

# Weekly Media Review of Hungarian Communities Abroad

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PRIME MINISTERS OFFICE  
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COMMUNITIES ABROAD

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## Bence Rétvári: The aim of the Makovecz program is to help Hungarian students abroad

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the Carpathian Basin Hungarian Summer University organized by the Eötvös Loránd University of Budapest, State Secretary at the Ministry of Human Capacities Bence Rétvári announced that more than 400 Hungarian students living and studying abroad will receive the so-called Makovecz scholarship which is part of a HUF 234 million (EUR 762,000) program of the Hungarian Government. The state secretary stressed that the aim of the program is to help students spend a certain period of time – some months or a semester – at different universities in the Carpathian Basin. Mr. Rétvári added that the program – which is also called “Hungarian Erasmus Program” – is aimed to help both students and teachers. He added that the Government allocates HUF 234 million (EUR 762,000) to support students and HUF 140 million (EUR 456,000) to help teachers as part of the “teachers’ scholarship program.”

## Péter Szilágyi: Hungary intends to strengthen the education of Hungarian law students abroad

Welcoming the participants of the so-called Szász Pál Scholarship Program – a program for young Hungarian students studying law in neighboring countries – Deputy State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad at the Prime Minister’s Office Péter Szilágyi stressed the importance of the strengthening of Hungarian-language legal education abroad. Mr. Szilágyi recalled that the Szász Pál Scholarship Program was launched five years ago in order to support Hungarian students studying law at higher educational institutions in neighboring countries. The winners of the scholarship – in addition to the grant – have an opportunity to spend a certain period of internship at the Budapesti Ügyvédi Kamara. The deputy state secretary stressed that the future strength of Hungarian advocacy abroad depends on the expertise of young generations, therefore, it is of key importance for the policy for Hungarian communities abroad to ensure high-level education for Hungarian law students living abroad.



## 28th Bálványos Summer University and Student Camp to be held this week

The 28th Bálványos Summer University and Student Camp will be held between 18 and 23 July in Transylvania’s Tuszádfürdő/Băile Tușnad. Similarly to the previous years, the event will also be attended by Prime Minister Viktor Orbán who will deliver his speech on Saturday. Speaking at a press conference in connection with this year’s programs, the chairman of the Committee of Foreign Affairs of the Hungarian National Assembly Zsolt Németh said that programs will be held in 28 tents at the event. Mr. Németh added that the motto of the 2017 event is “The certain point” which indicates that the summer university has always been “a certain point” in the



policy for Hungarian communities abroad since over the past 28 years many important ideas and plans were born here.

### President of Romania Klaus Iohannis makes an official visit to Szeklerland

The spokesperson of the Romanian President announced that Klaus Iohannis will make a one-day official visit to Szeklerland on 18 June. The spokesperson added that the aim of the visit is to get acquainted with local problems, receive information about the everyday life of Szekler communities and identify the opportunities for further development in the region. During his stay in Szeklerland, the President will also make a visit to Csíksomlyó/Șumuleu Ciuc, the venue of the Pentecost Pilgrimage. The President's spokesperson added that by this gesture Mr. Iohannis wants to show that he pays particular attention to the preservation of traditions, the importance of religious freedom and the cooperation between municipalities and churches.



### Árpád János Potápi: Hungarian future in Slovakia depends on young people's prosperity in their homeland

Speaking at the opening event of the Gombaszög Summer Camp in Slovakia, State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad at the Prime Minister's Office Árpád János Potápi said that the main aim of the Hungarian Government is to make young Hungarians in Slovakia remain in their homeland and build families there, since this is the only guarantee of a Hungarian future. Mr. Potápi stressed that the main purpose in Slovakia is stop young people's emigration. He added that it is also important to strengthen the existing institutional system, as well as Hungarian churches and the political representation of the Hungarian community. The state secretary added that it was extremely important for the local community to regain parliamentary representation and also drew attention to the approaching county elections in Slovakia, stressing that the "Hungarian community must unite its forces." Mr. Potápi encouraged Hungarians living in Slovakia to support the Party of the Hungarian Community (MKP) during the approaching county elections.

### The leaders of the MKP and the Most-Híd summarize the past year of their parties

Speaking at a round-table discussion at the Gombaszög Summer Camp, the president of the Party of the Hungarian Community (MKP) József Menyhárt and the vice-president of the Slovak-Hungarian mixed party Most-Híd (Bridge) Ábel Ravasz summarized the past year of their parties. József Menyhárt, the head of the MKP emphasized the importance of the economic strengthening of the Hungarian community in Slovakia, stressing that only those communities are able to survive which are strong economically. With regard to the approaching county elections, Mr. Menyhárt said that the MKP has a strong representation in county municipalities as it has 41 representatives in 5 counties. Therefore, their aim is to preserve this



representation, and – as far as possible – expand it. Speaking about the past year, the vice-president of the Most-Híd Ábel Ravasz said that his party's participation in the Slovak government marked the beginning of a new era. He added that the Most-Híd has three main goals for the near future: to strengthen the rule of law in Slovakia, to promote regional development and strengthen minority politics. Concerning the latest field, Mr. Ravasz mentioned the law on educational financing, steps forward in the field of linguistic rights and the establishment of the Minority Cultural Fund.



### The VMSZ appoints its state secretaries

At the Thursday session of the Serbian Government, the Alliance of Vojvodina Hungarians (VMSZ) appointed again its state secretaries. According to the party's decision, Imre Kern will continue his work as State Secretary at the Ministry of Construction, Transportation and Infrastructure, Annamária Vicsek remained State Secretary at the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Ferenc Vickó will remain State Secretary at the Ministry of Health Care and Attila Juhász will also remain State Secretary at the Ministry of Agriculture. On 30 June, every state secretary who belonged to the cabinet of Aleksandar Vučić were dismissed from office, since – according to the Serbian laws – both ministers and state secretaries are dismissed when a government's mandate expires. The new government led by Ana Brnabić took its oath of office on 29 June 2017.



### Mihály Varga opens 4th Turul Expo exhibition in Transcarpathia

Speaking in Transcarpathia's Tiszapéterfalva/Pijterfolvo, Minister for National Economy Mihály Varga stressed that the Hungarian Government has always given special consideration to Hungarians living in Transcarpathia and the government bears their interests in mind. The minister stressed that he had always thought of the Hungarian national economy as the economy of the entire Hungarian nation. Mr. Varga added that the "Carpathian Basin is not a wall but an opportunity." Opening a large-scale local exhibition named Turul Expo, the minister stressed that the Association of Hungarian Entrepreneurs in Transcarpathia (KMVSZ) – the organizer of the event – is playing an essential role in Hungarian economic life in Transcarpathia. Mr. Varga stressed that "the Hungarian economy's space of growth includes Hungarian-populated regions in neighboring countries and this growth must expand to Transcarpathia as well."

