

Weekly Media Review of Hungarian Communities Abroad

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PRIME MINISTERS OFFICE
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COMMUNITIES ABROAD

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First online meeting of Hungarian entrepreneurs in the Carpathian Basin

The State Secretariat for Hungarian Communities Abroad held the first online meeting of Hungarian entrepreneurs in the Carpathian Basin on Friday and Saturday, in cooperation with Design Terminal, with the participation of 200 Hungarian entrepreneurs from communities in Transylvania, Slovakia, Vojvodina and Transcarpathia. These meetings have been organized annually since 2016, generally taking place in Mezőkövesd, but due to coronavirus this year the event was held online. The aim of the meeting is to provide professional help to struggling Hungarian entrepreneurs abroad and to strengthen relations between Hungarian communities abroad and the kin state. Speaking at its opening, State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad Árpád János Potápi said that the meeting contributes a great deal to there being an integrated economy in the Carpathian Basin, which in recent years has been an important project of the Hungarian government. He highlighted that, according to the surveys, Hungarian entrepreneurs abroad employ Hungarians in 90% of cases, so supporting them means supporting Hungarian families. Mr. Potápi said it was a pleasure to see the meeting enabling the formation of professional as well as personal relations – something which is even more important in the Year of National Cohesion and Strong Hungarian Communities.



According to the Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania (RMDSZ), deadline concerning national regions might be postponed

The RMDSZ has welcomed the collection of more than one million signatures in support of the civic initiative for national regions and has promised to continue working for the success of this initiative by mobilizing its network of contacts. According to the Association of Hungarians in Transylvania (EMSZ), the collection of signatures has created a new Hungarian unity. In its announcement on Friday, the RMDSZ reiterated that it had submitted 150,000 signatures in paper format. It stated that Szeklerland, Partium and all regions with European minorities deserve more attention and economic support from the European Union. It added that these regions are inhabited by minorities that create value and have their own languages and cultures, and that the aim is to promote their economic and social advancement.

Hungarian National Council of Transylvania (EMNT) and Szekler National Council (SZNT) have taken Iohannis to the Supreme Court

The Hungarian National Council of Transylvania (EMNT) and the Szekler National Council (SZNT) have taken President of Romania Klaus Iohannis to the High Court of Cassation and Justice of Romania for his comment on 29 April, that included the phrases “giving Transylvania to the Hungarians” after a “secret agreement” between the PSD, RMDSZ and the Hungarian government. According to an announcement issued by EMNT and SZNT, they requested their legal representative – the law firm of Előd Kincses – to draft the report. According to their statement, the President’s



comments, which created domestic political tension and started a war of words between Hungary and Romania, might be an incitement to racial or ethnic hatred, which is punishable under Romanian law.



First results of public consultation: many people feel the lack of Hungarian representation, but they are generally satisfied with the change of government

The first public consultation initiated by the Party of the Hungarian Community (MKP) was concluded on 30 April. Answers to the online survey were assessed by Péter Óry, president of the National Council of MKP. A new survey will be launched shortly, this time concerning the government program that was adopted last week. At the beginning of April Mr. Óry introduced the website konzultacio.sk. He stated that the aim of this initiative is to provide first-hand information to Hungarian citizens in Slovakia about recent political issues. Mr. Óry emphasized that this aims to be a great step towards direct democracy and including voters in political decision-making.



István Pásztor: Hungarians need strong political advocacy

Serbian president Aleksandar Vučić has announced that elections will be held on 21 June. Mr. Vučić had a meeting with representatives of political parties, including István Pásztor. Speaking to the Serbian media outlet Pannon RTV, Mr. Pásztor pointed out that Hungarians need strong political advocacy in order to represent their interests. He emphasized the issues that were solved with the support of Alliance of Vojvodina Hungarians (VMSZ), noting that this is why it is important to be where decisions are made. In addition to a general election, local and provincial elections will also be held on 21 June. The decree was signed on Sunday by István Pásztor, president of the Assembly of Vojvodina. Mr. Pásztor asked everyone to exercise their right to vote and participate in the elections on 21 June.



Ukrainian President Zelensky pays official visit to Transcarpathia

Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelensky visited Transcarpathia on Saturday and commemorated the 75th anniversary of the end of the Second World War at a memorial in Ungvár (Uzhgorod). Mr. Zelensky laid a wreath at the memorial's "eternal flame", at the military burial site. He said that the expulsion of the invaders was completed in Transcarpathia, "we shall never forget the terrible price of this victory [...] This victory lives in all our hearts."



A new minibus for the Hungarian school center in Osijek

With the assistance of the Democratic Union of Hungarians of Croatia (HDMK), the Hungarian educational and cultural center of Croatia (HMOMK) has received a new minibus. The Hungarian government supported the initiative on the basis of the action plan for Hungarian development in Croatia. Expressing his gratitude, the acting president of the HDMK Olivér Matijević pointed out that the party has always considered mother tongue education to be crucial and they have done everything they can to help this initiative. Thanks to the Hungarian government's generous offer they have finally been able to afford this minibus, which is a significant support for local students.

