

# Attila Borbély

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## Eastern martial arts in Hungary

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## Sztuki walki w kulturze sportowej Węgier / Martial Arts in sport culture of Hungary



Dr Attila Borbély, *shihan* kenpō i zasłużony węgierski judoka, napisał interesujące studium historyczne o przemianach w zakresie organizacji i percepcji sztuk walki na Węgrzech.

Fot. Pani Borbély, shihan A. Borbély i W. J. Cynarski podczas konferencji w Rzeszowie, 2003 r. (fot. K. Obodyński)

Attila Borbély is a present Member of the Hungarian Olympic Committee, Member of the Board of the Hungarian National Sport Federation, President of the Hungarian Baseball and Softball Federation. He used to be a member of the Hungarian National Judo Team in the early seventies. He is a black belt master in Judo, in Kick-box and in Kempokarate. He was the Senior Vice-President of the Hungarian Judo Federation between 1989–92. He was one of the founders of the Eastern Martial Sport organizations in Hungary in the late sixties and early seventies. He used to work for the Hungarian Youth Sport Organization and he was the leader of the Hungarian Trade-Union Sport Organization until 1990. He established the Hungarian Leisure Sport Association in 1989. As a co-author in 1991 he had wrote an encyclopedia on the Eastern Martial Sports with a title of „On the Way of Samurai's ”. Since 1990 he has been a businessman. At present he is the Chairman and CEO of the Hungarian daughter of a multinational insurance company dealing with legal protection and sport insurance business. He is an economist, a politologist, an MBA who has university doctorate in political sciences, as well. He is a guest speaker at the Semmelweis University; at the University of Economic Sciences and at the Szolnok College of Economic Sciences.

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### Eastern martial arts in Hungary/ Wschodnie sztuki walki na Węgrzech (First experiences of a questionnaire kind of survey made with Martial Arts sportsmen)

This paper is fundamentally a historical overview on the judgement of the Eastern Martial Arts and on the philosophy of the Eastern sports in connection with the change of regime in Hungary.

This paper is based on a documentary analysis. Some important sentences and statements referring to the answers given by about 500 Martial Arts active sportsmen in Hungary dealing with karate, kick-box, kendo, kempo or judo is included in the second part.

Key words: sport politics in Hungary, change of regime, sport economy, eastern martial arts

#### **Transformation of the Social Status of the Eastern Martial Arts in Hungary**

Eastern Martial Arts were made to run the gauntlet during the last fifties in Hungary. I believe, there is no doubt that the Martial Arts have important educational influences, although these were often labelled as dangerous, mystical or awesome- because of their origins.

There is no necessity to speak about the relational-ethical-philosophical-historical background, how it impressed the youth and participants in the different decates. First we have to analyze the political-social circumstances in the various historical periods to attend and know the value of the status, changes of this status, modes of actions of the Eastern Martial Arts in society.

#### **The Relationship Between Sport and Society in the Socialist Hungary of the Fifties**

After the Second World War because of the military and political division of Europe the Soviet sphere of influence, so called „Eastern Block” came into existence.

The communist-socialist policy announced Marxism-Leninism basic principles and dogmas, and used them in the leading policy of the country. This kind of policy was of the opinion that the one-party system is above all.

Hungary was strictly separated from the Western countries, the firstly symbolical than the real building of the Iron Curtain meant total isolation, voluntarist economic policy, and the absoluteness of belonging to the Soviet Union.

The construction and functioning of the social-economic structure were under the ideological, constitutional and cadre-political influence of the Communist Party. Mátyás Rákosi's famous and ill-famed, totalitarian communist dictatorship copied the Stalinist Soviet Union punctually in the Carpathian area.

The communist, Marxist-Leninist ideology fundamentally left its mark on the culture, on the controlling of different activities. The socialist culture according to the Soviet model considered common people, Mitsurinist-Stahanovist best performing heroes of worker class as ideals, models for the youth.

