

Hadtudományi Doktori Iskola

THESIS BOOKLET

Péri Márton's Ph.D dissertation titled

Samuel P. Huntington and the US Navy

Huntington about the American maritime strategy in the early period of the Cold War

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Introduction

Samuel P. Huntington published his article in 1954 in the *Navy Proceedings* which developed a system out of the maritime strategic concept of the 1940's that had never been put into writing before. The author, a then 26 year old young scientist, who defended his PhD in 1951 at Harvard University and became an assistant professor at its department of Government and became widely known with his first book „*The Soldier and the State*” and was considered one of the leading authorities in the second half of the 20th century in the field of military strategy, sociology and politology. The special curiosity of the article that the 12-page article is still particularly respected within the *US Navy* and a large part of the officer staff regard it as a classic of the service. At the same time the writing is practically unknown at other fields of science where otherwise Huntington is well known thanks to his other works. This early piece of the young Samuel P. Huntington addressed the Navy that had just recovered from the shock of the postwar disarmament and interservice debate. Its success can be seen from the fact that it is frequently quoted by specialists, experts and politicians and there are some who even consider the writing amongst the naval classics, with the works of Mahan and Corbett.

Identification of Research Objective, The actuality of the Research

In many ways this only twelve-page article of the Harvard scholar is unique. It is exceptional because Huntington never after dealt exclusively with the affairs of the *US Navy* on the strategic concept level. In his works on military-civil relations, military strategy or national security, he might referred to the service but always as part of the US defense force. It is also special because it might be taken as the first of his far reaching intellectual ‘hits’ reaching a wider audience which were followed by other books and articles in several fields that earned his reputation throughout his career. It was never linked to the author’s other works, although it was written just three years prior to “*The Soldier and the State*” one of Huntington’s greatest acknowledged success, what is more, almost in the same field and seven year before the another book that dealt with the field of military studies, “*The Common Defense*”. No one has ever studied why the article attained such fame in the naval service, and why it was forgotten elsewhere, why, in fact, the author seemed to have forgotten about it although he carefully traced the reviews of his works and filed them systematically at Harvard or why the article does not resurfaces in his researched correspondence.

Nonetheless, the article, its publication and the message it conveyed raise questions that, in fact, have never been addressed. In spite of all respects the article received from commentators or experts it has never been analyzed thoroughly and in a detailed way. The text appeared in the official journal of the *Navy*, the *Proceedings* from a scholar, whose academic background was already solid, but the basic

academic expectations in connection with such a writing were not respected by the writing. Although Huntington quotes several authors, makes references to other books, articles or speeches the references were not supplied to the article. The same format appeared in later republished versions and, seemingly, no one ever commented on the missing references. It needs to be remarked that Huntington never published any scholarly article throughout his more than five decade long career neglecting the basic rules of academic publications, he was a first class scholar.

Today, seventy years after the long interservice competition within the US military, the beginning of the cold war when a lot of, at that time, confidential documents are more or less freely available it is still difficult to clarify how certain events took place, what their motivations were, how they were modified by political issues, etc. Huntington's article, strictly speaking, deals with the role of the *Navy* in the post-War world, but as it is revealed in the text itself, it is closely related to the very sensitive questions of National Security, the problems of joint military strategy and that of the *Navy*. The officially never published opinion among scholars expressed in private discussions is that Huntington worked on the topic, probably at Brookings Institution or at Harvard then, as he did not find a journal that would have been interested in the writing approached the editors of the periodical *Proceedings* as the writing's topic was already overlapping with the scope of the publication.

Nonetheless, the discovery of the two text variants of the article, both of them properly annotated, might allow alternative explanations. The longer one, around thousand words more than the finally printed version, is a pre-print galley and uses the fonts and layout format of the *Proceedings*. As if the article was already prepared for production, then was withdrawn for some reason, but not leaving any trace in the records of the journal. To create such format with the technology of the age was a lengthy process and required a lot of efforts. So to discard the invested time and effort needed an important reason. The shorter variant that almost entirely corresponds with the finally printed one was found with references as scholarly articles always do, so the find refutes the theory that the article was made without them. All these details might prompt the reader, to some extent, to doubt, the narrative that a young researcher who had so far been dealing with the otherwise intricate world of American political life, and federal defense policy and expenditures started a research on naval strategy. The 26 year old researcher, without any prior special knowledge about the *Navy*, dived into a very sensitive topic, by reading mostly freely available journal articles and congressional hearings then coming to a conclusion that accidentally overlapped with a naval strategic concept that was based on highly confidential materials and documents, including top secret American war plans.

