ANTE PORTAS

CALL FOR PAPERS

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The End of the Orbán Era: Hungary's Political Transformation and Its Implications for European Security

The 2026 parliamentary elections in Hungary produced a breakthrough result, bringing to an end the rule of Viktor Orbán and his Fidesz party, which had lasted since 2010. The victory of the TISZA party under the leadership of Péter Magyar opens a new chapter in Hungary's political history and creates an opportunity to redefine the country's role in Europe and within the international system.

The change of government is taking place in the context of profound geopolitical tensions, the war in Ukraine, Hungary's disputes with the institutions of the European Union, and controversies surrounding the model of "illiberal democracy." For years, Hungary has been perceived as a state pursuing a policy of balancing between the West and the East, including maintaining special relations with the Russian Federation.

The new political configuration raises fundamental questions regarding the future of Hungary's foreign and security policy, its relations with the European Union and NATO, as well as the durability of the institutional legacy of the previous political system.

The aim of this issue is to provide a multidimensional analysis of the era of Viktor Orbán's rule, its collapse, and the political, strategic, and security perspectives of Hungary after 2026.

Proposed thematic areas:

1. The Balance Sheet of the Orbán Era

- The model of "illiberal democracy" – assumptions and practice
- Institutional and constitutional transformations after 2010
- Policy towards the European Union and conflicts over the rule of law
- Hungary–Russia relations and energy policy

2. The 2026 Elections as a Turning Point

- Causes of Fidesz's defeat (political, social, and economic factors)
- The role of new political elites and the electoral campaign
- The significance of high voter turnout and social mobilization
- An analysis of the success of the TISZA movement

3. New Authorities – New Directions?

- Policy priorities of Péter Magyar's government
- Prospects for rebuilding relations with the European Union
- Hungary in NATO after 2026
- Policy towards the war in Ukraine

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4. Security and Geopolitics

- Hungary as an element of the security system of Central and Eastern Europe
- Consequences of the change of government for the region (V4, Three Seas Initiative)
- Implications for EU policy towards Russia
- Disinformation and information warfare in the context of political change

5. Legacy and Constraints of Transformation

- The "institutional entrenchment" of the Orbán system
- Opportunities and barriers to constitutional reforms
- The role of elites, public administration, and the media
- Scenarios of stabilization versus political conflict

6. Future Scenarios

- Directions of the evolution of Hungary's foreign policy (2026–2035)
- Hungary as a pro-European state?
- The risk of the return of populist forces
- The transformation of the state and societal model

Information for authors:
Please send articles to the e-mail address: redakcja@anteportas.pl
Please send articles by October 31, 2026, they will be published in volume 23/2026.

We accept articles in English only. Submissions should not have been previously published. All submissions are subject to double-blind review. Before submission, texts should be fully proofread for grammatical and typographical errors and must fulfill editorial requirements. More information can be found at: http://anteportas.pl/en/for-authors/.