Sport meant a special part of culture. (*Földesiné-Gy., Szabó: „...after the Second World War, the state of the so called „Eastern Block” that came into existence In Eastern Europe, in some respects sport worked beyond its own values: it was used as a tool for reaching special aims both in internal and foreign policy” ...*)

The main ideological enemy of young socialist countries was the Western society, the “parasitical and decaying” capitalism with all of its diseased symptoms.

As a result in all kinds of sport the main purpose was to defeat the „enemy” on sport fields, in the World Championships and the Olympic Games proving the superior quality of the estate of socialist society. Leadership of the party and the country treated sportsmen who bring honour for Hungary as the great heroes of the nation. They got special treatment, advantages, not speaking about the high State Prizes and „Hero of the Socialist Work” acknowledgements. Even smaller and bigger evasions of customs were overlooked for them, but for these normal citizens got serious imprisonments. They smuggled watch-springs, nylon tights and raincoats in several suitcases and these allowed them a living better than the average.

Trips abroad were almost impossible because of the Iron Curtain, they were possible only for privileged people. One way of rising from common socialist life was top sport. Sportsmen could travel-together with continuous supervision of secret police- they were able to do businesses, manoeuvre just like the top sportsmen of the wounded up German Democratic Republic (abbr. GDR.), the Soviet Union, or even the socialist Cuba which exists even nowadays. The former famous Hungarian soccer team called „Golden Team” who defeated even a football team of Great-Britain and was the best football team of the Century; László Papp, boxer who was an Olympic Champion three times; our water polo and modern pentathlon teams; fencers or wrestlers met with several successes and they were bywords for the socialist success during the fifties in Hungary.

### **The Situation of Martial Arts during the Fifties**

Within the scope of sport non-armed martial arts were in a special situation.

Fencing as an armed kind of Martial Arts was a privilege for the former high life society and the best fencers of the fifties were the ones from aristocratic children in spite of wrestlers and boxers. They were representatives of the working-class and poorer strata and were able to rise from these society classes. Among boxers gipsy young people appeared in a great number. They possessed exceptional abilities, they had the makings of martial arts and at the same time were kind of young rascals although their education was sometimes hardly above the level of illiteracy. In spite of this they could perform the best as boxers in the ring [Földesiné, Gy. Szabó 1983, p. 2]. *“...Between 1948–56 the number of sportsmen with worker origins is higher than the number of those, who belonged to the working class. This agrees with that historical fact, that the laying of the grounds of the socialist kind of physical culture began in 1948...”*

During this period of time Eastern Martial Arts appeared only through judo in the Socialist Hungary. Even the names of karate, aikido, jiu-jitsu were unknown. Judo was the first within organized bounds to win its half official acknowledgement [F. Galla 1962, p. 3].

The establishment of the Hungarian Judo Association took place in 1952. The education of judo began first of all at associations and clubs of the Ministry of Interior and served as policemen's self-defence education. The governmental power was afraid of the Martial Arts and also of the non-armed self-defence that was proclaimed dangerous. It was greatly feared that criminals, suspicious elements who were dangerous for the Socialist society, members of the opposition can study these special techniques and use them to destroy the Socialist power. The police and the internal counter-espionage regularly visited trainings, checked the coaches, kept an eye of the championships and those who participated in them.

Beyond military and internal sport associations judo slowly spread in more and more sports clubs and at universities. The Budapest Károly Marx University of Economic Sciences and the Budapest University of Technology soon followed the „Újpesti Dózsa” and the „Budapest Honvéd” and established their own judo sections. At the College of Physical Education –beyond wrestling- judo trainers' education started under the leading of Ferenc Galla, former wrestler than judo champion, and a PE teacher. At the same time we have to mention the MTK and Spartacus Sports Clubs where the education of judo and making competitions also started [Gy. Lévai 2000, p. 4]. „...*The year 1953 is very important in the history of Hungarian judo. The Judo Social Association that functioned within the borders of the National Social Heavy-Athletic Association organized the first official championship on 1<sup>st</sup> March 1953. ...*”

The strict Communist dictatorship could slowly accept judo that grew up on the origins of Eastern culture and used decisively Japanese expressions though at the beginning it belonged to a prohibited category, and to the middle of the fifties it got into a partially tolerated category.

