

János Kornai is a famous Hungarian economist well known worldwide, he is the emeritus professor of Harvard University, the emeritus and leading professor of Collegium Budapest Institute for Advanced Study and research professor of Central European University. Having finished high school studies he did not attend university but as an autodidact became an eminent researcher, teacher and regular member of Hungarian Academy of Sciences as well as members of several academies of sciences abroad. He taught at the Harvard University and other universities for several years. Fourteen Hungarian and foreign universities have awarded him honorary doctoral degrees. He has served important positions in several international scientific organizations such as chairman of International Econometric Association, chairman of European Economic Society, chairman of International Economic Association.

His works have been translated into 21 languages. Several of his works also have been published in Vietnam, such as: *Contradictions and Dilemmas* (1988), *The Road to a Free Economy* (2001, 2002, 2007), *The Socialist System* (2002), *The Socialist System* (2002), *History with Lessons (selected studies on transition)* (2007).

By invitation of Central Institute of Economic Management he visited Vietnam in March 2001 and gave presentations for, as well as had discussions with, several research institutes and policy making bodies of Vietnam on East European transitional experiences. He has also been invited several times to visit China and has given advice on reforms of China since 1980s and the former PM of China has received him (see figure 51 in this book).