Research Objectives

- a. The description of the American maritime strategy concept's evolution and its development in the first ten years of the Cold War with the help of the newly discovered documents.
- b. The research of the question how Huntington's article related to the American maritime strategy in the beginning of the Cold War.
- c. To offer the detailed analysis of Huntington's article as a relevant document from the point of view of defense and security studies as important conclusions can be drawn for the development of the given American approaches to defense policy.
- d. The research of the highly influential role of the think tank, *Brookings Institution* in the formation of the American military, especially naval, strategy as this activity of the institution has not been known to experts.
- f. The dissertation intends to present Huntington's article, or rather its effects in the current American naval documents and in the writings of naval experts proving this way that the writing has preserved its timeliness and its perspective has still strategy forming influence.
- g. Clarifying the above questions the author beside the research results of the dissertation wishes to propose how the human capital accumulated within the Hungarian military services could be utilized within the framework of a research institute or think tank in order to make academic work more efficient.

Hypothesis

1. The dissertation intends to prove the hypothesis that the content, timing and the circumstances of Huntington's article suggest that the writing was not the sole effort of the young Harvard scholar but he served governmental objectives when writing down the strategic concept of the *US Navy* and applying the national security and political recommendations of the Eisenhower administration as the framework for the naval service. In this work he was aided by the serious military, intelligence and planning expertise accumulated in the *Brookings Institute* as well as the knowledge and experience of specialists like Elliott Yandell, expert at *NSC*, who was his doctoral supervisor and chair at *Government Department* at Harvard where Huntington worked before, during and after his stay at *Brookings*.

2. The other part of the hypothesis is that the evolution process of Huntington's article might provide an insight into the American military strategy making procedure in which the military and civilian participants received back-to-back tasks. The strategic answers given to emerging challenges, risks and threats were preceded by careful political and social preparation that persuaded the public on seriousness and scale of the threat thus the different groups of society more easily accepted the military preparation after the long and exhaustive war. The tasks entrusted to Huntington might have had confidential elements which can provide an explanation to the question why the Harvard scholar mentioned his article only once in his other works after having published it in the *Navy Proceedings* although he must have been informed about the popularity of the article within the *Navy*.

As a reasoning of the two parts of the hypothesis it is important to underline the fact that Huntington's early life and carrier has never been researched. Information concerning what kind of influence he came under at the beginning of his academic career at Harvard and *Bookings Institute* (1952-53) is practically unavailable as his correspondence, just like other documents in connection with his period, which could provide important details, practically are missing from the archives. The dissertation's research has identified experts within the *Brookings Institution* who possessed serious expertise in the field of foreign, military and naval affairs, and also had a long history of strategic planning experience. It can be supposed that they had the opportunity to assist Huntington in his task writing the article in some way so directly or indirectly might have influenced the finally published *US Navy* article. This piece of detail is especially important because the *International Study Group* at *Brookings* was led by Leo Pasvolosky, who had profound experience in forming national and international policy. He worked as the personal international advisor to president Roosevelt, had the rank of deputy secretary within the *State Department* till 1945 then after 1945 he returned to *Brookings* creating *ISG*. One of the planned researches desired to deal more detailedly with the topic of international security. Their trainings became so successful that the Navy and the CIA requested a cooperation with the institute in order to discuss security questions.

Huntington received his MA diploma at Chicago University in 1948 and continued his doctoral studies at Harvard University, under the tutelage of William Yandell Elliott. Even before submitting his PhD thesis Huntington in 1951 became a teaching instructor at the Government Department, chaired by the same Elliott. The young academic necessarily came under the impact of his doctoral supervisor's view on national security, as the primacy of national policy over service needs is greatly emphasized in the article. In fact, the timing of the article might suggest the same as it was written a year after the findings of the Rockefeller Committee were made public and a few weeks after the report of the

Committee on Organization of the Department of the Navy were published, both documents dealing with organizational issues affecting the *Navy*.

Research Methodology

a. Micro and Macro Analysis

The main objective of the research is to thoroughly analyze Huntington's article, identify its sources in order to put it into its context, examining the historical, political background. While doing so the integration of the newly discovered text versions into the study of the writing will be offered so that light can be shed on the numerous questions surrounding the work. As the venture is manifold it requires a multidisciplinary approach.