### **The Situation of Sport After the Defeat of the 1956 Revolution**

The expressions of "people's uprising", "revolution", or "civil war" were all used for the classification) of the events in Hungary by historians, social scientists, and researchers. Independently from the used name they are all on a common platform in connection with the fact that the people's uprising was evoked by the Soviet occupation, non-controlled communist dictatorship and the difficulties of life. The people's uprising that all together took only some weeks and it was defeated by the Soviet troops, leaders of resistance were either executed or imprisoned. More than a thousand hundred Hungarian citizens emigrated and escaped from Hungary.

Political events effected sport at all levels. During these effects the Olympic Games were held in Melbourne, in the far Australia, "down-under" where the Hungarian team reached a great success as usual. Many of the members of the delegation did not come back to the country after the Olympic Games because of the non-secured future and they involuntarily chose a new country for themselves.

Ferenc Puskás, Zoltán Czibor, and Ferenc Kocsis who were the most famous and new olympic champions of football went to Spain to begin a new life there. Several other successful sportsmen chose the USA, South-America, or even Australia.

The new communist leadership represented by János Kádár's name was a follower of a softer kind of dictatorship although it cruelly revenged the participants of the events they named as counter-revolution.

At the same time this leadership believed in the importance of supporting and taking sport onto social basis, and found sport as a good tool of the socialist education. [L. Kutassi, 1981, p. 5]. "*...The social functions of Physical Education and sport have been determined. In connection with these studiously the health, educational-social, entertaining, economical, political, and scientific functions.*"

Several social and mass organizations dealing with sport started their functioning. Among these organizations (*so called "KISZ"*) the Hungarian Communist Youth Organization was extremely important. The Trade-Union sports movements and the Hungarian National Defense Association which decisively became an important base of military types of sport like- shooting, aviation, parachuting, radio wave managed sports, modern pentathlon, and riding.

The most important leading principles in these kinds of circumstances were the successful international representation of the socialist Hungary and to prove that Socialism is above all. Most of the top sportsmen and champions did sports in military and internal sports clubs and got such advantages that were not possible to be given them by other sports clubs. Top sportsmen

entering into regular troops service compulsory had to change their sports club and had to perform at championships as the members of the Budapest Honved or other Honved Sport Clubs. Those, who were join up as border-guards had to do sports in the "Dózsa Sport Associations" under the supervision of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

During the seventies Hungarian socialism was characterized as the "most funny barrack of the socialist camp" that really meant a relative welfare and a limited level of freedom which was at the same time recognizable.

Although the Iron Curtain was still existing, citizens could reach the world step by steps but even better and better. More people could get passports and using them they could travel to the Western countries. To tell the truth only those people could manage their trips who possessed enough amount of foreign currency. The late sixties and the early seventies meant a great breakthrough and it made possible for new cultures and new norma to appear in the Hungarian culture, sport, and society which were almost hermetically closed till these times [T. Hámori, 1996, p. 6].

### **Eastern Martial Arts brake down the Borders of Socialism**

The partial opening of the borders, the increase of travels, the return of some '56 emigrants brought the possibility of cognition of the Eastern Martial Arts in Hungary. The Bruce Lee-cult, karate movies and the spreading of video technology in households caused sudden breakthrough in that Eastern Martial Arts became acquainted [Borbely, Jover 1991, p. 7].

