

New developments and perspectives for the Hungarian Church of Scientology in the past decade

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NEW FIELDS IN THE STUDY OF RELIGIOUS
CHANGE IN CENTRAL-EASTERN EUROPE
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Partaking researchers

- Dr. Gábor Dániel Nagy – platform, the original question set, initial hypotheses
 - Melinda Adrienn Paizs – evaluation, cross tables, sample creation, data cleaning
 - Márk Nemes – reworked question set, evaluation of processed cross tables, comparative analysis
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The background

- 2008 – Study collection based on the „*Kultúra- és Valláskutatás*” project titled „*Vallásosság, változatok: Vallási sokféleség Magyarországon. Vallás a társadalomban*”
 - 2011 – Study collection by András Máté-Tóth and Gábor Dániel Nagy, titled „*Szcientológia-Alternatív vallás*”
 - Other publications:
 - Győző Lugosi – *Szekták, kultuszok, (már nem is annyira) új vallási mozgalmak...* (2017)
 - Réka Csáki – *A Szcientológia nemzetbiztonsági vetületei* (2018)
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The aims of the 2022 research

- Repeat the 2011 questionnaire
 - Elaborate on formerly inadequately explored questions
 - Critically analyze the 2011 survey's results
 - Compare the two datasets:
 - Uncover trends and developments within the movement over the last decade
 - Hypothesize future trends within the movement
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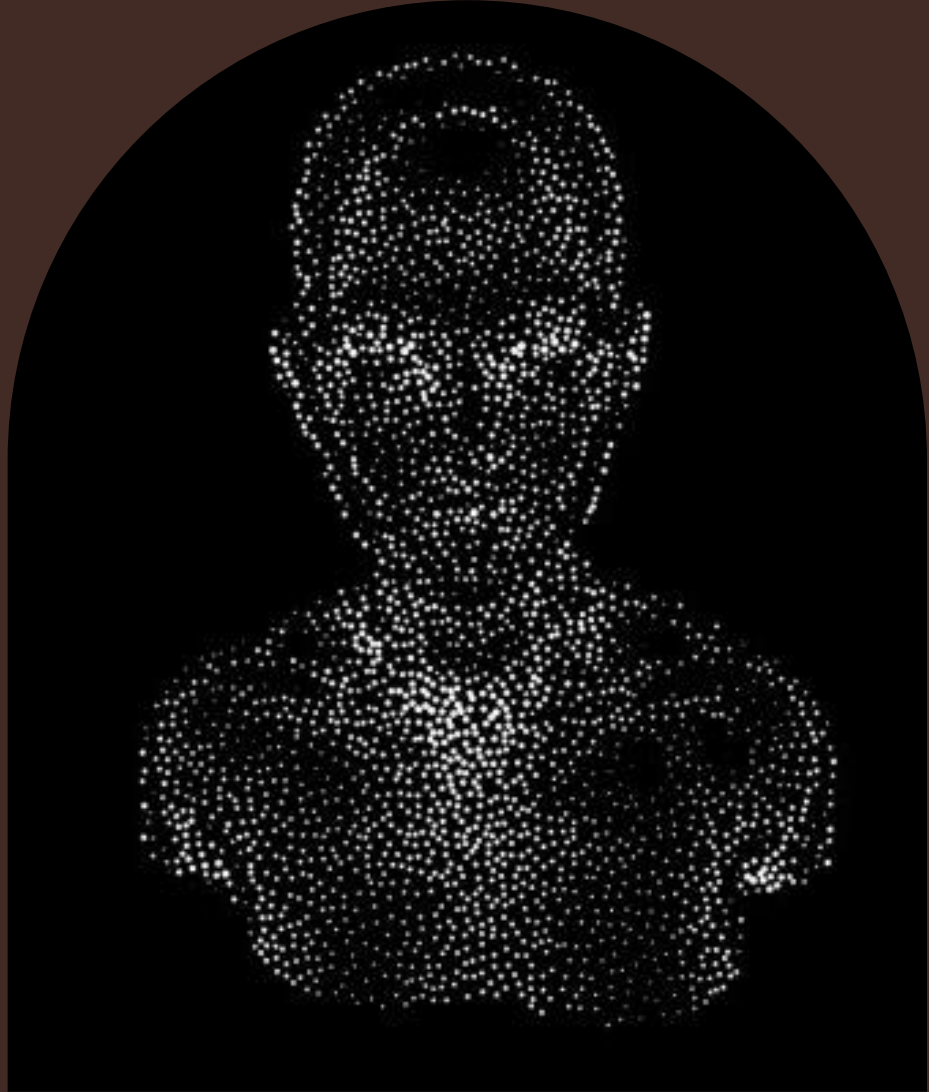
Main questions