Previous studies, if they ever mentioned the article, exclusively concentrated on the two unique results Huntington arrived at, on the one hand how Huntington identified the three main aspects of strategic concepts and how he distinguished certain periods of American history in connection with the role and strategy of the Navy. Interestingly further explanation of the article has never been offered. As the article has not been researched in details so far, a close reading of the piece is attempted to identify his sources, direct and indirect ones, as well. As he certainly worked from classified documents that were impossible to be named or even refer to this scientific method can very well result in properly distinguishable links that help to identify his sources. This micro analysis will focus on the text level of the article and will hopefully provide assistance in understanding the text in its whole entirety as it has never been attempted.

b. Comparative analysis

The approach of comparative analysis is planned to be applied in order to relate the article to Huntington's other writings, the writings of naval experts he mentions as the sources of his piece and some works written by the specialists of the *International Study Group* at the *Brookings Institute*. This type of examination has not been performed on the authors' works especially not on his articles or books written in the 1950s'. Such an analysis can reveal how the 1954 article dealing with the strategic posture of the U.S. Navy relates to Huntington other works, what ideas he might have also used in his other writings. This research seems to be especially reasonable as the author himself later practically never (only once) referred to the article that is even today called and quoted as seminal.

c. Terminology research

As Captain Swartz mentions the term "*strategic concept*" which seems to be applied in the naval context in a special way. It was rather often utilized by Huntington in the 1954 naval strategy article and the term

has been used since in the US Navy in this special sense that is unique among the military services. For this reason a terminology research is suggested in first in the works of other naval authors' then later in Huntington's other journal articles or books in the field of military studies in order to see a probable development of the term in these other writings, and whether Huntington used the word in a relatively similar context elsewhere. A similar terminology research is suggested on the articles of the Proceedings to see whether the occurrence of the term can really be linked to the Harvard author.

d. Technical analysis

The galley pre-print version of Huntington's article has been discovered recently in the course of present research. This technology was used to print the final versions of articles and books as it was costly and labor intensive. Its appearance with a non-final version looking of the writing raises several questions in its content, its layout and its relation to the final version of the text. To appropriately address these issues technical information needs to be analyzed concerning the printing technology used for such galley that prints. Consultations with a printing engineer has been scheduled who is experienced in this already phased out technology, not in use since the early nineties, in order to understand better the information that can be gained from the galley version of the article.

The conclusions of the dissertation's chapters

The direct sources of Huntington's article

In the international literature it has been the first time the articles that served as Huntington's sources have been presented. The research has shown that several parts of the strategic concept written down by him had existed previously as it was remarked honestly by the author. Some of the writings have attained reputation amongst scholars and naval experts on their own merits, some will certainly do . These writings also can considerably contribute to the understanding of the maritime strategy without they would reduce the significance of Huntington who was able to use these sources and write a coherent, tightly organized and well balanced piece, which still has a broad spectrum and uses simple language thus making his article understandable and easy to follow for those both within and outside the Navy. Naming and analysing these sources can be an important step forward in the process that hopes to place Huntington's writing in literature and within Huntington's oeuvre in its due place as well.

National Policy and the Transoceanic Navy, 1954

The thorough and detailed analysis of Huntington's article, together with the examination of the article's galley version found among Huntington's manuscripts seem to have shed light on some interesting points. The content of the article appears to be related to the maritime strategy developed after WWII within the Navy and the work done at Brookings in the group of Pasvolsky. The first ever offered analysis of *NWP-10* might also show similarities between the research fields and style employed in Brookings and its content might be easily related to a source Huntington used. The date of the Harvard scholar's article and *Naval Warfare* appears to be no accident either, both documents can be linked to the efforts of the Eisenhower government to reform and re-organize the military establishment in the 1950's.

The Brookings Intitute

The chapter intended to provide a so far unknown facet of American efforts to meet the new postwar requirements in the field of foreign affairs in terms of new political direction as well as training qualified personnel who were able to realize the freshly defined national interests in the area. Brookings Institution actively participated from 1945 in the task and as a part of foreign policy they dealt with military affairs. It has been presented that the institution certainly accumulated special expertise and had a high representation of former naval officers as experts who could very well provide the Harvard scholar assistance in writing the article. Thanks to their efforts in the field of foreign policy the Mediterranean received intensive American attention that has not altered since. It was also proved that the work method used at Brookings, the "*problem papers*" and their collective discussion that accompanied them can indicate that any study prepared there were the result of common efforts. Huntington's role and task at the Institution will need further research to find out exactly what project or projects Huntington worked there and whether Brookings and its experts contributed to the Transoceanic Navy article in any form and if yes to what extent.

