

Weekly Media Review of Hungarian Communities Abroad

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PRIME MINISTERS OFFICE
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COMMUNITIES ABROAD

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Katalin Szili: the question of national minorities is not an internal affair, but a European one

Speaking in Budapest on Saturday at a meeting of the Western European Association of Hungarian Country Organizations (NYEOMSZSZ), Katalin Szili, Prime Ministerial Commissioner responsible for the coordination of autonomy aspirations in the Carpathian Basin, pointed out that the question of national minorities is not an internal affair, but a European one. In her presentation on the protection of national minorities and autonomy, she emphasized that when discussing the European rights of indigenous minorities, it is important that we include the adjective “national.” Árpád János Potápi, State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad, suggested involving Central European and Balkan countries in NYEOMSZSZ and transforming it into a pan-European association instead of just a Western European one. He stated that the policy for Hungarian communities in 2020 and 2021 has been consistent and predictable, and within it everything possible has been done to adapt to the COVID conditions.

Potápi: policy for Hungarian communities in 2020 and 2021 has been consistent and predictable

Speaking in Budapest on Tuesday at the commission meeting of the Hungarian Standing Conference (MÁÉRT), Árpád János Potápi, State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad, pointed out that the policy for Hungarian communities in 2020 and 2021 has been consistent and predictable. Mr. Potápi evaluated the results of the national policy from the point of view of the new beginnings and adaptation to the COVID situation. He said that the programs have been moved online and new spaces opened for communication with Hungarians abroad.

Ministerial commissioner: faith, history, the mother tongue and national unity fuel the flame

Speaking in Hősök tere (Heroes' Square), Budapest, on Sunday at an event on the Day of Szekler Autonomy, Ministerial commissioner of the Prime Minister's Office Gergely Gaal pointed out that faith, history, the mother tongue and national unity fuel the flame in our hearts. Mr. Gaal emphasized that with faith and action we can achieve goals that seem impossible to reach.





Day of Szekler Autonomy celebrated with bonfires and candlelight

In Transylvania on Sunday the Day of Szekler Autonomy was celebrated with bonfires and candlelight. The Szekler National Council (SZNT) asked their members to light bonfires in private property, respecting COVID safety precautions, or else to light candles and place them in their windows as a tribute to Szekler autonomy. SZNT shared their manifesto on their Facebook page at the time arranged for the lighting of bonfires, which was read out in several places. The document, written by president of the SZNT Balázs Izsák, demands that “instead of serving the forces of globalism, the EU turn its attention to the national communities of Europe that have historically developed but do not have an independent state, or live in the territory of a foreign state, and to the national regions, the homelands of these communities.”

Potápi: autonomy is a rightful demand of the Szeklers

Speaking in Tevel, Tolna County on Sunday on the Day of Szekler Autonomy, where a fire was lit, Árpád János Potápi, State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad, pointed out that autonomy is a rightful demand of the Szeklers. Mr. Potápi expressed his hope that “the fire has not been lit in vain” and that Romanian politics, public opinion and European politics will soon accept Szekler autonomy. He said that this plea is not an offense to God, but a rightful national demand. He added that national autonomy is present in many European countries and Szeklerland was also an independent administrative unit in the communist era.

Another Hungarian consignment for Romanian hospitals

On Thursday, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade Péter Szijjártó said that in order to contribute to a successful defense against COVID, Hungary is delivering 40 ventilators, 1,650 so-called “non-invasive respirators” and 3,000 boxes of favipiravir medication to 20 hospitals in Romania, mainly in Transylvania. He stressed that the pandemic respects no borders and the defense operation of surrounding countries also affects the Hungarian defense operation.

Csemadok bill on agenda, the Alliance wants more nationality airtime

The legislature will at least give a first reading to a bill that would give Csemadok €300,000 a year in state aid. The government will also amend the law on public media, as part of which the Alliance would like more nationality airtime. On Tuesday MP György Gyimesi (OĽaNO), who submitted a proposal on Csemadok, told Slovakian Hungarian news portal Új Szó (“New Word”) that he would not withdraw the draft proposal for state support for the organization.



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Jenő Hajnal: we must leave the task of reconciliation to our successors

Speaking at a commemoration in Csúrog/Čurug for the victims of 1944-45, president of the Hungarian National Council (MNT) Jenő Hajnal said that forgiveness is primarily a deep human, spiritual feeling that avoids ostentation, but sometimes works without words, and the task, burden, and human dignity of reconciliation must be left to our children and grandchildren. He added that “true forgiveness, like love, is usually wise, resourceful, irreplaceable, and humble at the same time, and can work miracles when it can confront hatred with love and hostility with peace.”



Péter Szilágyi: October 23 is the day of freedom for every Hungarian

Speaking at a commemoration of 1956 in Barto, Pennsylvania, on Saturday local time, Ministerial Commissioner for Hungarian Communities Abroad Péter Szilágyi pointed out that October 23 is the day of freedom for every Hungarian, and that 65 years ago the nation was unified in a particularly strong way. He emphasized that for Hungarians the luxury of freedom has never been a given: Hungarians had to fight for it, but their desire for freedom and will to act have always connected them and doubled their strength.