

Weekly Media Review of Hungarian Communities Abroad

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PRIME MINISTERS OFFICE
STATE SECRETARIAT FOR HUNGARIAN
COMMUNITIES ABROAD

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Viktor Orbán: Géza Szócs taught us we must use our power for the greatest things

Speaking in Piliscsaba on Saturday at the funeral of Transylvanian Hungarian poet Géza Szócs, Prime Minister Viktor Orbán pointed out that Géza Szócs taught us that power had to be used for the greatest deeds. Mr. Szócs, who passed away on 5 November, won a Kossuth Prize and was a State Secretary for Culture and Chief Cultural Adviser to the Prime Minister. Mr. Orbán stated that Mr. Szócs was more than a friend, a poet, a politician and an adviser: he was a mentor, a strategist, a spiritual companion.

Hungarian Standing Conference and Hungarian Diaspora Council to be organized online

Speaking on Saturday at an online general meeting of the Association of Hungarian National Organizations in Western Europe, State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad Árpád János Potápi pointed out that due to COVID, meetings of the Hungarian Standing Conference (MÁÉRT) and Hungarian Diaspora Council will be held online on 26 November. Mr. Potápi called it "fantastic" that the Western European Hungarian organizations can pull together to coordinate Hungarian policies for the diaspora. He recalled that in October 2019, the Parliament decided that 2020 would be the Year of National Cohesion.



Hunor Kelemen on the Day of Dispersed Hungarian Communities: the votes of dispersed Hungarians count in the general election, as well

Speaking at a meeting held in Transylvania on Sunday, President of RMDSZ Hunor Kelemen stressed that the votes of dispersed Hungarians also count in the general elections of Romania in December. Mr. Kelemen mentioned that in the local election in September, RMDSZ was not successful in certain communities. He noted that in some of them, the party fell only a few votes short of the threshold, while in others, they allied with Romanian parties.

Full-height statue of Gabriel Bethlen inaugurated in Târgu Mureș

On the 440th anniversary of his birth, a full-height statue of Prince Gábor Bethlen of Transylvania was inaugurated on Sunday in Marosvásárhely/Târgu Mureș. In his speech, State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad Árpád János Potápi pointed out that if Gábor Bethlen had died after his first year of governing, he would be remembered as one of the darkest figures in Hungarian history. He added that five years ago Parliament declared the birthday of Gábor Bethlen the Day of Dispersed Hungarian Communities.



More than one million masks arrive in Transylvania with the help of the Hungarian government

The Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania (RMDSZ) pointed out that a further 1.2 million masks arrived in Transylvania from China with the help of the Hungarian government. According to the RMSZ's newsletter, due to the worsening pandemic, president of Chi Fu Investment Group Frank Liu and the Hungarian government supported Transylvania with more protective masks.



“There are no drawbacks, only advantages” – the new website of the census campaign launched

The new website of the census campaign www.nepszamlalas.sk was launched on Wednesday 11 November. In the virtual premiere, Balázs Kovács and Géza Tokár presented the developments related to the campaign. The issue of the census has been actively negotiated since May with the involvement of the largest Hungarian NGOs, professional organizations and political parties in Slovakia.



Vučić: VMSZ is not only an ally of the SNS, but also an ally and friend of Serbia

Today Aleksandar Vučić, President of the Serbian Progressive Party (SNS) and István Pásztor, President of the Alliance of Vojvodina Hungarians (VMSZ) signed a coalition agreement on cooperation and common goals. The Serbian head of state stated that the VMSZ is not only an ally of the SNS, but also an ally and friend of Serbia. Vučić expressed his satisfaction that he had the opportunity to sign the coalition agreement with Pásztor and that they talked about their joint program and future plans.



Anikó Debreceni receives Hungarian Silver Cross of Merit

For her pedagogical career dedicated to the care and preservation of the Hungarian language, Anikó Debreceni - textbook author and editor, and teacher of Hungarian language and literature at No. 2 Széchenyi István High School in Csap/Chop - has been awarded the Hungarian Silver Cross of Merit by Dr. János Áder, President of the Republic of Hungary. As Ms. Debreceni commented, “I’m convinced that we have to teach children their national identity from a very early age, to be proud of their nationality, to love and honor our history, culture and traditions.”





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DEPARTMENT OF STRATEGIC PLANNING AND INFORMATION

Further support for the program “In Hungarian in Slovenia”

The Council of the Hungarian Local Government Community in Slovenia (MMÖNK) held its meeting on 4 November online and via video conference, as it is not possible to convene due to epidemiological measures. Almost all of the members adopted several program reports, while no decision has yet been made on changing the election system for the national representative. The Council approved the work plan of the Bilingual High School of Lendva/Lendava for ethnicity programs for the 2020/2021 school year, which, according to the description of director Silvija Hajdinjak Prendl, is not significantly different from last year's program.

