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**GEORGE SOROS AND ALAN RYAN**

**“THE CONCEPT OF OPEN SOCIETY  
AND CONTEMPORARY POLITICAL AND  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS”**

*Introduction: John Shattuck, President and Rector*

*Date: Friday, April 27, 2012*

*Time: 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.*

*Venue: Popper Room (CEU, Nador u. 9)*



George Soros is Chairman of Soros Fund Management LLC and founder of the Open Society Foundations. He was born in Budapest in 1930. He survived the Nazi occupation and fled communist Hungary in 1947 for England, where he graduated from the London School of Economics. He then settled in the United States, where he accumulated a large fortune through an international investment fund he founded and managed. Soros has been active as a philanthropist since 1979, when he began providing funds to help black students attend Cape Town University in apartheid South Africa. He has established a network of philanthropic organizations active in more than 70 countries. These organizations are dedicated to promoting the values of democracy and an open society. The foundation network spends about \$500 million annually. Soros is the author of twelve books, including most recently, *Financial Turmoil in Europe and the United States*. His articles and essays on politics, society, and economics regularly appear in major newspapers and magazines around the world.



Between 1996 and 2009, Alan Ryan was Warden, New College, Oxford, and a professor of political theory, University of Oxford. From 1987 to 1996, he was a professor of politics, Princeton University, where he is now teaching, and prior to that, a fellow and tutor in politics and a university reader in politics, Oxford. He has taught in many other places in the United States, Australia, and South Africa. He has written *The Philosophy of John Stuart Mill* (1970), *The Philosophy of the Social Sciences* (1970), *Property and Political Theory* (1982), *Bertrand Russell: A Political Life* (1987), *John Dewey and the High Tide of American Liberalism* (1994), and *Liberal Anxieties and Liberal education* (1998). A collection of essays, *The Making of Modern Liberalism*, will appear this summer from Princeton University Press, and a two volume history of political thought, *On Politics* will appear in the fall from Liveright Publishers.

*Reception to follow*

*RSVP by Wednesday, April 25 to [sorosryan@ceu.hu](mailto:sorosryan@ceu.hu)*