- Demographic changes over the decade + reflecting on the reasons behind these changes
 - Value-system changes within the movement and their background
 - Embeddedness in Hungarian society ← partaking and activism
 - Attitudes towards the containing society ← based on Roy Wallis's tripartite approach
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Disclaimer

- Our findings are initial results and should be considered as such!
 - Research evaluation is not yet finalized (~40%)
 - Further considerations needed (local contexts, historical events, legal & societal changes)
 - Integrating findings of other researchers (such as Dr. Richárd Papp) for a clearer picture
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The „contour” of a Hungarian Scientologist in 2011



- Male majority.
- Primary age cohort: 35-40 years.
 - Younger than the Hungarian religious majority.
- More highly educated than the national average.
- Typically interested in natural sciences, informatics, and computer sciences, rather than humanities.
- Married with 2 children or unmarried.
- Great differences in income. ← unbalanced
- Majority active workers. ← minimal unemployment
- Greater number works in Scientology-related companies and in the Church.

Initial hypotheses for 2022

- It is possible to compare the two „contours” of a typical Hungarian Scientologist from 2011 and 2022.
 - Hypotheses for 2022:
 - No substantial changes between the 2011 and 2022 membership
 - Male majority
 - Organic aging of the age-tree
 - No substantial increase in new membership
 - Still higher than average education, with interests in empirical sciences rather than humanities
 - Higher levels of occupation and activity, a gradual increase of pensioners
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Genders

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Male	321	29,3	47,4	47,4
	Female	356	32,5	52,6	100,0
	Total	677	61,7	100,0	
Missing	System	420	38,3		
Total		1097	100,0		

Age mean

Genders:	Mean	N	Std. Deviation
Male	48,7844	320	10,66035
Female	48,4382	356	11,13902
Total	48,6021	676	10,90837

Age cohorts					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	20-29	36	3,3	5,3	5,3
	30-39	89	8,1	13,2	18,5
	40-49	235	21,4	34,8	53,3
	50-59	204	18,6	30,2	83,4
	60+	112	10,2	16,6	100,0
	Total	676	61,6	100,0	
	Missing	System	421	38,4	
Total		1097	100,0		

Residency					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	City	346	31,5	52,1	52,1
	Suburbs	61	5,6	9,2	61,3
	Town	176	16,0	26,5	87,8
	Village	71	6,5	10,7	98,5
	Farm.	10	0,9	1,5	100,0
	Total	664	60,5	100,0	
Missing	System	433	39,5		
Total		1097	100,0		

