



Zoltán Báthory
1931 – 2011

It is with sadness that we record the death of Dr Zoltán Báthory, Professor of Education and Honorary Member of IEA, who passed away in Budapest on December 12.

Dr Zoltán Báthory became involved with the IEA in 1968 as national coordinator of the six subject study in Hungary. In the period 1976–1994, he was an IEA General Assembly representative and also served for two terms on its Standing Committee. As supervisor of the IEA studies in Hungary, he was one of the first advocates of educational policy based on evidence and of evaluating students' educational achievement in a national and an international context.

In his fruitful professional life, Dr Báthory was a teacher, school inspector, academic and educational policy maker. Among others, he was a researcher (1967–1990) and then director of the Hungarian Institute of Educational Research (1990–1994) and Deputy Secretary for Public Education in the Ministry of Culture and Education (1994–1998). He played a leading role in the development of the national core curriculum for Hungarian schools. In 1998 he took the position of Professor of Education at the József Attila University in Szeged.

Dr Báthory's academic achievement is represented in more than 150 articles, several books and other publications. Besides the academic audience, he addressed his writings to practising teachers and policy makers. He was a proponent of lifelong learning and dedicated his life to improve teachers' knowledge. His books "*Pupils, Schools – Differences, Some Characteristics of Subject Evaluation, the State of Science Education, Instruction and Education*" and "*The Reform Marathon: History of the Public Education Reform in Hungary*" summarize his views on the global problems of public education and of liberal education policy.

Professor Báthory was a member of many scholarly boards and committees, among them, member of the *Academia Europaea*. He also served as Chair of the Education Committee of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and at the Advisory Committee to the President of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

Professor Zoltán Báthory and his contribution to education will stay in the collective memory of IEA.