

Weekly Media Review of Hungarian Communities Abroad

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PRIME MINISTERS OFFICE
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COMMUNITIES ABROAD

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Potápi: Ten years ago a radical change took place in Hungary

Speaking at the Józseffalvi Búcsú – an event organized by the association of Bátaszék Szeklers – State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad Árpád János Potápi said that in Hungary ten years ago there was not only a change of government, but also a radical change of paradigm, one of the most visible signs of which is the policy for Hungarian communities abroad. The state secretary added that on 26 May 2010 the Hungarian National Assembly adopted the law on the simplified naturalization procedure, as a result of which more than 1.1 million Hungarians living abroad have acquired Hungarian citizenship. Mr. Potápi addressed the event and welcomed Szeklers from different parts of the country, stating that the meeting provided an opportunity to “remember our ancestors who preserved this country and the community of Szeklers from Bukovina.” The Józseffalvi Búcsú was organized for the third time, traditionally being held on the Sunday nearest to August 20. This year the event was special, since the participants erected a cross at the court of the local Szekler house, which will be renovated with the support of the Hungarian Government.

Top of the class, top of the sports field – application for Hungarian students abroad

On Friday Árpád János Potápi, the State Secretariat for Hungarian Communities Abroad, informed Hungarian news agency MTI that they are announcing a call for applications called “Top of the class, top of the sports field” for students studying in Hungarian regions abroad. The aim of the call for applications is to find Hungarian students abroad that are outstanding in some sports as well as being top of their class and representing Hungarian values. The call for applications welcomes straight-A high school and full-time university students in neighboring regions, who also perform outstandingly in a sport at regional or county level. As Mr. Potápi pointed out, in the past decade there have been serious steps towards introducing sport to students as a daily activity, which is why schools now provide PE lessons every day. The aim of the government is to provide the same opportunity for students abroad.



In dispersed Hungarian communities the RMDSZ takes part on election coalition lists

In territories with low Hungarian population levels – in dispersed Hungarian communities in Transylvania – the Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania (RMDSZ) will take part in municipal elections as members of election coalition lists in order to reach better results. These territories include Beszterce-Naszód and Hunyad counties. In these regions RMDSZ candidates will participate on the joint list of the Social Democratic Party (PSD), the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats (ALDE) and the



Pro Romania Party. This development is without precedent in the history of the alliance.



Agreement on a unified Hungarian advocacy in Slovakia

After meeting at the headquarters of MKP in Bratislava on Friday, the three parties - the Party of the Hungarian Community (MKP), the Most-Híd (Bridge) Slovakian-Hungarian mixed party and the Unity of Hungarian Community - came to an agreement on the creation of unified Hungarian advocacy in Slovakia. The leaders of the three parties announced the agreement at their joint press conference on Friday, unanimously calling it crucial. It is planned for this agreement to be followed by signing a memorandum of understanding in Révkomárom/Komárno on August 20. The next step will be the creation of the party.



Let's shape our own fate and engage in politics!

Nándor Kiss, the recently elected MP of the Alliance of Vojvodina Hungarians (VMSZ), sees his primary goal as popularizing politics among young people. Born in Ada, the 26-year-old economist thinks it is crucial to encourage young people to actively participate in politics, as this means shaping their own fate. In the past 4 years Mr. Kiss has been working on achieving his goal as president of the Youth Forum of VMSZ.



KMKSZ collects signatures for Hungarians in Transcarpathia to be declared as indigenous

László Brenzovics, president of the Transcarpathian Hungarian Cultural Association (KMKSZ), appeared as a guest on TV21's weekly show *Kibeszélő*. Mr. Brenzovics pointed out that his organization will soon start collecting signatures in order to recognize Hungarians in Transcarpathia, who have lived in their homeland for 1100 years, as indigenous in Ukraine. He said that in the Ukrainian-Hungarian basic agreement Ukraine has declared that it will provide Hungarian language education in Ukraine, and that it must also be remembered that Ukrainians are recognized as indigenous in Hungary and have all the associated rights.



Slovakia

Vojvodina

Transcarpathia