

ACTA NUMISMATICA HUNGARICA

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JOURNAL OF THE HUNGARIAN
NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

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Foreword

The Hungarian Numismatic Society is turning 118 years old this year, and indeed, it has experienced many changes during its more than a century-long existence. Thanks to its devoted members and leaders, it has been operating continuously, and although with varying success, it preserved our predecessors' legacy. And in the name of the members of the Society, perhaps I may say without immodesty that we managed that legacy well. Our home that we owe to one of our onetime members, still exists with renewed and modernized furnishing, although not in the exact same apartment. Our library, consisting of 1200 volumes in 1907 when we acquired our own seat, has evolved into a specialized library of more than ten thousand volumes, operated by a professional librarian. A numismatic researcher, colleague and later director of the Coins Collection at the Hungarian National Museum, Ödön Gohl (1859-1927) launched the *Numizmatikai Közlöny* in 1902. Ever since, it has been published regularly, as the exclusive scientific journal of Hungarian numismatics. Publications regarded fundamental even today were published as appendices of the journal, such as *Newer commemorative medals of Budapest* by Ödön Gohl in 1905, or *Count Miklós Dessewffy's Barbaric Coins* also by Ödön Gohl in 1910. *The 10th-century dirham hoard from Huszt, Máramaros County* was published in two languages (both in Hungarian and in English) by Alkszej V. Formin and László Kovács in 1987. And let me mention a few of the Society's independent papers published in the last few decades, for example the supplementary work of Ferenc Soós, "The inscriptions and arms of Hungarian coins" achieving two editions (1999, 2014), or the Hungarian version of Viktória L. Kovásznai's foreign-language article, *Chapters from the history of Hungarian medallic art*, published in 1999. As well as *The Pantheon of Hungarian numismatics* edited by Ferenc Soós in 2010, which is practically a small lexicon. For the centenary of our existence, Hedvig Ábrányi Baloghne wrote the history of the Society with the contribution of Ferenc Soós.

The information revolution emerging at the end of the 20th century by the spread of digital technology provided a new challenge for our organization. Although the time of printed publications is not over yet, the demand for a faster information, easy accessibility, and not least for a significantly cheaper publishing has brought this online journal to life, the main purpose of which is to provide a possibility to publish larger amounts of materials. Younger members of the Society, who – understandably – apply digital technology on a daily basis, collaborated to bring this new journal to life, so that information about new finds, researches, and results may be shared faster and with more and more people interested in the topic. Besides shorter articles and publications of archaeological materials, longer studies – especially if they also demand the publishing of images – are also welcome in the journal. We would preferably publish these studies in English, so that the journal may also become part of the international circulation, and therefore Hungarian research results and especially the archaeological material would be accessible to anyone interested in numismatics.

I hope that our newly started online journal will please our readers, and it will prove useful to both professionals and the wider audience interested in the topic.

Melinda Torbágyi

President of the Hungarian
Numismatic Society