

# Weekly Media Review of Hungarian Communities Abroad

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COMMUNITIES ABROAD

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## Árpád János Potápi: being a Hungarian abroad is a resource and a competition advantage to exploit

On Tuesday, speaking in the House of Parliament at the Value and Quality Award ceremony, State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad at the Prime Minister's Office Árpád János Potápi said that one of the greatest achievements of the policy for Hungarian communities abroad is the realization that being a Hungarian abroad can be a resource and exploiting it can result in a significant competitive advantage. This year 67 applications of 60 applicants – among them seven applicants from Transylvania – have received the prestigious Value and Quality Award. Mr. Potápi stressed that the State Secretariat is working on strengthening the net of institutions to achieve that Hungarian education, culture and enterprises represent high quality everywhere in the world. The State Secretary pointed out that thousands of Hungarian entrepreneurs have received professional and financial support from the State Secretariat for Hungarian Communities Abroad since 2016 to realize their development projects.

## Péter Szilágyi: the policy for Hungarian communities abroad has gained its rightful place over the past nine years

Ministerial Commissioner responsible for Hungarian Communities Abroad said that the policy for Hungarian communities abroad has been placed from its previous unjust place onto a “higher shelf” since 2010. Mr. Szilágyi spoke about it on Saturday in Eger at the event of the Sunday School Foundation named “Cohesion Program”. In his speech Mr. Szilágyi stressed that important legislative amendments and decisions have made it possible to “keep the institutional system of the policy for Hungarian communities abroad alive” and several new programs have been made available recently. He concluded by saying that this creates, however, only the frame which is “filled with content” by people like the leaders and volunteers of the Sunday School Foundation, as well as pupils and parents who grasp the opportunities offered by the foundation.



## Apartments for doctors built with funds from the Hungarian Government inaugurated in Gyergyószentmiklós

On Thursday afternoon apartments for doctors were inaugurated in Romania's Gyergyószentmiklós/Gheorgheni built with funds from the Hungarian Government. After the inauguration ceremony, the foundation stones of similar apartments were laid in Borszék/Borsec. Between the two events, honorary guest of the two program State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad at the Prime Minister's Office Árpád János Potápi told the Hungarian news agency MTI that “the work the Studium-Prospero Foundation has done for 20 years is of utmost importance as it helps young



doctors, artists and intellectuals remain in Transylvania.” He added that the apartments inaugurated are situated in a wonderful natural environment where everybody would be happy to move into. These apartments are designed for young families to start their lives where they pursue their occupation.

### Reconstruction works continue in the Bánffy Castle in Bonchida

Speaking at a conference at the Bánffy Castle in Bonchida/Bonțida, President of the Transylvania Trust Foundation Csilla Hegedűs said that there can be a significant step forward in the reconstruction works of the main building of the castle with the financial support of the Hungarian Government. The financing contract that ensures the allocation of a fund of EUR 950,000 was signed last December. The reconstruction works of the main building and the Renaissance building will be completed within 2.5 – 3 years. Answering the questions of journalists, Csilla Hegedűs said that they have not received any financial support from the Romanian state to restore the monument that is often referred to as “Versailles of Transylvania” since 2001, when the Bánffy family submitted their claim for return.



### László Kövér: Central European nations are able to renew the spiritual self-protection of Europe

On Friday, speaking at the academic year opening ceremony of the Selye János University (SJE) in Révkomárom/Komárno, Speaker of the Hungarian National Assembly László Kövér said in his opening address that the nations of Central Europe are able to renew the spiritual self-protection of Europe. The Selye János University in Révkomárom/Komárno, which is the sole Hungarian university in Slovakia started its operation fifteen years ago. At the school year opening ceremony held in the banquet hall of the institution, several politicians from Hungary and Slovakia, diplomats, church personalities and leaders of other higher education institutions as well as public figures from the motherland were present.



### Potápi: The Carpathian Basin becomes an increasingly coherent place from economic point of view

On Wednesday in Zenta/Senta, speaking at the opening ceremony of the economic mentor training program of Vojvodina launched by the State Secretariat for Hungarian Communities Abroad and the Prosperitati Foundation (the foundation responsible for the implementation of the Hungarian economic development program in Vojvodina), State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad Árpád János Potápi stressed that while only a coherent cultural and educational place existed earlier in the Carpathian Basin, economic development programs have made it possible for the region to become more and more coherent from economic point of view as well. He



pointed out that the policy for Hungarian communities abroad has seen radical changes since the change of government in 2010, and since 2014, following symbolic actions, a paradigm shift took place, placing the emphasis of the policy for Hungarian communities abroad on keeping people in their homeland, enabling them to prosper there. The economic development program was first launched in Vojvodina, and then it was made available in other Hungarian-populated regions in neighboring countries.



### László Brenzovics: László Trócsányi can advance the European integration of Ukraine while protecting national minority rights

The Cultural Alliance of Hungarians in Transcarpathia (KMKSZ) welcomes the nomination of László Trócsányi for the post of EU Commissioner for Neighborhood and Enlargement. President László Brenzovics said that the former Minister of Justice can bring solution in the disputes between Transcarpathian Hungarians and Kiev. László Brenzovics regards it as the success of the Hungarian diplomacy that the Hungarian Government has nominated the former Minister of Justice László Trócsányi for the post. Listing his achievements, Mr. Brenzovics said that Mr. Trócsányi is a highly experienced legal scholar with extended diplomatic relations, a member of the Venice Commission, a former ambassador in Paris, who has gained significant scientific experience and is committed to issues of Hungarians abroad as well as the integration of the neighboring states into Europe.

