

Weekly Media Review of Hungarian Communities Abroad

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PRIME MINISTERS OFFICE
STATE SECRETARIAT FOR HUNGARIAN
COMMUNITIES ABROAD

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János Áder: Hungary not only has a past, but also a future

Speaking in Parliament on Thursday, on the 100th anniversary of the Treaty of Trianon, President János Áder declared that the Hungarian nation not only has a past, but also a future. He said that “One hundred years on, after two world wars, tormented by Trianon and economic crises, after more than four decades meandering on a communist-socialist detour, a defeated revolution and several times being on the verge of collapse, we are here, we are alive.” Mr. Áder emphasized that no one can rob Hungarians of their right to work to preserve their spiritual borders after their geographical borders have changed.

Orbán: Hungary is winning again

In a speech in Sátoraljaújhely on Saturday at an unveiling ceremony for a Turul statue marking the 100th anniversary of the Treaty of Trianon, Prime Minister Viktor Orbán said that not a single nation in the world could have endured such a century, but Hungary has not only endured it, but today is winning again. He added that Hungary's one hundred years of solitude has come to an end. He described it as uplifting that Hungary again has allies and good neighbors, and that they can prepare for the future together. Mr. Orbán said that the coming decade will not be about diminution and losses, but about prosperity and nation-building.

Semjén: We have move beyond Trianon

In Csurgó on Wednesday Deputy Prime Minister Zsolt Semjén pointed out that as Hungary's borders are not the same as the Hungarian nation's borders, Hungary's mission is to move beyond Trianon by building the Hungarian nation and country. Speaking at an event on the 100th anniversary of the Treaty of Trianon, Mr. Semjén said that although Hungary was one of the weakest states in 1990, the balance of power is changing in front of our eyes. He stressed that “it is our solemn duty and moral obligation to remember Trianon. It is our shared grief, the creed of our unity, our pride of remaining and our mission to move beyond Trianon.”

Potápi: We must grieve but we must also look forward

Speaking in Alsónána on Thursday, State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad Árpád János Potápi pointed out that the trauma of Trianon warns us to grieve, but also to look forward to the future. At an event on the 100th anniversary of the Treaty of Trianon, Mr. Potápi emphasized that the 20th century was a period of defeat for Hungary: the defeat of the First World War was followed by the peace diktat of Trianon; and after a ray of hope, Hungary lost again in the Second World War - and indeed lost three more villages. Over the past ten years the policies for Hungarian communities abroad have resulted in a stronger Hungary. Mr. Potápi stressed that in spite of all difficulties we endured in the 20th century, Hungary is one of the strongest states in the Carpathian Basin. Mr. Potápi stated that “as long as there are children



and young people, our nation has a future, it is worth planning and providing policies for Hungarian communities abroad.”

Gergely Gulyás: Our nation is even more important than our country

Reciting “Psalmus Hungaricus” by Jenő Dsida at a memorial organized by the Rákóczi Association, Gergely Gulyás pointed out that everyone who considers Hungarian identity to have content as well as form will stop to think about what Hungary lost a hundred years ago. At the event held in the building of the Hungarian National Bank (MNB) in Buda’s Castle District on Thursday, Mr. Gulyás stressed that others had been intent on the death of the Hungarian nation. He added that it had been difficult to survive and it is hard to live in the shadow of Trianon, even one hundred years later. He stressed that on June 4 we not only take our losses into account, but also the “unprecedented miracle” of Hungary being the only nation to survive an attempted murder. Mr. Gulyás ended his speech by pointing out that “Hungarians all around the world will be reunited today in memories, sorrow and the pride of survival.”

