

Weekly Media Review of Hungarian Communities Abroad

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PRIME MINISTERS OFFICE
STATE SECRETARIAT FOR HUNGARIAN
COMMUNITIES ABROAD

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Potápi: successful politics for Hungarian communities must be based on young people

Speaking at the opening event of the School Camp for High School Students in the Carpathian Basin organized by the Rákóczi Association, State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad at the Prime Minister's Office Árpád János Potápi emphasized that they would like to continue the successful politics for Hungarian communities abroad. The state secretary stressed that for this aim, they need young people, as politics are meaningless without young generations. He added that coronavirus has significantly altered the programs planned for the Year of Strong Hungarian Communities and the Year of National Cohesion. He noted that the lockdown has opened new ways of keeping in touch with Hungarian communities abroad and provided new opportunities for strengthening their relations.

Over HUF 2.2 billion for Hungarian communities abroad

Speaking at a press conference in Budapest, State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad Árpád János Potápi announced that Hungarian communities in the Carpathian Basin and the diaspora, as well as organizations in the kin-state working for them receive financial support of over HUF 2.2 billion. The state secretary announced the results of four calls for application: the first one is aimed at the supporting of Hungarian culture and education abroad, the second one – youth and scouting organizations, the third one – diaspora organizations and the fourth one – twin town relations in the Carpathian Basin. Mr. Potápi said that 665 applications out of 2244 in the central tender received grants. Regional tenders counted 1504 applications, out of which 691 received grants. HUF 364 million is available for organizations of Hungarians living in the diaspora and associations providing education in Hungarian language there - 261 applications received grants out of 449. The state secretary said that the aim of these calls for application is to help the permanence and prosperity of Hungarian communities in their homeland.

Katalin Szili: European regulation is needed for autochthonous national minorities

Speaking at a press conference in Budapest, Prime Minister's Commissioner responsible for the coordination of autonomy aspirations in the Carpathian Basin Katalin Szili pointed out that a unified European regulation is needed for autochthonous national minorities. At the press conference, a new publication containing the proposed principles of the field was presented. Ms. Szili said that one of the principles of the volume written together with Ministerial Commissioner for the Development of Hungary's Neighborhood Policy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade Ferenc Kalmár is the creation of a document that allows a unified European regulation that takes every nation's peculiarities into consideration.



Romanian Chamber of Deputies accepts bill on the organization of local elections on 27 September

On Wednesday, the Romanian Chamber of Deputies made a final decision and accepted the RMDSZ bill on the organization of local elections on 27 September. The bill was accepted with 253 votes for, 2 against and 36 abstentions. A similar bill of the government was declined by the Chamber of Deputies. Though the Chamber of Deputies made the final decision, the bill will enter into force only after president Klaus Iohannis announces it.

Judit Varga: Signature collection of Szekler National Council can go on

Justice Minister Judit Varga posted on her Facebook page on Thursday that signature collection for the initiative of the Szekler National Council (SZNT) can go on. She pointed out that the Plenary session of the European Parliament voted to amend the regulation on the European Citizens' Initiative. Among others, the amendment affects the SZNT's initiative as well. As she put it, the deadline of the signature collection obstructed by the coronavirus will be prolonged with the time lost due to the epidemic.



Matovič-Bukovszky meeting: A Ministry of Minorities might be created

Prime Minister of Slovakia Igor Matovič (OĽaNO) and Government Commissioner for Minorities László Bukovszky (Most-Híd) met with each other on Wednesday. After the meeting, Mr. Bukovszky shared details on his Facebook page. He said that they have come to an agreement on the necessity of a law on minority rights in Slovakia, which would regulate the institutional guarantees of minority rights as well. As stated in the government's program, this would require a Ministry of Minorities.



István Pásztor: we have achieved an election result that has not been seen in the last 28 years

The Alliance of Vojvodina Hungarians (VMSZ) is pleased with the results of the 2020 elections, the party exceeded the expectations. Speaking in the Szabadka (Subotica) Hungarian Radio, the president of the VMSZ István Pásztor said that although repeated elections were held in some places on 1 July, it did not significantly affect the final results of the election held on 21 June. The 7 parties that got into the Parliament include VMSZ, which can form a coalition with its 9 mandates.



KMPSZ sends a letter to the Ukrainian Ministry of Education and Science

The Association of Hungarian Teachers in Transcarpathia (KMPSZ) sent a letter to the Ukrainian Ministry of Education and Science. In the letter, the head of the KMPSZ Ildikó Orosz said that “the curriculum developed and still in force for secondary education institutions with a minority language of instruction guarantee the right to learn the mother tongue and literature and/or a foreign language, besides, the curriculum regulating exact subjects define the number of lessons for mother tongue and foreign language learning and expectations of knowledge and achievements, but the curriculum does not feature all this according to different subjects.”



Viktor Orbán: Croatian-Hungarian relations could be given a new boost

Prime Minister Viktor Orbán sent a congratulatory message to Croatian Prime Minister Andrej Plenkovic, President of the Croatian Democratic Union (HDZ) on his party’s election victory. In his message he indicated that he is ready to continue the strategic dialogue aimed at reinforcing Central Europe, Bertalan Havasi, the Prime Minister’s press chief informed the Hungarian news agency MTI on Monday. “I sincerely hope that after the formation of your government, our cooperation aimed at the continuation of Hungarian-Croatian relations could be given a new boost,” Mr Orbán wrote, reassuring his Croatian counterpart that the Hungarian government is committed to preserving Europe’s security and competitiveness, and is ready to continue the strategic dialogue aimed at reinforcing Central Europe further. “I am convinced that the close cooperation of our governments will make our fight against the coronavirus pandemic more effective, and will also help to restart our economies,” the Hungarian Prime Minister wrote in his message.

HDMK candidate receives a record number of votes

HDMK candidate Róbert Jankovics received a record number of votes in the elections on July 5. With years of hard work, Mr. Jankovics succeeded to run for the first time as the only candidate for a position guaranteed to the Hungarian minority. This is the first time in the history of Hungarians in Croatia. He received 2807 votes in total, which is unprecedented in the past 10 parliamentary elections.

