

# Weekly Media Review of Hungarian Communities Abroad

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STATE SECRETARIAT FOR HUNGARIAN  
COMMUNITIES ABROAD

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COMMUNITIES ABROAD



## Conference on talent support for teachers of the Carpathian Basin

More than one hundred teachers living outside Hungary participated in a conference entitled “Talent in the Carpathian Basin” organized by the State Secretariat for Hungarian Communities Abroad of the Prime Minister’s Office between 30 July and 1 August in the House of Hungarians/Magyarország Háza. The conference focused on talent, recognizing and supporting talent and providing guidance in the field. The event which was part of the program “2014 – the year of Hungarian senior elementary school children abroad” was opened by the head of the state secretariat’s Department of Strategic Planning and Information Orsolya Milován. Ms. Milován said that one of the major aims of the state secretariat formulated two years ago was to strengthen the different levels of education in the neighboring countries: the first stage of the program was devoted to Hungarian kindergarteners abroad, the second one to junior elementary school children while this year is devoted to Hungarian senior elementary school children living outside Hungary.



## Traian Bănescu finds Rozália Biró unsuitable for the post of Minister of Culture

Romanian President Traian Bănescu said on Friday that Senator Rozália Biró nominated by the Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania (RMDSZ) for Minister of Culture is unsuitable for the post, adding that he would temporarily postpone signing her nomination papers. The President criticized Mrs. Biró for her flawed understanding of the Romanian language. Mr. Bănescu added that the reason of his criticism is not the fact that the candidate is of Hungarian ethnicity, because he appreciated the activity of former Ministers of Culture Hunor Kelemen and Béla Markó who are also Hungarians. The President added that the postponement of decision does not mean rejection. Ms. Biró’s suitability for the post has already been questioned, stating that as an economist she has little to do with culture, and she has also been suspected of conflict of interest.

## Hunor Kelemen: I have quit the government, not the coalition

On Friday the head of the Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania (RMDSZ) Hunor Kelemen resigned from his post as Romania’s Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Culture. Mr. Kelemen said that the RMDSZ will remain part of the Romanian government coalition because – in his opinion – the party will have more opportunities to influence the government’s standpoints important for the Hungarian community in Transylvania “from the inside” than if they were in opposition. On Friday, informing the Hungarian news agency MTI, he said that “he has quit the government, not the coalition”. He added that he will continue to lead the RMDSZ’s delegation at coalition negotiations in order to endorse the prescriptions which were laid down in the coalition agreement concluded in March 2014. Summarizing his five-year period as Minister of Culture, Mr. Kelemen said that he managed to realize his undertakings: construction is taking place in three cultural institutions, they managed to ensure additional resources from the budget for the



operation of cultural institutions, the new law on cinemas has been put to public debate and the Heritage Law has been completed in 90 % by now.

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### MKP and Híd would win seats in the Parliament

According to the public-opinion researcher Polis, if parliamentary elections in Slovakia were held now, the governing party Smer would win with 35.8 %. It would have 67 representatives in the Parliament, therefore, it would not be able to govern alone. The party Siet' lead by Radoslav Procházka would take the second place with a result of 16.4 %. Híd would be the third one, polling 8.3% and the Christian Democratic Movement would receive 7.7 %. According to the survey, the Party of the Hungarian Coalition (MKP) would poll 6%, therefore, it would also win seats in the Parliament, as well as the Ordinary People party which would poll 5.5 %.

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### Protests and roadblock against mobilization in Transcarpathia

On Tuesday hundreds of people started to protest in Transcarpathia's Munkács/Mukachevo against partial military mobilization in Ukraine. Soon the protests spread to other towns of the county. The protesters were mainly women who demonstrated with roadblocks and placards against mobilization, demanding a stop to calling their husbands, sons and brothers to the front in Easter Ukraine. Hungary's Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade Tibor Navracsics asked his Ukrainian counterpart Pavlo Klimkin for information about the mobilization in Ukraine. Mr. Klimkin said: mobilization is not ethnicity-based. The head of the Cultural Alliance of Hungarians in Transcarpathia (KMKSZ) László Brenzovics said that the third stage of partial mobilization in Ukraine will involve about 2,500 people in Transcarpathia, thus, approximately 250 Hungarians.