

# Weekly Media Review of Hungarian Communities Abroad

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MINISTRY OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION  
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COMMUNITIES ABROAD

**NPKI** | NEMZETPOLITIKAI  
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COMMUNITIES ABROAD



### Ferenc Kalmár's report expands Hungarian diplomatic scope for action

At a press conference held on 24 April in Budapest, State Secretary for Foreign Affairs Zsolt Németh said that Ferenc Kalmár's report – which has recently been adopted by the Council of Europe's (CoE) Parliamentary Assembly – expands Hungarian diplomatic scope for action in the field of the protection of minorities. The State Secretary said that the CoE calls on all member states to implement territorial self-government arrangements. Deputy State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad Zsuzsanna Répás said that "As a result of the report, the question of minority protection has been brought back into focus. It is very important to have the clearly-expressed support of international law for the aspirations of Hungarian communities in neighbouring countries. The document includes aspects which are also in the focus of Hungarian communities abroad." Mr. Kalmár, Member of the Hungarian National Assembly (Fidesz-KDNP alliance), was mandated by the CoE's Parliamentary Assembly to prepare a report entitled The situation and rights of traditional national minorities in Europe; the resolution prepared on the basis of the report was adopted by the CoE on 8 April.

The full text of the report can be reached via this link:

<http://www.assembly.coe.int/nw/xml/XRef/Xref-DocDetails-EN.asp?fileid=20561&wrqid=0&wrqref=&ref=1&lang=EN>



### Resignations and boycott at MOGYE

Talks between the Hungarian professors at the University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Târgu Mureş/Marosvásárhely (MOGYE) and the Romanian Minister Delegate for higher education Mihnea Costoiu on the establishment of independent Hungarian departments at the university have been unsuccessful. The Minister's main argument was that the Hungarian division does not have enough teaching staff to establish independent departments. Protesting against the Minister's decision, Hungarian professors at MOGYE have resigned from their positions in the university's management body. The university secretariat has registered receipt of resignation letters from Vice Rector Tibor Szilágyi and Deputy Deans Attila Frigy and Emese Sipos. The head of the Hungarian Department Béla Szabó told the Romanian newspaper Krónika that the Hungarian members of the university's various bodies will boycott sittings of the university's main decision-making body.



### EP candidates from MKP present their program

The European parliamentary candidates of the Party of Hungarian Community (MKP) have presented their program, the main topics of which focus on reinforcing the cohesion policy of the European Union, closing the gap between developed and



underdeveloped regions and strengthening European legal norms related to the protection of minorities. Introducing the MKP's election program at a press conference, the party's European parliamentary candidate Iván Farkas said that "We have two aims: we would like to protect the interests of all people living in Southern Slovakia and we would like to solve the problems of the Hungarian community in Slovakia." Presenting the aims of the party's election program related to minority questions, Ákos Horony – the MKP's other European parliamentary candidate – said that the MKP sees the need to enlarge the EU's legal norms related to the protection of minorities and to find more room in European Union forums for questions concerning Hungarians in Slovakia, such as the Beneš Decrees and dual citizenship.



### The VMSZ and the SNS sign coalition agreement

The Serbian Progressive Party (SNS) and the Alliance of Vojvodina Hungarians (VMSZ) have signed a coalition agreement in which they lay down the relations between the two parties within the new Serbian government. The agreement has been signed by the President of the SNS Aleksandar Vučić and the head of the VMSZ István Pásztor. The Deputy President of the SNS Igor Mirović told journalists that "The joint action within the Government offers an opportunity not just to improve relations between the two parties, but also to solve social problems." Mr. Mirović said that the agreement includes the protection of minority rights and special areas related to Vojvodina, Serbia's EU integration, major infrastructure projects, the use of IPA funds (Hungary-Serbia cross-border cooperation program), land policy and the protection of agricultural lands. The Deputy President of the SNS added that they also identified certain historical topics which had a negative impact on Serbian-Hungarian relations.

### Historic breakthrough reached

In a radio interview in Újvidéki Rádió, the Speaker of the Hungarian Parliament László Kövér said that "If we accept that there is no difference between Hungarians abroad and those living in Hungary, we can make mutual contributions in each others' issues." Mr. Kövér added that when Hungary helps Serbia in its EU integration, it also helps Hungarians living in Serbia to become citizens of the European Union, with all its advantages. The Speaker of the Parliament also said that in this regard an essential question is what kind of treatment Hungarians living in Serbia receive.



### Twin-family movement to be launched in Transcarpathia

The launch of a twin-family movement in Transcarpathia was announced this Friday in Budapest. According to Bence Rétvári – State Secretary for Parliamentary Affairs in the Ministry of Public Administration and Justice Bence Rétvári – the civil initiative is very important, as it provides a way for Hungarian families living across-separated by



borders to help each other. At a press conference for the initiation of the movement, the State Secretary for Parliamentary Affairs said that the situation of Hungarians living in Ukraine is especially difficult now as a result of the difficult tense political situation in Ukraine, the situation of Hungarians living there is especially difficult now. As Bence Mr. Rétvári said, that the movement gives an opportunity for families in Hungary and Hungarian families living in Transcarpathia to help and strengthen each other, which would mean represent consistency continuity and security for them.

### Guide on our linguistic rights

The Research Institute for Hungarian Communities Abroad and the Ferenc Rákóczi II. Transcarpathian Hungarian Institute – together with the latter’s Antal Hodinka Institute – have prepared a guide for everyday users of the Hungarian language. This gives guidance in the form of specific questions and answers on how local governments, Transcarpathian Hungarian social and civil society organizations and citizens can exercise their linguistic rights.



### President Áder: Rubik's Cube is one of the world's greatest Hungarian inventions

At a press conference held on Thursday before the opening ceremony of the interactive exhibition “Beyond Rubik's Cube” at Hungary’s Consulate General in New York, the President of Hungary János Áder said that “Rubik's Cube, invented by Ernő Rubik, is one of the greatest of Hungarian inventions.” The exhibition, which will be in Liberty Science Center (LSC) in Jersey City for nine months, will set off on a world tour in 2015, and is planned to visit various cities around the world, including Budapest. Mr. Áder said that when he was elected President of Hungary he had vowed that in office he would faithfully represent Hungarian interests and values, and that is why he considered it important to participate in the opening of the American exhibition celebrating the 40th anniversary of the invention of this world-famous logic game.