Religious & parental religious background



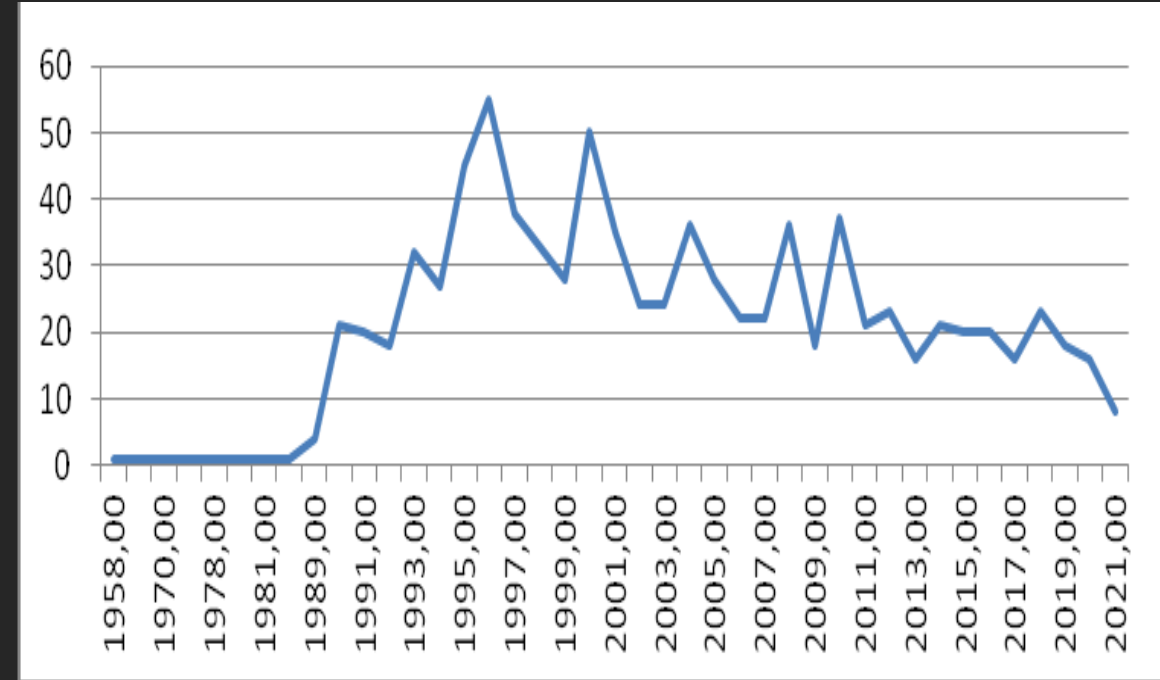
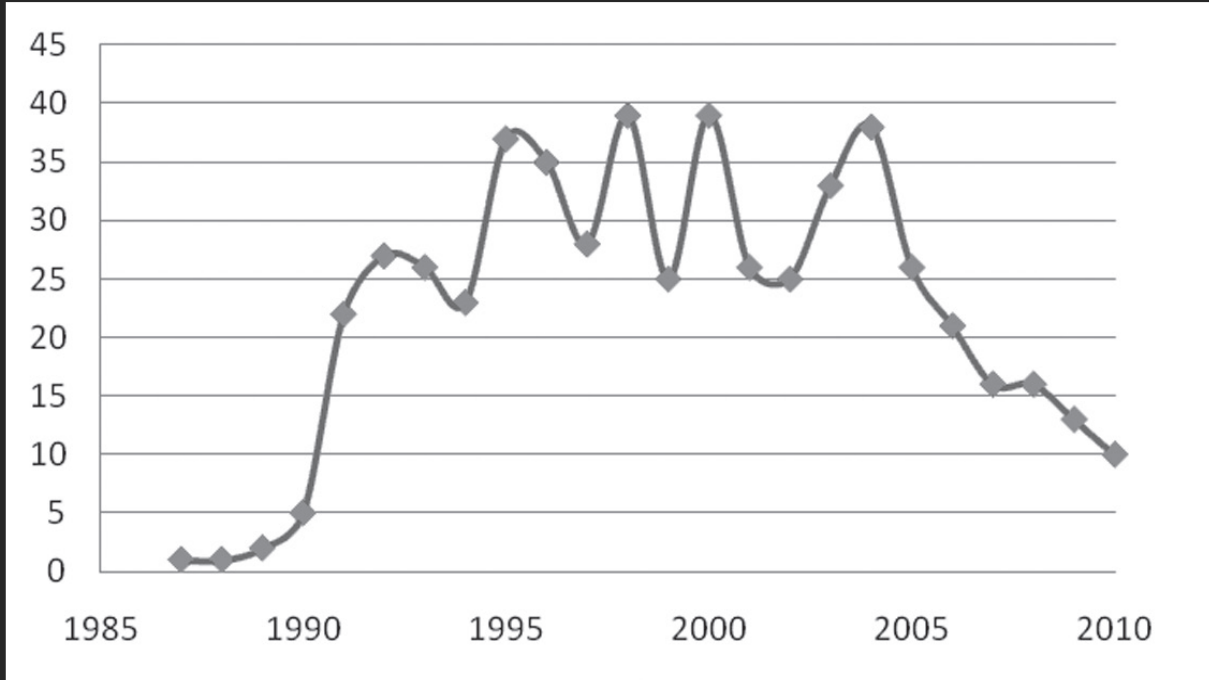
Membership durations