The political and sport-political leadership which became more liberal picked up Eastern Martial Arts from the previously "strictly prohibited" to the "tolerated" category. The Hungarian Communist Youth Union firmly embraced and handled the Eastern Martial Arts as effective youth educational tools which taught discipline, self-command and persistence. Gyms were filled with Hungarian juveniles who participated at real and self-appointed masters who used Japanese, Chinese, Korean expressions. Several thousands became the followers –almost from minute to minute- of the mystical, strenghtened and confident giving karate, kendo, taekwondo, and aikido. Going to dojos, wearing judogis and karategis –even on the streets, repeating Japanese words, watching karate movies and reading special literature on the topic became really popular [J. Koncz, P. Galambos, P. Kira, 1982, p. 8].

Clubs established one along with university and employment support. Different kinds of sport federations were established which tried to integrate themselves into the Hungarian competition system and sport structure.

Naturally different business interests appeared and the competition started between clubs, associations, trends and divisions.

Usually the different styles and trends belonged to some famous masters' doctrines. The domestic followers advertised the exclusiveness of their own styles, on several occasions criticized other masters' methods.

By the middle of the seventies-despite big difficulties- relative and temporary peace setting between the Hungarian representatives of different schools became successful, and among the others with the active participation of the writer of present study, established the Hungarian Association of Martial Arts which integrated shotokan, kiokushinkai, taekwondo, all style/ kick-box, kempo, kung-fu and other Eastern Martial Arts.

Later some of them established independent associations again, but with an essential ripen sport political and economic activity's experience.

The real economic competition had set off between the different styles for more course students, participants. Numerous, huge international competitions and performances were organized in Hungary with the participation of world-famous style establishers and representatives. Master Oyama, kempo master called Imre Harnos who had Hungarian origines, and also Vlado Schmidt who became famous in our Southern neighbour – country [G. Kurdi, 2003, p. 9].

More and more World and European Championships, World Cups were organized in Hungary. The participants who added success to success and bore witness to bravery, fighting ability and insistence. The Eastern Martial Arts reached their recognition and justified their sport professional and economic reason for existence at the big family of sports by the and of the eighties. The previously prohibited, later tolerated sports has been modified to the category of the support.

## **The Change of Political Regime in the Hungary of the Nineties**

The change of regime came unexpected and non-awaited for the Hungarian society. An average Hungarian citizen could never imagine before that some time in the future the Soviet influence would disappear from the country. Nobody believed that the Soviet troops would ever leave Hungary and the country would become one of the members of the (*North Atlantic Treaty Organization*) (abbr. as) NATO.

The possibility of joining the European Union seemed also to be a futurist thing, but the historical situation developed in an other way. The perestroika, glasnosty, and the unexpected collapse of the Soviet Union created a totally new situation in the "Eastern Block", in those countries which were behind the Iron Curtain before.

In spite of the disapproval of the Soviet policy Hungary opened its Western borders and gave the possibility of escaping for the former citizens of the GDR to the land of freedom.

It meant a great and important step in the promoting of the union of the two parts of the present Germany, and in the acceleration of the Hungarian democratic processes.

Internal politics underwent important changes, too. The situation gradually took shape in the second half of the eighties when the opposition could appear that functioned half illegal till those times and the multi-party system was also established.

The Hungarian Socialist Party took the place of the former Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party and this new party only partly took over its ancestor's ideology and political platform. The opposition established its own political organizations and parties. The parties of the Hungarian Democratic Forum, the Young Democrats, the Free Democrats, the Christian-Democratic People's Party, the Social Democratic Party, the Hungarian Party of Justice and Life, the Workers' Party, the Small-Holder's Party came into life and we mentioned only the most important ones.

The conservative right-wing won the first democratic elections with an overthrowing majority. At the beginning of the nineties began the change of regime in the form of a coalition government. The former governing party, the Socialist Party of the left wing appeared in the Parliament as opposition. For the Hungarian politics and economy there were several painful and hard results because of the change of regime. The name of unemployment was hardly known before but the level of it suddenly grew up, factories were closed up, and ten thousands of workers were dismissed. Trade unions and other representations of interest lost much from their strength. They were believed as the harmful reminders of Socialism. The structure of society was rearranged, priorities and tool systems changed.

