



## **GABOR KERECKI TRUST VISITING SCHOLAR IN UNITARIAN AND DISSENTING HISTORIES**

Harris Manchester College, Oxford is offering a visiting scholarship in the study of Unitarianism, religious non-conformity, and religious dissent in Eastern and Central Europe. This year the programme will run from Monday 29 June to Saturday 11 July 2026.

The scholarships are funded by a gift from the estate of the late Mrs. Joan Kerecki, widow of the Hungarian Unitarian minister the Rev. Gábor Kerecki who served congregations in Britain. The intention of this scholarship is to benefit and support the relationship of Hungarian speaking Unitarians, ministers, students, and academics of the Hungarian Unitarian Church with Harris Manchester College.

The scholarships are offered for academic research and are intended to foster innovative, cross-disciplinary engagement with Unitarian and Dissenting traditions within and beyond the history of Harris Manchester College and its unique archives and collections. They will be supported by the resources of the College through the library and its team, and, more widely, also offer access to Oxford's libraries and collections.

In keeping with Joan Kerecki's intention to benefit the Hungarian ministry and its connections to UK Unitarianism, applications that explore translation (Hungarian to English), Hungarian Unitarian history, especially the influence of 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century Socinianism on Hungarian and/or British society. The summer scholarship is part of a network of studentships and residential Fellowships offered by the Kerecki Trust.

The scholarship is open to early career and established scholars, as well as to independent researchers. We are especially interested in applications from those who have not yet had access to Oxford's libraries, its scholarly community or its research facilities

### **The Structure and Support of the Visiting Scholars Programme**

Each scholarship is offered for a period of two weeks to begin on Monday 29 June 2026 (fellows will be expected to arrive in Oxford on the evening of Sunday 28 June).

Accommodation will be provided for the period of the residency and meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner) during the first week, when the Kerecki Scholar will join the cohort of researchers at the college's Summer Research Institute. Travel expenses to and from the college will be paid up to £250. Scholars will also receive a stipend of £500 for the two-week

residency. The Kerecki Scholar will have University Visiting Researcher status (which provides access to College and University libraries). It will be activated for a three-month period around the residential period (1 June to 31 August) as well as support for library and archival research, including training in how to access and use college archives and other resources.

### **Outputs, Reporting and Publicity**

The Kerecki Scholarships are intended to benefit the Visiting Scholar's and the growth of Unitarian and Dissenting Studies through creating new resources and projects. Visiting Scholars are expected to produce material evidence of their work in at least one of the following forms within the year following the residency:

- Academic paper, journal article, or book proposal
- Creative project (e.g., play, novel, radio programme)
- Public lecture or workshop
- Contribution to College publicity and community engagement
- Enhancement of College collections (e.g., cataloguing, digitisation, archival work)
- Course curricula

Fellows will be required to provide evidence of outputs and will be invited to contribute to college publicity (e.g. blog posts or social media).

### **How to Apply**

The deadline for applications is 30 March 2026. All applicants must submit a one-page project proposal, together with a CV and the names and contact details for two referees. For an informal conversation about this opportunity please contact Rev Dr Claire McDonald [claire.macdonald@hmc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:claire.macdonald@hmc.ox.ac.uk). Completed applications should be sent to Rev Dr MacDonald, the Centre for Unitarian and Dissenting Studies [cuds@hmc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:cuds@hmc.ox.ac.uk)

### **Terms and Conditions**

The scholarship may not be held concurrently with another fellowship or award, and Visiting Scholars will be required to remain in residence for the duration of the fellowship.

Incomplete applications, or applications without references will not be considered.

It will not be possible to provide individual feedback on unsuccessful applications.

Candidates from outside the EU will need **to check the regulations** for acquiring a visa to visit the UK for the period of their fellowships

### **Timeline**

- Applications open: **30 January 2026**
- Applications close: **30 March 2026**
- Notification: **1 May 2026**

- Fellowships begin: **29 June 2026**
- Fellowships end: **11 July**
- Deadline for providing evidence of outputs: **31 December 2026**