

# Weekly Media Review of Hungarian Communities Abroad

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PRIME MINISTERS OFFICE  
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COMMUNITIES ABROAD

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## Special training courses of the preschool development program in the Carpathian Basin start in Budapest

The preschool development program in the Carpathian Basin was launched by the Hungarian Government at the end of 2016 with an amount of HUF 17.1 billion (EUR 52.8 million). In the first part of the program, 76 new kindergartens and crèches will be built, 211 will be renovated and in 1,500 institutions a “Hungarian play-corner” will be opened. As part of the program, between 4-6 October a special training course for Hungarian children’s healthcare professionals living outside Hungary was organized, and 5 October saw the start of a three-day training course attended by 100 Hungarian children’s educators living outside the kin-state. Speaking at the opening event of the children’s educators’ training course, government commissioner István Grezsa emphasized that this is the first time since the Treaty of Trianon that the norm in the Carpathian Basin has been development and cultural and economic expansion of Hungarians, rather than a battle against the loss of civil rights. The Government Commissioner responsible for the governmental coordination of development tasks of Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg County and Transcarpathia said that Hungarian kindergartens provide the basis for Hungarian schools, therefore the Carpathian Basin preschool development program launched in 2016 is extremely important. The Deputy State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad at the Prime Minister’s Office Péter Szilágyi emphasized that no earlier government dealt with the policy of Hungarian Communities Abroad at such level as the present government is doing. The aim is for more and more Hungarian children to be born in the Carpathian Basin, and for places to be guaranteed for them in Hungarian crèches, kindergartens and schools. Mr. Szilágyi also highlighted that the future in the Carpathian Basin is written in Hungarian.



## Viktor Orbán in Nagyvárad: People in the Carpathian Basin who cooperate with the Hungarians will fare well

In a speech at an event organized by the Partium Christian University in Nagyvárad (Oradea) to mark the beginning of the academic year, Prime Minister Viktor Orbán said that “We are ready for cooperation, and peoples in the Carpathian Basin who cooperate with the Hungarians will fare well, and in fact are already faring well”.

At the event, which was held in Nagyvárad-Újváros Reformed Church, the Prime Minister explained that “The strengthening of the Hungarians also contributes to the peace and prosperity of other peoples living in the Carpathian Basin”. “We are ready for cooperation, and people who cooperate with us will fare well, and in fact are already faring well [...] The Slovenians, Slovaks, Serbians and Hungarians are developing while mutually reinforcing each other, and my hope is that Romania will eventually also take this path,” the Prime Minister said.



According to Mr. Orbán, this is all the result of having successfully made Hungary a strong and recognized medium-sized European state. He said that dual nationality, expanding education opportunities and reinforcing the power centers of Hungarian intellectual life are all early signs of a rising Hungarian era, adding that “Today there are economic programs ongoing throughout the Carpathian Basin that will help you to remain and make a living in the land of your birth.”

### Hunor Kelemen in Arad: every generation has to fight its freedom fight

Speaking in Arad, the President of the Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania (RMDSZ) Hunor Kelemen stressed that every generation has to fight its freedom fight, and the Hungarian community in Romania must use the instruments of parliamentary democracy to enable the next generations to live as Hungarians on their homeland. The President of the Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania gave a speech at the Liberty Statute on the national day of mourning commemorating the 13 martyred generals. According to Mr. Kelemen the Hungarian community – living for a thousand years in Transylvania and a hundred years in Romania – can be worthy of the sacrifice of the Martyrs of Arad by fighting the freedom fight of its generation using the instruments of our time. The aim is that there can always be a future generation which will remember the Martyrs of Arad at the Liberty Statute. The President of the RMDSZ emphasized that “for a hundred years we have been citizens of this country, here we have created values as a Hungarian community, we live our lives here – with joy, sorrow, suffering and creation – and we want to stay here, in our homeland, preserving our national identity.”



### Thanks to Hungary’s increasing strength, the whole nation is winning

Speaking in Szabadka/Subotica, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade Péter Szijjártó said that “Thanks to Hungary’s increasing strength, the whole nation is winning, because the fact that Hungary has become a strong country and the Hungarian economy is on a stable growth trajectory is enabling both Hungarians living in Hungary and Hungarians beyond the borders to gain strength to an outstanding extent.” In Szabadka, the winners of tenders issued in the Hungarian government’s Vojvodina Economic Stimulus Program concluded contracts with the Program’s organizer, the Prosperitati Foundation. “As Hungary gains in strength, Serbia is also gaining in strength, because the enterprises receiving funding are operating and paying taxes in Serbia. It is in the interests of the Hungarian government for Serbia to be a strong European country, and accordingly Budapest will do everything in its power to support Belgrade during its European integration process”, he added. The Minister highlighted the fact that since 2014 Hungary’s government has placed the greatest emphasis on realizing economic development goals in the Carpathian Basin that serve to assure the continued existence of parts of the Hungarian nation beyond the borders. He explained that “The first and largest program of this kind began in



Vojvodina, because, in agreement with the Serbian government, between 2016 and 2018 the Program will provide the Hungarian minority in Vojvodina with 30 billion forints (EUR 96 million) in non-returnable funding and 30 billion forints in preferential loans.”



### The Association of Hungarian Teachers in Transcarpathia (KMPSZ) holds an emergency general meeting in response to the new Ukrainian education Act

Following adoption of the new Ukrainian education Act, in an emergency general meeting in Beregszász/Berehove on Saturday the KMPSZ debated the present situation, and accepted a declaration addressed to Ukrainian state leaders, competent authorities, and organizations of the European Union. In a speech delivered at the general meeting in the aula of the Ferenc Rákóczi II. Transcarpathian Hungarian Institute, the President of the KMPSZ Ildikó Orosz emphasized that the education Act adopted by the Ukrainian parliament on 5 September 2017 destroys Hungarian-language education in Transcarpathia, thus ending the work of Hungarian teachers and condemning the Hungarian community in Transcarpathia to ruination. She added that the education Act is a genuine assault on the Hungarian minority in Ukraine, and noted that for three years the adoption of the unlawful Act was preceded by psychological pressure in the Ukrainian media turning public opinion against Transcarpathian Hungarians.



### Potápi: we do not give up any Hungarian child

On Saturday, after attending the ceremony on the 30th anniversary of the establishment of the Hungarian School in Vienna, State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad Árpád János Potápi told the Hungarian news agency MTI that 212 Hungarian schools operate in the diaspora. The State Secretary said that the Hungarian School in Vienna was established in 1987 by the Central Alliance of Hungarian Associations and Organizations in Austria, and today it has more than 200 students. He added that, in addition to teaching, community-building work is also performed in the institution. Mr. Potápi emphasized that the Hungarian government does its utmost for Hungarian schools outside the kin-state, so that they can operate without interruption. “We shall not abandon a single Hungarian child living and learning anywhere in the world,” he added. Árpád János Potápi also said that three Hungarian schools operate in Vienna, and every year these are supported by the Hungarian government with millions of forints.