

OLIVER HART

JANOS KORNAI

Oliver Hartot 2016-ban a szerződéselmélet területén végzett eredményeiért Bengt Holmströmmel megosztva) Közgazdasági Nobel-díjjal jutalmazták. Ugyanebben az évben Kornai Jánossal együtt az Egyesült Államok Nemzeti Tudományos Akadémiájának tagjává választották. Jelenleg a közgazdaságtan Andrew E. Furer Professzora a Harvard Egyetemen, ahol már 1993 óta tanít. BA diplomáját matematikából szerezte a King's College-ban, Cambridge-ben, később MA diplomát szerzett a Warwick Egyetemen közgazdaságtanból, illetve közgazdaságtani PhD-t 1974-ben a Princeton Egyetemen. Többek között volt az American Law and Economics Association elnöke, valamint az American Economic Association alelnöke is. Hart legfőképp a szerződéselmélet, vállalatelmélet, vállalati pénzügy és a jog és közgazdaságtan területén folytatja kutatásait.

I have known Janos for many years, but it was only when I joined the Harvard faculty in 1993 that I got to know him well. It was a pleasure to have him as a colleague and I wish that it had lasted longer than nine years. Janos has made contributions that have influenced all of us. One example is his work on soft budget constraints that has stimulated many articles in top journals. But more generally he stands head and shoulders above others in his analysis of the differences between the workings of economic systems in socialist countries like the former Soviet Union and Hungary, and capitalist countries. And he continues this kind of activity to this day. I have just been reading his recent paper “The System Paradigm Revisited” and learning a great deal from it.

I also admire Janos for his bravery. As someone who has worked all his life in the West, I take for granted that I can write and say what I like without political repercussions. Things have been very different for Janos. He has had to battle very difficult conditions.

In a time when much of economics seems to consist of small extensions to the literature Janos stands out as a big thinker.

Janos, I wish you a very happy 90th birthday!

With all best wishes,

Oliver