

# 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: Hungary's policy for Hungarian communities abroad is successful

Speaking at a camp in Hungary's Királyszállás organized by the Rákóczi Association for teachers in the Carpathian Basin, Parliamentary State Secretary at the Ministry of Human Capacities Bence Rétvári said that the policy for Hungarian communities abroad has never been as successful as today. The state secretary said that today "it is better to be part of the Hungarian nation" than decades ago since today Hungarian communities living abroad – either in the Carpathian Basin or in the diaspora – can rely on a politically, economically and culturally strong kin-state. Mr. Rétvári added that Hungary as a gradually strengthening country has more and more opportunities to help Hungarians living abroad and support them. The state secretary stressed that Hungarians living in the Carpathian Basin should receive at least as much rights as migrants in Western Europe receive.

## Ukrainian children take part in summer camps in Hungary

Speaking at Lake Velence, central Hungary, State Secretary responsible for church and minority relations and the support of persecuted Christians Miklós Soltész said that almost 180 Ukrainian children have enjoyed summer camps at Lake Velence this year. Mr. Soltész stressed that providing such summer camps for youth sends the message that solidarity is of key importance, regardless of the political situation or the conflict with Ukraine's political leaders over the language law. He added that the Hungarian government believes it is important to try and support the physical and emotional recreation of those children whose immediate family have been injured or killed in the conflict in eastern Ukraine. He added that Hungary has hosted some 2,000 Ukrainian children over the past four years. György Kravcsenko, who heads the Ukrainian minority in Hungary said the Ukrainian children had come to Velence for three one-week-long camps between July 23 and August 12. The spokesperson of the Ukrainian minority in Ukraine Brigitta Szuperák thanked the Hungarian Government for making the summer camps available again this year to the children affected by the armed conflict.



## Ministerial decree on the re-establishment of the Marosvásárhely school is published

The ministerial decree on the re-establishment of the Roman Catholic Theological High School of Marosvásárhely/Târgu Mureş has been published. The decree has been signed by Romanian Minister of Education Valentin Popa. According to the decree, from September 2018, the school will operate as an independent legal institution with its former classes (those classes which – as the result of the 2015 action of the Romanian National Anti-corruption Directorate (DNA) which brought



proceedings against the director of the school and the chief superintendent of the county – were replaced to the Bolyai Farkas High School). The re-established school will bear the name Ferenc Rákóczi II. Roman Catholic High School.

### Deputy Prime Minister Zsolt Semjén attends inauguration of the new bishop of Temesvár

On Monday, Deputy Prime Minister responsible for Hungarian communities abroad and head of the Christian Democratic People's Party (KDNP) Zsolt Semjén attended the inauguration ceremony of József Csaba Pál, the new Roman Catholic bishop of Temesvár/Timisoara, in Romania. Speaking at the ceremony, the Deputy Prime Minister stressed the importance of nations for Christianity, and said that “each nation, national community, and minority is a concept of God, a unique and unreproducible value”. He added that “the Church is to teach each nation and convey the message of Christ to them so that each nation, community and minority can praise God in their own mother tongue and culture”. At the ceremony, Mr. Semjén also conveyed the greetings of Prime Minister Viktor Orbán's government to the new bishop.



### National council elections to be held in Serbia in November

Member of the Serbian Election Committee Gyula Ladóczki has said that everyone whose place of residence has changed has to register again for the approaching national council elections in Serbia. He added that the expected date of the election is 4 November 2018. Mr. Ladóczki stressed that those who have not registered cannot take part in the election. He also highlighted that registration is extremely important since without this procedure, national minorities cannot decide who will represent their community in the council and decide on issues affecting their everyday life. Mr. Ladóczki added that in 2014, more than 130,000 Hungarians living in Vojvodina were registered. The head of the Hungarian National Council (MNT) Jenő Hajnal said that “the higher is the number of voters, the stronger is the legitimacy of the council”, stressing that “a body which has more supporters is always more successful.”



### Suspected instigator of the attack against the KMKSZ center is arrested

On Thursday, the suspected instigator of the attack committed against the headquarters of the Cultural Association of Hungarians in Transcarpathia (KMKSZ) in February was arrested and placed in provisional detention. The man was arrested a day earlier in Dnipropetrovsk county (Eastern Ukraine).



As has been reported, on 27 February 2018 unknown perpetrators set the headquarters of the Cultural Association of Hungarians in Transcarpathia (KMKSZ) on fire in the center of Ungvár/Uzhhorod. A considerable part of the building burnt out completely. This was second attack on the Association's central office in a month. The previous unsuccessful arson attempt was carried out on 4 February 2018.