Several former public subsidies disappeared in more areas and the movements of the market economy could gain. Privatization started simultaneously with the inflow of foreign capital into the country. At the same time polarization of the Hungarian society began.

Entrepreneurs became rich during a few years and the process of the primary capital accumulation of the 20<sup>th</sup> century also started. Small and middle enterprises, forced and joint ventures were established very fast. Growing poor of a wide class of the society began-at the same time a narrow class was growing wealthy. The social class of the well-to-do citizens which would be the strong middle class of the Hungarian society did not come into life and still missing from the Hungarian society structure. [R., Andorka, 1997, p. 10]. "...*The changing tendencies of the social structure-like the middle class' moving down, the appear of a wide class of the poors and a narrow class of elite of power to move into the direction of neither the society of East-America, nor Western-European society...*" Joining the European Union hopefully makes the conformation of citizenry and the social realignment faster.

Culture and sport stopped functioning as the most preferred areas of the Hungarian development. The pressure and necessity of market economy could even reach the Hungarian sport life. [Földesine, 1996, p. 11]. "...*The former model of sport collapsed by necessity, but sport- in spite of the many losses its areas had to face-could keep its ability for functioning, which is an important fact and achievement looking at the given circumstances...*"

### **The Situation and the Role of Sport After the Change of Regime**

The system of state sport institutions could partly keep its former socialist kind of structure. The Hungarian National Sport Office with a leader in the position of State-secretary on the head of the office kept the sport institutes under control and possessed a nationwide official function.

Sport associations could keep their former status in the society but their state financial support greatly decreased. The Hungarian Olympic Committee directed the professional preparation of the Olympic sport branches and could achieve a special status for itself among the different institutes of society.

The right wing coalition government of the first four years election period after the change of regime suffered a shocking defeat at the 1994 elections. Meanwhile the Hungarian Socialist Party discovered itself and led the Left, then created a coalition government with the Federation of Free Democrats with an absolute majority in the Parliament.

The sport department came under a socialist leadership simultaneously keeping the status of the Office directed by the state-secretary.

The partial privatization of sport continued further although the liability of clubs grew very fast. Many people were not able to manage their social insurance obligations.

During these times those clubs and sport courses which functioned within the borders of private enterprises became extremely over-estimated. These clubs and courses could support themselves and finance their expenses using the collection of subscriptions [L. Laki, M. Nyerges 1996, p. 12].

Eastern Martial Arts belonged to these sport clubs because those who practised the different types of karate, who participated in courses organized by either judo or aikido clubs could visit programs on the strict basis of business. They paid the not-to-cheap subscriptions and bought the necessary sport equipment and uniforms for themselves.

Beyond judo, taekwondo appeared first at the Olympic Games in Seoul and became a permanent part of the games, that is why its national popularity grew a lot.

The elections of 1998 brought a new turn in the Hungarian political life.

On this occasion and perhaps for a change the left liberal government coalition was defeated. At the same time suddenly and non-awaited the Young Democrats' Federation strengthened. This Party was the leader of the Right wing and could get the governing position.

Sport got into the scene of political life maybe for the first time since the change of regime. Sport increased the tool system of the new government.

The Ministry of Youth and Sport was established this year, it was originally planned but never realized by the socialists.

The new Ministry gave a higher status for the society position of sport. The Prime Minister-he was also a sportsman- dealt with questions and tasks of the Sport Ministry with high importance and looked at the sport successes as good tools for governmental purposes.

The Hungarian team succeeded again on the occasion of the Sydney Summer Olympic Games and the Government of that times used this kind of new popularity for the sake of itself and did with pleasure and tactically.

The elections of the year 2000 brought a new non-awaited turn. The former governing coalition of the right-wing was defeated and the left-liberal side came into power again. The sport department could keep its Ministry status, even its function was completed with the representation of children's interests beyond the youth's interests it dealt with before.

