FAKE NEWS IN POST-MODERN SOCIETY
Prof. György Csepeli, Eötvös Loránd University (ELTE)
Prof. Istvan Muranyi, University Debrecen

The aim of the panel is to discuss the impact of false news on democratic public sphere. Revolt of the masses, loss of authority of the elites, disappearance of centralised mass media and user-driven content production will be singled out as constituents of the new public sphere settled on the internet.

The panel will include presentations aimed at describing trust and distrust in online and offline media and the causal relationship between authentic information and democratic processes (behavior, attitudes). Another topic to be discussed will be the digital disadvantage of several social groups hindered by social, cultural and economic inequalities resulting in susceptibility to fake news.

The emergence of fake news in the new technological eco-structure of the public sphere will be interpreted in terms of disinformation aimed at gaining dishonest political influence and promoting mass political behavior of undemocratic nature. Democratic public sphere will be shown as the major means of maintaining democratic political culture. Members of the panel will be expected to present empirical research reports that examine the fight between false and true political news in post-modern society.