

# Weekly Media Review of Hungarian Communities Abroad

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PRIME MINISTERS OFFICE  
STATE SECRETARIAT FOR HUNGARIAN  
COMMUNITIES ABROAD

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### Rákóczi Association: over 100,000 high school students visited communities abroad in the past 30 years

Speaking on a show on M1 (Hungarian TV channel) and Kossuth Radio, President of the Rákóczi Association Csongor Csáky said that in the past 30 years the organization has arranged school trips enabling more than 100,000 high school students to visit communities abroad on national holidays. According to Mr. Csáky, the program started in 1994 and the number of participants is increasing every year. In 2018 over 17,000 students travelled abroad on national holidays such as 15 March, 4 June and 23 October; in 2019 this number was 22,000. A school trip on 15 March has already been announced, and all high schools in the Carpathian Basin are welcome to apply on the website of the Association, the deadline of 20 February.

### Potápi: The Carpathian Basin is now unified in terms of its education, economy and media

Speaking at a press conference in Sfântu Gheorghe/Sepsiszentgyörgy on Tuesday, State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad Árpád János Potápi pointed out that the Carpathian Basin is unified not only in terms of its culture, but also of its economy, education and media. Mayor Árpád Antal and Municipal President of Covasna/Kovászna Sándor Tamás were also present at the conference. Mr. Potápi said that the Year of National Cohesion provides Hungarians with a chance to remember not only historical traumas, but also all the success Hungarians have achieved over the past hundred years in the field of education, sports, culture and the economy. According to the State Secretary this should strengthen Hungarians, and the time will come when being a Hungarian abroad will not mean be any inconvenience. As an example he mentioned the fact that economic projects in Szeklerland may also apply for the support of Budapest-based institutions, and not only those in Romania and the EU. He pointed out that Hungarians profit from these opportunities may achieve success.



### Hungarian Culture Day celebrated in Târgu Mureș/Marosvásárhely

The Palace of Culture in Târgu Mureș/Marosvásárhely hosted a performance of Ferenc Erkel's opera Bánk bán on Wednesday. The opera, presented on Hungarian Culture Day in the building's great hall, was attended by noted artists and musicians from Hungary and Transylvania. In the opening speech, Târgu Mureș/Marosvásárhely was called a symbol of persistence and continuity, and a place that preserves Hungarian past and traditions. In his opening speech, State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad Árpád János Potápi spoke about Hungary's inalienable cultural heritage, stressing that this holiday is crucially important for all Hungarians, as this it is the birthday of Hungary's national anthem, which strengthens the feeling of belonging in every Hungarian heart all over the world.



### Petőfi scholarship students and mentors met in Gherla/Szamosújvár

At the Téka Foundation in Gherla, between Thursday and Saturday Petőfi scholarship students living in dispersed communities in Transylvania had a meeting with their mentors. Ministerial Commissioner for Hungarian Communities Abroad Péter Szilágyi participated in the event on Friday. He said that even if members of the communities forget the words of a folk song that the Petőfi scholarship students taught them, they will remember the experience of singing together. As the Ministerial Commissioner noted, the sense of belonging is worth working on, it doesn't fade away during the years and we can always draw strength from it. He added that no matter what we lose, we can never be deprived of our intellectual treasures, culture and history.



### Rákóczi Institute to be shut down? – Ildikó Orosz answers

As has been previously reported, there is a possibility that some Ukrainian higher education institutions will be shut down. The Ukrainian news portal depo.ua reported that the Ferencz Rákóczi II Transcarpathian Hungarian College of Higher Education (II RF KMF) is on the list of such institutes. Rector of the institute Dr. Ildikó Orosz shared her views with the news portal. She said that the undergraduate degrees of the institute (at BA / BSc level) in Chemistry and Tourism are accredited until 2024, those for primary school teachers until 2026 and those for kindergarten pedagogy, Mathematics, History and Geography until 2028; accreditations in Biology, Hungarian, Ukrainian and English Philology expire in 2029. The Master's degree programs such as Ukrainian and Hungarian Philology, Biology, History and Archeology were granted accreditation until 2024. A list of accredited courses is available on the website of the institute. Accreditation in the field of accounting and taxes as well as primary teacher training is ongoing. The former was rated "four" by the Accreditation Committee, while the educational facility's infrastructure base was rated "five."



### Pásztor: provincial elections announced on either 2 or 3 March

Speaking to Radio Television of Vojvodina (RTV), President of the Assembly of Vojvodina István Pásztor pointed out that provincial elections will probably be announced on 2 or 3 March and held on 19 or 26 April together with the general elections, as Serbian PM Aleksandar Vučić has declared. Mr. Pásztor expressed his regret that some of the opposition parties are boycotting the actions of the Assembly following orders from party headquarters in Belgrade, and they may do so with the elections.