The ministers and state-secretaries who managed the leadership of the department came from the determining socialist politicians.

The sport politics of nowadays has an influence on the self support and the decreasing amount of governmental support. The state believes its main task to be first of all the education of replacement, the establishment of healthy lifestyle and to give all of the necessary conditions to realize them.

In the opinion of the leadership the financing of top sports and competitions can be managed by partial sponsorship simultaneously with its own resources.

### **The Current Status of Eastern Martial Arts**

It is indisputable that the Eastern Martial Arts nowadays infiltrated to the universal Hungarian sport structure and achieved the status due to them.

They proved their economic capability for living, because thousands of young and middle aged people practiced the different styles of gyms, cellar- clubs and dojos.

From the fifties the prohibited category is almost unknown, first it became a tolerated, than a supported category. Almost all styles produced its economic manager, business entrepreneur.

Perhaps it is not by an accident that the general vice-president of the National Sport Federation that functioning as the most important social institution in sport life is the president of the Hungarian Karate Association, one of the vice presidents of the federation is the president of the Hungarian Kick-Box Federation, members of the presidency also include the president of the Hungarian Judo Association, and in fact the author of this article, at the same time he is the president of the Hungarian Baseball & Softball Association contributing to this distinguished corporations successful activity as judo and karate master.

Not only the professional system, but the philosophy of the Eastern Martial Arts became accepted by the Hungarian society after the change of regime, that advertised and carried democratic values.

The instructions, life philosophies and nature studies of the Eastern wise men became more and more popular, and well-known. The secret is out from the mystery. Reality took new shape in the diligent and resolute training and success-orientated competitions.

The Hungarian representatives of the Eastern Martial Arts could take their honored place in the international sport life. Our Hungarian competitors could gather a hundred world champion prizes in various kinds of sport. At the Olympic Games our judo Olympic champion and the medallists of more silver and bronze medals enriched the reputation of Hungary. Development is still unbroken, the notoriety and acknowledgement of Eastern Martial Arts got a reason for existence, the work we presented until now was not bootless. In the scope of specialists' education approximately a hundred coaches got certificate at the Hungarian University of Physical Education, more hundred black-belt karate masters are to give their knowledge to the participants of courses.

### **Utilization and Possibilities of the Development of Talent Through Eastern Martial Arts Practising**

What do Martial Arts teach, what sorts of abilities are required to practise them and how can be they outcropped? First of all we have to lay down that a hardworking, purposeful, and a success-orientated personality is necessary for all kinds of the Martial Arts.

The system of Martial Arts is well-structured- after the acquirement of the bases, often using and considering the doctrines of Eastern Philosophy and zen-tenets, educates and trains the participants to achieve the higher and higher levels of the knowledge and use it practically.

During education the cognitions get transferred and those kinds of compensation mechanisms evolve in the personality which promote the feeling of being accepted and expediency to infiltrate. Those, who practise Eastern Martial Arts create special groups- because of the character of their sport.

Martial Arts breed ourselves endurance, to abide physical pains and greater both psychic and physical expenses. The influence of this can be recognizable in everyday life, several sportsmen who practise karate, judo, or kendo could assert themselves business, fill important vacancies at various national or regional institutions.

Eastern Martial Arts both educate and help us how we can keep and create our sensual and spiritual harmony. This kind of balance helps to sustain the changes and difficulties of life, solve important problems and critical situations.

The educational system of Eastern Martial Arts is one of the best tool for paddling abilities, this system helps to search identity, in self-realization by purposefulness, regularity, special kind of hierarchy.

### **First Statements of the Summary**

During the summer of present year I have started a questionnaire type of survey among Martial Arts sportsmen. In cooperation with the presidents of the different nation-wide sport federations I have issued about 700 tests. I have required 13+1 questions answered regarding Martial Arts.

