

Weekly Media Review of Hungarian Communities Abroad

27/2015



PRIME MINISTERS OFFICE
STATE SECRETARIAT FOR HUNGARIAN
COMMUNITIES ABROAD

NPKI | RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR HUNGARIAN
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Deputy Prime Minister receives Transcarpathian participants of the Erzsébet camp

On behalf of the Hungarian Government, Deputy Prime Minister responsible for Hungarian communities abroad Zsolt Semjén received Transcarpathian students taking part in the Erzsébet camp in Parliament on Friday. The Deputy Prime Minister stressed that Transcarpathian Hungarian students are living in difficult situation, since there is war in Ukraine. Mr. Semjén emphasized that the war taking place in Ukraine is not the war of Hungarians. The Deputy Prime Minister added that whatever happens, Transcarpathian Hungarians can rely on Hungary, and – if necessary – Hungary is ready to ensure allowance for Hungarians teachers, food for children and subsistence for priests.

A united action is needed for the realization of autonomy in neighboring countries

The co-chairs of the regional government workgroup of the Forum of Hungarian Representatives in the Carpathian Basin (KMKF) have declared that a united action is necessary for the realization of autonomy in the neighboring countries, and the strategy aimed at achieving the prosperity of Hungarians in their homeland should be rethought. Answering journalists' questions, co-chair Attila Szabolcs (Fidesz) said that the number of Hungarians living abroad is decreasing, therefore, the adoption of measures enhancing these communities' prosperity in their homeland is necessary. Mr. Szabolcs added that certain forms of autonomy and self-determination can be solutions to these problems, but these should be chosen by the communities concerned. He added that every region inhabited by Hungarians should decide on this question alone, and Hungary would support that form of autonomy the communities choose.



Research Institute for Hungarian Communities Abroad: the new election law is favorable for Hungarians

According to the Research Institute for Hungarian Communities Abroad (NPKI), the new election law of Romania is favorable for every party, and the main points important for the Hungarian community have been preserved in it. The NPKI highlights that due to the proportional election system, the Hungarian community can take part in the legislation in proportion to its number, and thanks to the alternative threshold, parties can win mandate even if they do not reach the five percent threshold. The analysis points out that during the latest parliamentary elections, the Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania (RMDSZ) received only 5.3 and 5.23 percent of the vote, therefore, there is a chance that the party might not reach the 5 percent threshold in 2016.



Zoltán Lomnici: the issue of Hungarians deprived of their Slovak citizenship should be represented at a European level

After the European Cour of Human Rights declared the demand of Hungarians in Slovakia deprived of their Slovak citizenship unacceptable, their legal counsel Zoltán Lomnici writes to the President of the European Parliament Martin Schulz. The decision the European Court of Human Rights made concerning the demand of Slovakian Hungarins deprived of their Slovak citizenship – Ilonka Tamás, Erzsébet Dolnák, Gyula Kassai, István Fehér és László Gubík – was the following: „the complaints included in the demand do no meet the eligibility criteria of the 34 and 35 article of the Convention”, as a result, the demand was declared inadmissible.

As in Slovakia there is are no further possibility of appeal, Hungarians who have been deprived of their Slovak citizenship insist on their issue to be represented at international forums. Zoltán Lomnici said that every Hungarian political party has offered its moral support to Slovakian Hungarians concerned in the issue.



Foreign Minister Péter Szijjártó addresses open university in Vojvodina

Addressing the 13th open university in Vojvodina held in Kishegyes/Mali Idoš, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade Péter Szijjártó talked about the most important topical issues concerning Central Europe, Hungary and Hungarians. The foreign minister stressed that we live in a rapidly changing world in which the cooperation of Hungarians seems more necessary than ever.” Mr. Szijjártó emphasized that we must find joint solutions to the challenges we are facing today. Stat Secretary for Hungarian communities abroad Árpád János Potápi said that over the past year, the policy for Hungarian communities abroad has been expanded with economic policy since Hungarians’ permanence and prosperity in their homeland must be supported in this field as well. The state secretary added that those “who declare themselves Hungarians in the Carpathian Basin, are ready to face poverty”, since they have to build a future in a much worse economic situation than people living in Western Europe or overseas.



State Secretary: the Hungarian Government aims to preserve Transcarpathian Hungarians as a community

Speaking at the 23rd Transcarpathian Summer Open University in Ukraine’s Sinevirska Poljana /Felsőszinvér organized by the Pro Minoritate Foudation and the Cultural Alliance of Hungarians in Transcarpatha (KMKSZ), State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad Árpád János Potápi said that the aim of the significant government support Hungary has allocated for the Hungarian community



in Ukraine is to preserve Transcarpathian Hungarians as a national community in their homeland, and help them survive the current difficulties. Addressing a round table discussion on Hungarian communities and education abroad, the state secretary stressed that from the point of view of Hungary's kin-state policy, the cooperation Hungarians living in the different part of the world from Los Angeles to New Zealand show towards Transcarpathian Hungarians is exemplary and – except for cases seen during the Romanian revolution and major floods in the Danube and Tisa rivers – is without precedent.