



- **19th century** – *the majority of Statisticians came from professionals in geography and jurisprudence*
- **Nowadays** – *the majority of Statisticians possess economic degrees*
- **1884** – 135 employees worked in the HSO, not a single women among them
- The number of women among Statisticians began to increase very slowly
- **Currently** – *proportion of women in Statistical Organizations ranges between 70-80 percent*
- *The proportion of women in the Association is similar*



Women's Leadership role in Statistics



- ***Denis Lievesly (UK) was the first woman elected President of the ISI (2007-2009)***
- ***In Hungary – until now – 2 women have been appointed president of the HCSO (Vera Nyitrai; 1979-1989, and Gabriella Vukovich; 2010-2023)***
- ***I am the first woman elected president of the HSA (2016-2020), while I was Secretary General of the HSA for more than 10 years***
- ***The HSA has 8 Departments, of which only 3 Department are chaired by women***



Activities where women are most active



- ***Organizers of events, bilateral cooperations***
- ***Personal relations and communication with partners***
- ***Editors of jubilee, study volumes (greet Hungarian senior Statisticians) as well as methodological publications***
- ***But: not a single women was involved in the elaboration of the Hungarian Statistical Code of Ethics***
- ***Only 2 of the V6 presidents of Societies are women***



Conclusion



- ***Like many other fields of sciences, public administration, even Statistics have become feminized***
- ***The Leadership role of women is far behind their proportion in membership***
- ***It is especially true for senior managers***
- ***In the case of NGOs (which are elected posts) the situation is similar***

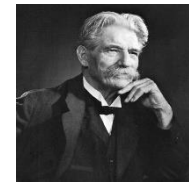


Some encouragement



*„The secret of Success is not the Happiness.
If you are happy you are successful too.
If you Love what you do, you are Successful and Happy”*

Albert Schweitzer





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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!



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