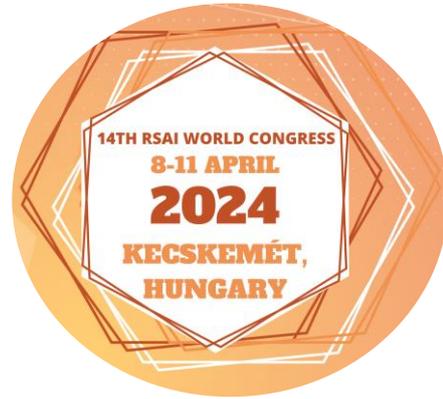


***Special Session (SS24) on:
300 years of Alföld and
modernization. The history of
Budapest as a function of
innovations.***



Organizer:

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The purpose and scope of the special session

The purpose of the section is to present the city of Kecskemét and the Hungarian Great Plain (Alföld), which is the location of the RSAI 2024 conference, using the tools of regional science. The Hungarian Great Plain (Alföld) is a large landscape with special features or a region with a specific economic and social development trajectory.

The Great Plain (Alföld) has been the site of the struggle between man and nature for centuries. The fight against desertification and floods is at the same time. Stopping the quicksand between the Danube and the Tisza and fighting floods in the Tisza valley was the biggest task. Adapting to climate change is one of the biggest challenges today.

During the 150 years of Turkish subjugation, most of the Great Plain was almost completely depopulated. Market towns with a large population were created during the period in line with the Turkish rule. Kecskemét became one of them. The lowland towns that became reformed became the sites of urbanization.

The areas outside the cities became frontiers, which had to be repopulated during the 18th century. In the 19th century, urbanization was made difficult by, among other things, property relations. The almost constant political, economic and social changes of the 20th century completely turned the life of the Great Plain (Alföld) upside down several times. One of the consequences of this was the continuous loss of population since the middle of the 20th century. Larger and smaller islands and cities of success stand in contrast to the reality of a decrepit or stagnant countryside.

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