In spite of that I am not completely ready with the final analysis of the above mentioned questing results, but let me publish my first statements about them to the professional readers.



1. Most sportsmen have got some kind of qualification grade with a colour belt. Naturally only few of them have only got black belt with a "master" title.
2. About 50% of them are under the age of 18 years. The youngsters are mostly secondary school students. The other part of the interviewed sportsmen are above 18 and about 35% of them are university or college undergraduates. The rest of the people have some kind of job, for example they are employees or private entrepreneurs.
3. About 30 % of the sportsmen started sport activity less then 5 years ago. Almost 50 % started it more then 5 but less then 10 years. The rest of them have been practising Martial Arts for more then 10 years.
4. Answering the question: why sportsmen have chosen Martial Arts- about 50% declared that he/she wanted to be strong and skillful. Only 10 % answered that he/she believed in Eastern philosophies.
5. I asked them about their purpose with the Eastern Martial Arts, and 50 % answered that they wanted to be fit or pretty, and to get endeared themselves to the other sex. 35% of them wanted to be successful contestant fighters for gold medals. The rest of the panel group were keen on the background of Eastern philosophies, ethics and religions.
6. About 60% of the panel group members declared that the Martial Arts sportsmen usually try to avoid the conflicts on the streets or at public entertainment places. Approximately 25% of them have been already forced to use his/her knowledge in unpleasant situations to defend somebody or himself/herself.
7. Most of the panel group members were supported by the parents, relatives, friends or schoolmates to choose Martial Arts as a leisure activity or top sport career.
8. 85% of the panel group declared that their view of the world have changed since they started dealing with Martial Arts.
9. Only 23% of the examined panel travelled abroad as a sportsman taking part in a competition or training camp.
10. About 55% have already read some kind of book about Eastern Martial Arts.
11. Almost 95% were able to list some movies they have watched about Martial Arts.
12. Answering the question: what the order of importance is among different human values there was a sequence as follows: honesty; reliability; deep meditational ability; excellent contact making ability; creativity.
13. The most popular and best known Martial Arts master is Bruce Lee upon the opinion of the panel group.

### **Summary**

It can be said that the Eastern Martial Arts have wondered on their successful ways and made several tens of thousand followers in the past fifty years. Secret agents and counter intelligence officers "self-defensive weapon" had become reachable for the ordinary citizens and with its sport courses it integrated into the everyday life.

Most of the Eastern Martial Arts practitioners are working within the scope of successful enterprises and achieved international recognition. Perhaps it is not by accident that the Hungarian president of the International Body Guard Association is a former karate master, and ever between the government guards units and the members of the guarding-defense organizations the determining are the Eastern Martial Arts masters.

The partial examination of the questionnaires presented that Martial Arts are going to be more and more popular among youngsters in Hungary. More conclusions can be analysed in details after I have finished elaboration of all the papers.

### **Further Steps, Opportunities**

Although the career of Eastern Martial Arts are undoubtedly success up to here yet we can not say that everything is all right and we have no more remaining tasks.

First of all it is necessary to acquaint, to understand and to popularize further on the Eastern philosophies.

Not unnecessary is the increase of the sport's financial and economic basis. Perhaps the most important is the youth education (replacement education) and the basic Martial Arts techniques attainment as part of elementary schools educational program.

It is a must to promote karate to get involved in the program of the Olympic Games, where taekwondo and judo have already been taken into.

It is necessary to emphasize the social aspect model, to change the still existing aversion and fear against the Eastern Martial Arts.