Membership duration

Gender	Mean	N	Std. Deviation
Male	18,1375	320	8,88871
Female	16,9690	355	8,10919
Total	17,5230	675	8,50139

Age groups

Age groups	Mean	N	Std. Deviation
20-29	8,4286	35	8,23652
30-39	12,0337	89	6,89606
40-49	16,9362	235	7,44095
50-59	19,4532	203	8,50344
60+	22,4286	112	7,06305
Total	17,5178	674	8,50664



Membership increase

Educational background ratios

Membership			
	Mean	N	Std. Deviation
Primary education.	12,0000	4	9,12871
Vocational training, vocational school.	17,1250	40	8,77113
Incomplete high school.	17,4000	15	7,69787
High school diploma, completed high school or equivalent.	17,7416	178	8,48998
Non-accredited vocational training for a higher degree based on a high school diploma, secondary technical school.	17,1961	51	9,11487
Accredited vocational training, higher technical school.	16,3721	43	8,26070
Unfinished higher education institution (college or university).	17,6607	56	9,92202
Bachelor's Degree.	17,5400	150	7,57037
Master's degree.	18,2222	108	9,00813
Postgraduate qualification.	15,1538	13	8,38497
Postgraduate or a scientific degree.	14,0000	4	10,09950
Total	17,4834	662	8,52329