Elements of U.S. Navy Strategy before WWII.

The U.S. Navy throughout its hundred-seventy-year history till 1945 followed a course, in terms of its size and strategic stance that was designated by security environment in response to the challenges the country was actually facing. As a draft document in the Samuel P. Huntington personal archive, most probably the draft plan of the book *The soldier and the State* says it, the WWII was the ideal conflict for the Navy, for which they were preparing for more than forty years. In many ways the Japanese were the ideal enemy and the *US Navy* prepared very well. After having defeated the Japanese and the much

smaller German navy the American service lost its *raison d'être*, it had no enemy in sight. To reason its existence it urgently needed a new enemy, against whom they needed an appropriate strategy.

The way towards a new naval strategy

The Navy's unwritten maritime strategy that was fought for in the period during 1946 and 1952 was somehow lost among the intricate interests of the more and more complicated interservice, national and international relations. Based on Huntington's article it might have had two major reasons, one of them was the failure of ascertaining recognition of the strategic concept as a discrete element of the national strategy probably partly because unification process subordinated the Navy's world view and made it disappear in the mass of the armed forces. Another cardinal reason can be the fact that it never received public support, as Huntington remarks it, like the moves of the Air Force that enjoyed a celebrity status at the time that made sure it found favor with politicians at the time of important decisions. As it was mentioned above, the Navy had always been a closed, if not a bit of a recluse service and Sherman did not do enough to break out of these limitations although as a CNO he became much more vocal concerning the *Navy's* intentions as a DCNO and recognized the importance of preparing the public for a maritime strategic concept independent of the war plans.

Current Perception of Huntington's Maritime Strategy

Three important writings were selected from the available large number of examples from various naval writers and experts, nonetheless, several other pieces could have been selected. Three documents were presented to illustrate the fact that Huntington's writing is still adaptable and adapted to the reality in which the *US Navy* is active and responds to its tasks. They have shown that Huntington's work after sixty six years is still regarded as a source of inspiration for naval authors and naval authorities and serves as a reference point when new directions are looked for the service. Although technology has changes fundamentally, strategic stances may have been altered, the relevant national policy has been modified several times, even the major adversary has long disappeared and new contenders seem to have been appearing on the horizon but Huntington's writing always provides stimulation for strategists in every circumstance.

The result of the research

The dissertation intended to deal with one of the early works of Samuel P. Huntington, one of the most important social scientists, military theorists in the United States on the second half of the twentieth century. As his life and especially his early writings have not been analyzed the research had to proceed on “uncharted land”. Mostly unpublished archival materials were used from the Samuel P. Huntington personal archive, the *Hoover Archive* as well as from the Archive of Columbia University.

1. After the detailed analysis of the period’s security and defense political processes as well as the careful research of the presented and detailed archival documents it can be confidentially stated that the first part of the hypothesis has been proved. It can be said in the sense that the young Samuel P. Huntington at the time of the writing of the article did not possess the necessary expertise so the completion of the task at so high level can be imagined only if he was aided by an expert or experts. Based upon the longer text version found in the archive of Harvard University it has been proved that the explicit objective of the writing was the popularization of the *Navy Department* but this detail was not included in the final version. It can be stated that Huntington was serving governmental purposes with the article and he had to receive some external help for its completion.
2. For the verification of the second part of the hypothesis the foreign and security political activity of the Brookings Institution in the field of education has been presented as their engagement in the persuasion of the broader public took shape in training sessions for the support of the government plans. Publications of the institution that served very similar governmental purposes e.g.: the emphasizing on the importance of the Mediterranean for the American public were also analyzed. As Huntington’s immediate colleagues at the institution have been identified and their works have been analyzed as well as the detailed examination of Huntington’s article it has been proved that the writing properly fit into this profile of the institute.