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#### Notes

1. The author in her paper have analysed the influence of the political transformation in Hungary focused on the sport. She declared that in the so-called post-communist societies the change of regime has made lots of specialities and difficulties in the sport life including the top sport, leisure-sport and student-sport as well.
2. The scientific research and examination showed the social status, parents background, education and motivation of the members of the Hungarian Olympic Team, in connection with the social equality in top sport between 1948–1976..
3. Judo was the one and only in Hungary in the early 50's, officially approved by the political power. Basically judo was studied at the beginning in the Army and in the Intelligent Service, belonging to and controlled by the Ministry of Interior.
4. From 1953, the judo has been more and more popular with some international results, and medals. There was a break-down, when the Sport Clubs at the Universities started to deal with judo.
5. The author has been declared the main functions of the sport in the socialist model, like political, educational-communal, economical, medical, scientific and entertaining. This functions were approved by the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist-Workers Party.
6. The sport was probably the first „opened window” turn towards to the „free-World”. The international connections with the „non-Eastern-Block” countries fundamentally started with the exchanges of sport-teams.
7. The authors studied and analysed the philosophy, traditions and popularity of the Eastern martial arts. They declared that the entertainments, movies, books and other mass communication tools have made a very strong influence for the penetration of that sports in Hungary as well.
8. The first Hungarian-written karate book introduced the so called „all-style”sport karate techniques and philosophy as well as the coaching methods. That book was tutored and checked by the author of this paper.
9. Lots of different styles has been introduced, managed and practised. Several different famous and less- famous masters arrived to Hungary to fund and teach his own style.
10. The very famous professor analysed in his book the status of the social structure and the change of it. Tendencies of the change showed that the polarisation of the former socialist society is absolutely far from the process of the North-American and the Western-European one.
11. As the author declared, the success of the Hungarian sport is continuous on international level, in spite of the difficulties. Hungary is one of the most successful nations at the Summer Olympic Games, even if the number of population is non-competitive with the large countries.
12. The authors made a study about the financial position of the Hungarian sport focused on the influence of the change from the paternalistic position of the State, facing the market economy.

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### Eastern martial arts in Hungary

**Key words: sport politics in Hungary, change of regime, sport economy, eastern martial arts**

The paper aims to analyze how the eastern martial arts have become independent, civil and operating sport organizations during the last fifteen years in Hungary, in spite of that they were politically controlled and partially prohibited during the socialism. In the first part of the paper the author gives a brief overview on the socialist sport model and sport politics behind that. He tries to reveal the factors which had made an influence on the judgement of the Eastern Martial Arts from the period of time after the Second World War till the end of the Socialism during the late eighties. In the second part the author deals with the effect of the economic changes on the Hungarian sport model. He discusses how the functions, the structure, the finance and the organization of sport have changed after the state had partly withdrawn from the immediate political direction of sport. The author examines how the Eastern Martial Arts were able to find their positions within the new sport system. Parallel with this how the reason for the existence of Eastern philosophy and ideology has been accepted by the above mentioned society. In conclusion, the author makes proposals how the values of the Eastern Martial Arts could be more and more spread and approved.

## **Wschodnie sztuki walki na Węgrzech**

**Słowa kluczowe: polityka sportowa na Węgrzech, zmiana reżimu, ekonomia sportu, wschodnie sztuki walki**

Tekst analizuje, jak wschodnie sztuki walki stały się istotnym elementem kultury sportowej Węgier ostatnich piętnastu lat, mimo, iż w okresie socjalizmu były poddane ścisłej kontroli, a ich uprawianie – częściowo zabronione. W pierwszej części autor przybliży skrótkowo model funkcjonowania sportu w epoce socjalizmu. Próbuje odpowiedzieć na pytanie, co spowodowało surowy „osąd” wschodnich sztuk walki w epoce od zakończenia drugiej wojny światowej do późnych lat osiemdziesiątych XX w.

W części drugiej opisane zostały zmiany, jakie zaszły w modelu kultury sportowej i fizycznej Węgier w okresie kapitalizmu wraz ze wskazaniem miejsca, jakie przypadło w nim sztukom walki o orientalnym rodowodzie. Jednocześnie autor zajmuje się kwestią społecznej akceptacji ich filozoficznych i ogólnokulturowych podstaw.