Two Transylvanian entries and one Slovakian entry win the video competition “How good it is that we’re here”

Two Transylvanian entries and one Slovakian entry won the video competition “How good it is that we’re here”. The competition for young people was organized by the State Secretariat for Hungarian Communities Abroad as one of the events for the Day of National Cohesion and the 100th anniversary of Trianon. In a statement on Wednesday the State Secretariat noted that the application was published on May 12 for Hungarians in the kin state and abroad aged between 10 and 25. Candidates were invited to record videos with cameras or smartphones in which they express what being Hungarian means to them. Results were broadcast live at 3 p.m. on June 3 on the state secretariat’s YouTube channel, and the 10 best short films were presented in three age groups, and the winners were announced by the State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad Árpád János Potápi.



A “simple statement”: Iohannis challenges the Romanian Trianon law in the Constitutional Court

On Friday the Cotroceni Palace – the Presidential Administration’s head office – announced that Romanian president Klaus Iohannis had lodged a constitutional appeal against the Romanian law declaring the anniversary of Trianon a national holiday. President Iohannis pointed out that the “Trianon Act” violates the constitutional principle of the separation of powers and is a political statement rather than a law defining rights and obligations. He believes that the Parliament should regulate social relations, citizens’ rights and obligations with general rules, and the rules accepted by the court should sanction any violations.



Bells toll in the Hungarian churches of Transylvania

In Romania on Thursday bells tolled at 5.30 p.m. local time: the time at which the Treaty of Trianon was signed 100 years earlier. Due to official measures against the coronavirus epidemic, all centenary commemorations took place outdoors, mostly in front of churches and monuments. The President of the Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania (RMDSZ) Hunor Kelemen placed a wreath on the monument of the Szekler Division and delivered a speech. He believes that beneath all the injustice and sorrow, there is still hope. He called it a miracle that after a hundred years, the Hungarian community is still here, looking to the future and building their homes.



Szijjártó: There has never been better cooperation between Slovakia and Hungary

In Budapest on Tuesday Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade Péter Szijjártó pointed out that there has never been better cooperation between Slovakia and Hungary in the two countries' shared history. Speaking at a joint press conference following a meeting with Slovakian Minister of Foreign and European Affairs Ivan Korčok, Mr. Szijjártó said that the Hungarian government considers Slovakia to be of strategic importance and "this must be the same on the other side of the Danube" (referring to Korčok's second official visit to Budapest). He added that their joint battle against coronavirus has strengthened their relations even more.

Film screening in Szepesi at an event of national cohesion

The organization of Via Nova ICS in Moldava nad Bodvou announced a commemoration on the Day of National Cohesion in the square in front of the Roman Catholic Church at 4 p.m. on June 6. The invitation was issued by filmmaker and head of TV Moldava Csaba Bartók. In his speech, Árpád János Potápi quoted a joke from 1945: "Enjoy the war, because peace will be much worse..." This, he said, applies both to 1918 and 1945. He added that "the century will be ours if we achieve unity". He said that a Szekler friend of his once told him: "a hundred years of this good world was enough".



István Pásztor: One hundred years ago European powers wanted to kill Hungary

At Királyhalom on Thursday, István Pásztor, president of the Hungarian Association of Vojvodina (VMSZ), gave an address at an event marking the 100th anniversary of the signing of the peace dictate of Trianon. He stated that while the European powers only wanted to punish the other losers of the First World War, they wanted to kill



historical Hungary, and this was most evident in the fragmentation of the nation. He added that since a nation cannot be executed with a single blow, the solution is to bleed it to death, to which humiliation is added by the articles of the peace diktat – articles that completely relativize the country’s sovereignty.



László Brenzovics: Our duty and responsibility is to preserve Hungarian identity here, as our ancestors did

László Brenzovics, president of the Transcarpathian Hungarian Cultural Association (KMKSZ) has said that the Treaty of Trianon caused Hungary to be divided and lose two thirds of its territory, and resulted in one third of Hungarians finding themselves beyond the borders. He said that the past one hundred years has been an extremely difficult period for all communities beyond the borders, and the Hungarians of Transcarpathia are no exception. He underlined that now for our generation – just as it was for our ancestors – it is our responsibility and duty to preserve Hungarian identity here.