# Weekly Media Review of Hungarian Communities Abroad

46/2021







# Gulyás: Rákóczi Association has served the policy for Hungarian communities in both good and difficult times

Speaking in Budapest on Saturday at a conference in memory of József Halzl, the Rákóczi Association's lifetime honorary president, Minister of the Prime Minister's Office Gergely Gulyás pointed out that the organization has served the policy for Hungarian communities in both good and difficult times. Mr. Gulyás emphasized that since 1990 policy on Hungarian communities abroad has varied according to the government of the day. He added that the Horn government saw policy for Hungarian communities abroad as an obligation, but after 2002 the Left denied it. Former Speaker of the National Assembly and Prime Ministerial Commissioner Katalin Szili described József Halzl as the last renaissance man in an overglobalized and overspecialized world, a man who admired Hungarian and universal culture and whose motto was to "save the nation for the future and the future for the nation."

# Potápi: dispersed Hungarian communities are border fortresses that protect the whole nation

Speaking in Budapest on Sunday at the celebration of the Day of Hungarian Dispersed Communities organized by the House of Hungarians, State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad Árpád János Potápi pointed out that dispersed Hungarian communities are border fortresses that protect the whole nation. Mr. Potápi said that if these border fortresses fall, the whole nation will follow, which is why Hungarians must pay special attention to dispersed communities, and everything must be done to keep them to provide strong fortresses for Hungarians over the coming century, too.

## House of Hungarians celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary

The House of Hungarians is celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2021. As M1 television channel announced on Friday, the jubilee would be celebrated with a cultural festival, an exhibition on the history of the institute and an exhibition of the artworks of Hungarian artists in the diaspora. Director of the House of Hungarians Krisztina Csibi said that over the weekend attention was drawn to the communities that are in the most vulnerable position in terms of preserving their Hungarian identity.

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# Day of Hungarian Dispersed Communities celebrated in an online conference in Transylvania

The Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania (RMDSZ) celebrated the Day of Hungarian Dispersed Communities in an online conference in Transylvania. In his opening speech, RMDSZ president Hunor Kelemen emphasized the importance of education in the preservation of identity in the diaspora. State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad Árpád János Potápi recalled that the birthday of Prince of Transylvania Gábor (Gabriel) Bethlen was first declared as the Day of Hungarian Dispersed Communities by the RMDSZ, and then by the Hungarian Parliament.

### Amendment of the law on minority language use approved

Based on an amendment to the law passed in October, bilingual traffic signs now also have legal status. The law enables local governments to indicate on direction signs the name of destinations in the language of the local nationality, in addition to the state language. The amendment will be effective from 1 January 2022.

# The central celebration of the Day of Hungarian Dispersed Communities held in Muzslya

This year, the central celebration of the Day of Hungarian Dispersed Communities was held in Muzslya/Mužlja. The Alliance of Vojvodina Hungarians (VMSZ) and the Hungarian National Council celebrated it for the sixth year. According to József Sztojkó, the chairman of the VMSZ city organization in Nagybecskerek/Zrenjanin, "it is important for scattered communities to nurture traditions, culture and the mother tongue, to pass on traditions and to educate young people, and preserve Hungarian identity."

### István Íjgyártó: Hungary is ready for multi-tiered dialog with Ukraine

On Wednesday Hungary's extraordinary ambassador in Ukraine István Íjgyártó told TV21 that Hungary is ready for a multi-tiered dialog with Ukraine, but the problems of the Hungarians in Transcarpathia also form part of the negotiations between Ukraine and Hungary. He added that regional and national issues such as infrastructure issues, economic affairs and border openness were also being discussed.

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# Péter Szilágyi: The Hungarian Bread Program is one of the most successful charity events

Speaking to Hungarian News Agency MTI, Ministerial Commissioner for Hungarian Communities Abroad Péter Szilágyi said that during the ten years of the Hungarian Bread Program, it has become one of the most successful charities, through which thousands of families in need have had access to bread made from Hungarian wheat. Mr. Szilágyi participated in an event organized by the Hungarian Embassy in Madrid on Friday. He stressed that what makes the program really special is that today we can talk about a movement that spans the entire Carpathian Basin and the diaspora communities, with Hungarian farmers anywhere in the world believing that the grain they produce all year round is not only for the well-being of their families, but also food for many thousands of people in need.

# Conference on modern educational strategies for Hungarian language and culture

State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad Árpád János Potápi has told Hungarian News Agency MTI that a conference was held on modern educational strategies for Hungarian language and culture in the Hungarian consulate in Innsbruck, which provides help for Hungarian communities in Tyrol and Southern Tyrol. Mr. Potápi gave the opening speech and the conference's opening presentation. He added that in the past decade, policy for Hungarian communities abroad has been going through radical changes, and now we can say that Hungarians in the diaspora are just as important as those in the Carpathian Basin.

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