Based on these findings the objectives of the research have been fulfilled in the following way:

1. Based upon archival and other primary sources, as well as referring international and Hungarian literature the American naval strategy and its development after WWII have been detailed. The details and its results are crucially important because the Biden establishment is trying to draw important conclusions from this period for the creation of the future naval and even joint strategies as several mentioned initiatives have already indicated it.
2. The careful analysis of Huntington’s writing, along with its sources and their comparison to the postwar naval strategic concept has proved Palmer’s remark that Huntington wrote down an already existing but confidential naval strategic concept.
3. The dissertation has analyzed first in the international literature Huntington’s article in its whole entirety and offered explanations concerning its newly discovered footnotes and longer text variant. At

the time of writing confidential materials have been presented along with the capstone document, NWP-10 as well as other governmental documents, with their help it was possible to find the place for Huntington's article in the postwar security environment.

4. The *Brookings Institution* and its foreign research group the *ISG*, where Huntington worked 1952-53, have been presented from the perspective of their goals tasks and work methods first in the international literature. The dissertation successfully identified the direct colleagues of the young scholar at the institution and with the analysis of their career and writings thus it can be stated that within the walls of the institution there were military themed researches,¹ and several of the colleagues had military and naval or military planning experience so the expertise needed for the completion of Huntington's article was available.

5. In the last chapter of the dissertation the current reception of Huntington's article is presented from the 1960's till today. It has been proved that whenever the US Navy was searching for a new strategic way Huntington's offensive strategic concept was to be found among the sources used by experts and strategists or even was regarded as the point zero when defining the future of the naval service.

6. Among the recommendations of the dissertation one suggestion was made concerning putting the think tank structure used at Brookings into practice in Hungary. I have put forward a proposal to a research institute setting where retired members of different military services together with civilian experts would work together to meet the raising security challenges, risks and threats.

New research results

1. I have found Samuel P. Huntington's article „*National Policy and The Transoceanic Navy*” annotated version which has not been known to the international research community. It proves that the references exist in spite of the fact that the article has always been published without them since 1954. The newly discovered text variant has been analyzed and its place within the oeuvre of Huntington has been defined. I have also proved that this early writing is already security and defense policy focused and it is the result of a complex approach.

2. From the available external sources and Huntington's correspondence I have proved that the young author did not possess the military or security policy expertise and experience needed for the completion of the article but several such experts worked in his immediate environment in the Brookings Institute

¹ Contrary to the information received from the senior librarian of Brookings, Sarah Chilton Sarah Chilton, July 23. 2018.

and the Harvard University who were counted amongst the best such experts at that time in the USA. This way it has been presented how important in such research institutes is to have experts from several fields of science and from the military services who would work together.

3. With the help of the newly identified direct and indirect sources I have proved first in the international literature that Palmer's assumption was right,² concerning his remark that Huntington as a civilian put the postwar naval strategy into writing as he had not been bound by the traditional secretive heritage of the service.

4. Using the researched archival documents I have proved that the *Brookings Institution* also took part in the establishment of the new security and defense policy system from the one hand strengthening the American foreign policy and from the other hand taking part in the development of the national maritime strategy.

5. Analyzing the reports and recommendations of the Rockefeller and the Gates committees I have remarked first in the international literature the possible connection between the topic of these documents and Huntington's article. This way I proved there were concrete governmental requirements for a stricter civilian control of the military services to which Huntington's article provided an appropriate answer in its topic, timing and conclusions.

6. I have proved with the presented and analyzed documents the current acceptance and timeliness of Huntington's writing in the third decade of the third millennium in the strategic thinking of the *US Navy*. This is especially timely as the more and more active "great power competition" might turn the USA military towards a new naval strategic concept, even a new maritime focused military strategy for which, as I have proved with the examples, Huntington's article is to be used as a vital source to turn to.

² Michael A Palmer, *Origins of the maritime strategy: the development of American naval strategy, 1945-1955* (Annapolis: Naval Institute Press, 1990), 37-38.

