

# Weekly Media Review of Hungarian Communities Abroad

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COMMUNITIES ABROAD

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## Prime Minister Viktor Orbán receives the chairman of the RMDSZ Hunor Kelemen in Hungarian Parliament

On Monday, Prime Minister Viktor Orbán and the chairman of the Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania (RMDSZ) Hunor Kelemen held talks in the building of the Hungarian National Assembly in Budapest. The parties discussed the current problems and challenges of the Hungarian national minority in Transylvania, the situation of assimilation and opportunities for the preservation of Hungarian identity. Mr. Orbán and Mr. Kelemen also spoke about the main projects financed by the Hungarian Government which are aimed at the supporting of Transylvanian Hungarian communities in the field of economy, education, culture and sports.

## The RMDSZ voted for the Tudose government

Taking into account the parliamentary cooperation agreement between the Social Democratic Party (PSD) and the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats (ALDE), the Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania (RMDSZ) voted for the government led by Mihai Tudose. Speaking about the current situation in Romania, Mr. Kelemen characterized it as bizarre and unusual. He added that “the lack of the rule of law and the separation of powers hinders the building of anything stable and durable in the country.” The head of the RMDSZ also said that they had had talks with the government coalition on issues concerning the preservation of Hungarian identity during which they did not have any radical or unconstitutional demands: they presented only those claims which have been present for decades.



## Conference on Hungarian economic development in Slovakia is held in Dunaszerdahely

Speaking at a conference on Hungarian economic development in Slovakia held in Dunaszerdahely/Dunajská Streda, the head of the Party of the Hungarian Community (MKP) József Menyhárt said that “the impoverishment of Hungarian-populated areas in Slovakia has been a conscious process since the change of regime, and we must stand up against this process.” The conference focused on the presentation of recent Hungarian economic development programs which were launched in Slovakia and provided an opportunity for the main economic actors of Southern Slovakia to present their needs and suggestions. Speaking at the conference, Mr. Menyhárt said that the economic strengthening of the Hungarian community in Slovakia is an essential condition for the preservation of Hungarian identity and culture.



## István Pásztor: Large-scale projects are right on schedule



The head of the Alliance of Vojvodina Hungarians István Pásztor said that large-scale projects in Vojvodina financed by the Hungarian Government are “right on schedule”. Mr. Pásztor said that the projects are realized in cooperation with the Bethlen Gábor Fund Management Ltd. Among the main projects, he mentioned the renovation of the Synagogue in Szabadka/Subotica, the Hungarian-language Teacher Training Faculty, the Saint Theresa Cathedral, the Hungarian Fine Arts, Research and Cultural Center and the Pannon media house. In addition to Mr. Pásztor, the constructions were visited by the president of the Hungarian National Council Jenő Hajnal and the general manager of the Bethlen Gábor Fund Management Ltd.



### Hungarian-Croatian bilateral relations might continue to progress

The delegation of the foreign affairs committee of the Croatian Parliament made a two-day official visit to Budapest. Róbert Jankovics, the Hungarian representative of the Hungarian national minority in the Croatian Parliament was also among the members of the delegation which was led by Miro Kovač. The delegation was received by Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade Péter Szijjártó, House Speaker László Kövér and the head of the foreign affairs committee of the Hungarian National Assembly Zsolt Németh. In a statement issued in connection with the visit, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade stressed that the Hungarian Government – in cooperation with the Democratic Community of Hungarians in Croatia – prepared an economic development strategy aimed at the supporting of the Hungarian community in Slovakia. The parties also discussed issues like the parliamentary representation of national minorities in Hungary and a potential cooperation between the parliament of the V4 countries and the Croatian Parliament.



### Agreement on cooperation in diaspora policy between Hungary and Turkey is signed in Ankara

As part of the Hungarian-Turkish inter-governmental meeting in Ankara, the delegation of the State Secretariat for Hungarian Communities Abroad of the Hungarian Prime Minister’s Office held talks with the leaders of the Presidency for Turks Abroad and Related Communities of the Prime Ministry of the Republic of Turkey. At the meeting, the parties discussed the current situation of the Hungarian and Turkish diaspora policies and signed an agreement on cooperation in diaspora policy. The memorandum of understanding was signed by Deputy Prime Minister responsible for Hungarians communities abroad Zsolt Semjén and the Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey Veysi Kaynak. Speaking at the meeting with the representatives of the Presidency for Turks Abroad and Related Communities, State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad Árpád János Potápi stressed that since 2010, the Hungarian Government has paid increased attention to Hungarians living in



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neighboring countries and the diaspora. The event was also attended by ministerial commissioner Tamás Wetzel who presented the Hungarian simplified naturalization procedure and the director of the Research Institute for Hungarian Communities Abroad Zoltán Kántor who spoke about the most important recent research works carried out by the institute.

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