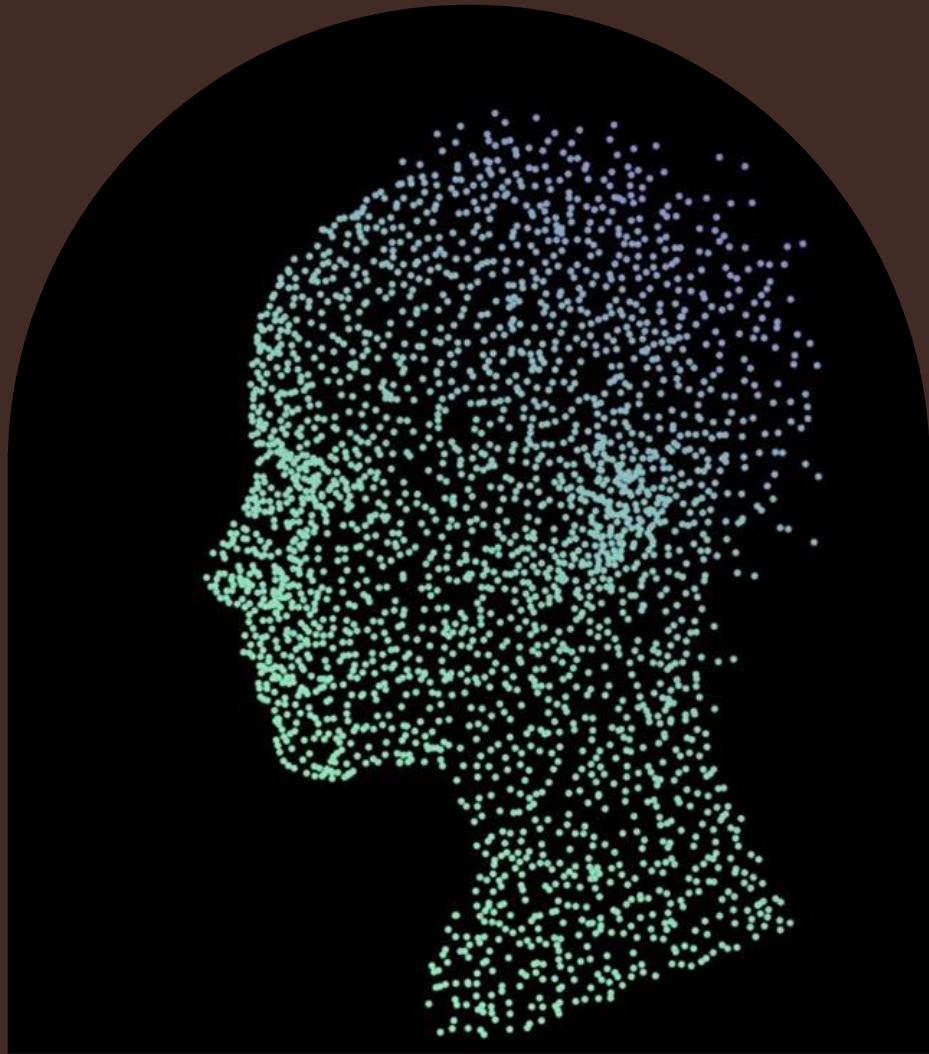
Fields of highest education

	Sex		Total
	Male	Female	
General, no specialized area.	12,0%	12,1%	12,0%
Arts - fine arts or applied arts.	2,2%	5,5%	3,9%
Humanities - linguistics, Latin and Greek, literature, history, theology, foreign languages, etc.	2,5%	5,2%	3,9%
Technical and engineering, including architecture and design, industry, construction, etc.	36,3%	8,1%	21,5%
Agriculture and forestry.	4,4%	3,7%	4,1%
Education.	5,7%	13,8%	9,9%
Natural sciences, mathematics, computing, IT, etc.	8,5%	6,1%	7,2%
Medicine, healthcare, nursing.	3,8%	6,9%	5,4%
Economics, commerce, business administration, accounting, etc.	13,9%	28,5%	21,5%
Social sciences, public administration, media, culture, sports and leisure studies, etc.	2,2%	2,0%	2,1%
Jurisprudence and legal services.	0,9%	1,2%	1,1%
Personal service – catering, lifestyle, housekeeping, hairdressing, etc.	5,0%	5,5%	5,3%
Law and order - police, army, fire brigade, etc.	0,3%	0,3%	0,3%
Transportation and telecommunications.	2,2%	1,2%	1,7%
Total	100,0%	100,0%	100,0%

Education & current occupation

% of sexes				
		Sex		Total
		Male	Female	
Is your occupation the same as the field of your highest education?	Yes	43,2%	34,0%	38,4%
	No	56,8%	66,0%	61,6%
Total		100,0%	100,0%	100,0%

Creating a new „contour” for 2022



- Slight female increase in almost every age group
 - No substantial changes between the 2011 and 2022 membership
 - Organic aging of the movement
 - *Dominant age group is 40-49 and 50-59 (together 65% of the sample)*
 - Still higher than average education, with interests in empirical sciences rather than humanities
 - Higher levels of occupation and activity, a gradual increase of pensioners
 - Higher than expected educational career abandonment
 - Mostly married with 2 children
 - HUF 222.466 net income pec capita
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Conclusion

- Gradual changes and developments are visible, however further investigations are required to uncover the reasons and effects of these