The applicability of the research results

1. In the field of historical research: The research sheds light to an important segment of the history of American maritime strategy. Serious studies have been prepared about the development of this strategic thought within the naval service, now this and similar research in the future might indicate that the investigation should be extended and governmental efforts should be analyzed in terms of looking for governmental desires to determine or at least influence the mission of military services at the time. The possible involvement of the personnel of Brookings Institution where several State Department veterans worked in the formulation of maritime strategy might show that government officials also paid close attention to the strategic evolution of the naval service.
2. Further studies on the life and works of Samuel P. Huntington might use these results to provide a better understanding of the Cold War through the life of one its key American theorists.
3. In the field of strategic planning: The popularity of Huntington's article since the naval reform during the Reagan administration has been undisputable among naval experts and officers, some even mention him as a naval classic, together with Mahan and Jomini. Whenever the U.S. Navy has encountered a difficulty in the last decades that involved a question concerning its strategic concept, the some naval planners reached back to this writing. The discovery and analysis of the annotations can contribute substantially to a better understanding of the writing and the political and military environment when it was written.
4. As the research has been recognized on international level it might open new areas before Hungarian scholars or a cooperation with international institutions. Sebastian Bruns the Head of Center for Maritime Strategy and Security in the Institute for Security Policy at Kiel University in Kiel, Germany expressed his intention to have further and closer cooperation. A similar and close relation has been formed with other well-known experts of the field, like Peter Swartz, John Hattendorf, as well as Randy Papadopoulos from the Navy Department, from which other researchers or the National University of Civil Service and the Hungarian scientific life can profit. At a webinar run by the Naval War College-ben³ the idea was raised to set up a network of European experts of maritime affairs in which Hungarian specialists would be expected and the first conference would be organized in Budapest.

Recommendations

³ *Bridging the Straits III: "The Maritime Strategy of the 1980s: History Looks Ahead"*, *Bridging the Straits* (Naval War College, 2021).

The research has dealt with a little known period from the life of Samuel P. Huntington. The investigation has provided a special insight into this politically and military extremely intensive era through the lens of the maritime strategy. Most probably other periods from the Harvard scholar's life would be similarly rich and replete. Probably this opulence in details has frightened scholars away so far to attempt writing his biography. Nonetheless, the scientific community is greatly indebted to Samuel P. Huntington for his scholarly contribution to social sciences, politology and military strategy, the deep and detailed research of his life and oeuvre could greatly improve to understanding of the second half of the twentieth century in connection of these fields. Such a volume could also reveal important connections between academia and political life, the industry and military services, a complete picture of American intellectual life.

The dissertation has dealt with a period when very important political decisions were made that influenced the international balance of power in the long run. A lot of people who came into the scope of the research are relatively unknown in spite of the fact that they contributed to the history of the USA and important international organizations after WWII. Further research into the life and works of William A. Reitzel, Charles J Moore, William Yandell Elliott, or Leo Pasvolsky surely can contribute greatly to the history of the Cold War. A Hungarian link can be the research of the role in the history of the Cold War of John Lukacs. Especially because he came into contact with Robert Strausz-Hupéval, and Stefan Possony who both had some Hungarian family links and both played an important role in the early stage of the Cold War. To some extent it falls outside of the scope of the dissertation but the role of John von Neumann should be analyzed in the field of security studies and military planning as his name was mentioned in connection with his negotiations with admiral Wylie and his contribution has not at all been discovered.

Among other things the adaptation of the organizational structure of the Brookings Institution where civilian and military experts cooperated would be beneficial for Hungary for both the political and scientific life either in one of the already existing research institutes or at a newly established think-tank. In this way political leaders could receive practice oriented expert opinions that can examine affairs not only from a theoretical aspect but starting from a practical perspective they could further widen the perspective the already high standard theory focused analyses.

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He received his diploma of Latin language and literature from ELTE BTK in 1994. He received his diploma from History at the same institution in. He obtained his diploma of teaching English language from BDTF in 2000. In 2005 he received an MA diploma in European Studies and Global Affairs from Università Sacro Cuore, Milan.

He studied twice an academic year abroad, once in 1992 in Coventry, UK, and in 1998 in Namur, Belgium.

He has been teaching English, as well as works as a translator and language examination expert since 1993. He has translated several books that were published by Európa Kiadó, Egmont, etc.

From 1999 to 2001 he worked in Coimbra, Fátima and Alcanena, Portugal as a language teacher. He has been forking at PPKE ITK since 2002, in 2017 he became a master teacher. He teaches English language courses.

From 2003 to 2009 he worked at TIT as a language teacher and also as a language examination expert. He was one of the developer of the language examination system iXam, the first Hungarian computer based examination system.

Since 2009 he has been an examiner of NKE Institution for Civil Service Training in the field of foreign and security policy. Since 2010 he has been an expert and grant assessor of Tempus Public Foundation in the field of public, vocational and adult education.

In 2016 for three semester he taught English, American history at KRE BTK at the Institute of English Studies.

He speaks English, French and Portuguese, reads in Latin and Spanish.