

Weekly Media Review of Hungarian Communities Abroad

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Kőrösi Csoma Sándor Program for the Southern Hemisphere is now open for intern applications

On Tuesday, speaking at a press conference in Budapest, State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad Árpád János Potápi said that applications for the Kőrösi Csoma Sándor Internship Program will be open from 15th October. The State Secretary said that as part of this program at least forty interns will be given the opportunity to participate, including six applicants from the churches. Target areas are Latin America (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay, Venezuela), as well as the Republic of South Africa, Australia and New Zealand. Mr. Potápi pointed out that, in accordance with the request of the regional presidents of the Hungarian Diaspora Council, this year for the first time applications can be submitted separately for the southern and northern Kőrösi Programs, also adapting them to the school year in the Southern Hemisphere. He added that the period of the program in foreign countries for the church and non-church interns would last nine months, starting in March and ending at the end of November. Applications can be submitted electronically from 15 October to 15 November, at kulhonimagyarok.hu.



The Kálvin Center inaugurated in Nagykároly with funding from the Hungarian government

The Kálvin Center – a church, a community house and a kindergarten – was inaugurated in Nagykároly/Carei. Pastor István Tolnay, who was instrumental in building the church, said that the foundations of the suburban congregation's Reformed center were laid in 1998, but the construction work was carried out slowly with much effort for nearly two decades, until a turning-point in 2016. From that time on the Hungarian government supported completion of the construction work with a state fund. Speaking at the inauguration of the church, Miklós Soltész, State Secretary for Churches, Minorities and Civil Affairs at the Prime Minister's Office, said that we live in favorable times, but if we do not construct buildings and communities, we will get into huge trouble.

Hungarian Civic Party (MPP) to unite with the Hungarian People's Party of Transylvania (EMNP) – Zsolt Bíró excluded from the MPP

On Thursday, the Committee of the MPP held its session in Gyergyószentmiklós/Gheorgheni, at which they agreed on the merger of the two Hungarian right-wing parties in Transylvania. The body commissioned the organization's national presidency to pursue discussions about the merger with the EMNP. According to the MPP announcement, the members of the committee of the Civic Party agreed that the merger of the two right-wing parties could result in real electoral freedom for the Hungarian communities in Transylvania, and they added that the merger could give hope to Hungarian voters who are disillusioned with



politics, and who have not voted in elections without united Hungarian representation. On Thursday at the session of the MPP committee they voted to expel former president Zsolt Bíró from the party.



Agreed: the Party of the Hungarian Community (MKP) and Most-Híd (Bridge) on a united list

The delegations of the MKP and Most-Híd (Bridge) have agreed that they run for votes on a single electoral list, which will be created by the MKDSZ and will be called the Party of Regions Bridge MKP. They have decided that elected candidates will form a common fraction after the elections. Presidents of the parties will not be allowed to be at the top of the single electoral list. This, however, must be approved by the presidency of both parties. Intensive discussions conducted this week by the delegations of Bridge, the MKDSZ and the MKP resulted in a joint proposal. The parties agreed that they will have a single electoral list for the parliamentary elections in 2020, which will be created by the MKDSZ and will be called the Party of Regions Bridge MKP (in Slovakian: Strana regiónov Most MK). Among other issues the delegations have agreed that they will set up a joint campaign crew and a common electoral program. The candidates on the list must accept the different values of the other party and must not lead a campaign against one another.

Potápi: The policy for Hungarian communities abroad has been successful in the past years

In a speech at the ninth annual Local Government's Free University, organized by the Pro Civic Association in Nagymegyer/Veľký Meder, Árpád János Potápi, State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad at the Prime Minister's Office, said that the policy for Hungarian Communities Abroad has achieved huge success and several results cooperating with the Hungarian communities abroad. At the event held in connection with the training of Hungarian mayors, county and local government representatives, Mr. Potápi spoke about the results of the policy for Hungarian communities abroad, as well as its objectives for 2020. He said that the policy for Hungarian communities has been highly successful, achieving much success and results collaborating with the Hungarian communities abroad, as well as their Hungarian political parties, organizations and historic churches. Mr. Potápi pointed out that several cultural, educational and religious buildings could be renovated, the Kindergarten Program is progressing well, and they have also managed to strengthen Hungarian education institutions and the Hungarian media.

Szili: national minority regions must be recognized by Europe

Prime Ministerial Commissioner Katalin Szili has spoken about the preparation of a 5-point document about autochthonous minorities, which she would like to be accepted



by EU Member States. Speaking at the ninth annual Local Government's Free University, organized by the Pro Civic Association in Nagymegyér/Vel'ký Meder in Slovakia, Mrs. Szili said that Europe must recognize that there are ethnic minority regions. The Prime Ministerial Commissioner delivered an address about local governments in Europe and the Carpathian Basin. Making a comparison with the national minority local governments operating in Hungary and the plans of the Party of the Hungarian Community (MKP) for boosting the southern parts of Slovakia, the Prime Ministerial Commissioner pointed out that it has been the practice in Hungary for local and regional governments to represent the cultural anatomy of the ethnic minorities.



Rider from Temerin wins the 12th National Gallop

The finals of the 12th National Gallop were organized on Sunday evening in Heroes' Square, Budapest. Arnold Nagy beat riders from Baja, Kaposvár, Kecskemét and Zirc to win the tournament on the special course surrounding the Millennium Monument. The fastest rider of 2019 won the Challenge Cup of the National Gallop, receiving a hussar's sabre from 1848 and a prize of five million forints. The winning horse, Fantázia, was covered with a winner's blanket. János Németh from Baja came second and received one million forints, József Somogyi from Kecskemét came third and received half a million forints, while the two other finalists from Kecskemét and Zirc were awarded HUF 300,000 each. In the afternoon the final of the international tournament took place. The winner was Lina Nicholas from the United Kingdom, the second-placed rider was from the Czech Republic and third place was awarded to a rider from Austria, with riders from Serbia, Turkey and Suriname in fourth, fifth and sixth places.



Levente Magyar: the Hungarian community in Visk and Transcarpathia preserve the flame of the Hungarian nation

Speaking in Visk on Sunday at the inauguration ceremony for the renovated Reformed church, organ and parish – that were renovated with financial support from the Hungarian government and donations from the motherland – Parliamentary State Secretary and Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade Levente Magyar said that the Hungarian communities in Visk and Transcarpathia preserve the flame of traditions, faith and godly fear, which guarantee that the nation remains. The church near Huszt was full to its capacity of 800 people. In his speech Mr. Magyar called it exemplary that the people of Visk and the Hungarians in Transcarpathia are committed to the faith of their ancestors.

