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"There are so many platforms in our lives that work and career are just one of many"

Krisztián Steigervald, a UP alumnus and former UP employee, explores the generations and gave a lecture on 18th October in the Molnár Kálmán Lecture Hall of the Faculty of Law of the UP at the request of the Career Office of the UP. The topic was based on his book "The Battle of Generations - How to Understand Each Other". The author/coach/researcher was interviewed before the event.

You are researching generations. And in your book, you categorize the different generations by years, while it's easy to find people who, despite being born in one era, don't behave like one - and vice versa.

- We segment and group a lot of things. Economics, but also sociology, uses this method to create groups based on certain criteria. They tend to believe that if you were born in a particular era, you will have the characteristics and attitudes that are typical of that group. This is not entirely true. Belonging to a generation does not mean that if you are born into a particular system, you should only and exclusively behave according to it. The first seven years of your life are the most powerful in defining your worldview: it becomes your reality on earth, the norm that your environment, your financial situation, the media, and so on, will impose on you. Then, until the age of 35, you learn things very easily, but after that it becomes more difficult. To use myself as an example: as a child I had 4 years of very strong experience of x, I lived 15 years of Y, 15 years of Z, until I was 35. So in the case of alpha and beta and the generations after that, I'm not going to be as sharp, because my brain is not going to absorb the environmental information that's specific to those eras as quickly.