



Dear Partner,

The novel coronavirus pandemic has kept us apart, kept us away from our students, partners, and the world. Yet, building communities, sharing adventures, and promoting cooperation are core values of our identity that encourage us to move forward.

In May, the **University of Pécs** launched the cycling challenge, *Around the World in 40 Days*. The goal was to "circumride" the Earth's equatorial distance (40 075 km, 24 901 mi) using any type of bicycle in 40 days. The challenge was finished in just 26 days and that has encouraged us to **invite our partners in Hungary, Europe, and all over the world to participate in an even more ambitious challenge of 80 days, starting with the end of June.**

This new challenge, called **MOON BIKE** aims to "put our bicycle tracks on the moon", that is to **ride 384 400 km (238 900 mi) together**. With this campaign, we intend to answer the challenges of this new situation by emphasizing the benefits of a sporty and healthy lifestyle and building a community online, in order to stay in touch with our students, partners, alumni, and with our compatriots living abroad. Furthermore, as a Green University, we wish to promote using the bicycle as a means of transportation, as it is much safer in the pandemic situation than public transportation and much more environment friendly than using a car. We are proud to present **Prof. Dr. József Bódis**, Secretary of State for Higher Education, Innovation, and Vocational Training, as **the patron of the MOON BIKE project.**

Anyone can join the challenge at our Facebook page. Anyone who wishes to participate only have to hop on their bike and make a screenshot of the covered distance in their preferred cycling app or take a photo of the bike computer and upload the image to the [MoonBike 2020](#) Facebook page. If someone is using a stationary bike, then take a picture of the display (with the distance showing) and upload that.

We will update the distance each day and post it on MoonBike 2020.

Our Top Riders (most covered distance) will receive unique university gift packages.

We would be incredibly happy if your institution could join the challenge.

Please be kind to promote this campaign among your students, teachers, and staff.

If you have any questions in connection with the programme, please do not hesitate to contact us at moonbike@pte.hu.

I hope we will reach the moon together.

I wish you all the best.

Prof. Dr. Attila Miseta *
Rector
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MOONBIKE

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