

# Weekly Media Review of Hungarian Communities Abroad

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PRIME MINISTERS OFFICE  
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COMMUNITIES ABROAD

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## Director of the Research Institute for Hungarian Communities Abroad Zoltán Kántor receives Lőrincz Csaba Award

On Friday, sociologist Zoltán Kántor, the director of the Research Institute for Hungarian Communities Abroad, was presented with the Lőrincz Csaba Award, an award for outstanding achievements in the field of foreign policy and policy for Hungarian communities abroad. Addressing the event, State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad Árpád János Potápi said that during his life, Csaba Lőrincz “divided himself” for the community and the united Hungarian nation, and very often did this in the background, avoiding being noticed. Mr. Potápi stressed that Csaba Lőrincz had an enormous life’s work and the award named after him should be given to those who work selflessly and enthusiastically for the entire nation. Mr. Potápi said that Zoltán Kántor is such a person, since he is one of the strongest fighters for the cause of Hungarian communities abroad. The state secretary emphasized that Mr. Kántor’s ideas determined – and still determine – the strategic document which serves as a basis for the policy for Hungarian communities abroad. Speaking at the event, the head of the Parliamentary Foreign Affairs Committee Zsolt Németh said that the Lőrincz Csaba award, which has been presented for the eighth time, is unique in Hungarian public life and is awarded to those who exercise outstanding theoretical and practical activity in the field of foreign policy and policy for Hungarian communities abroad. The president of the Hungarian People’s Party of Transylvania (EMNP) Tibor Toró T. spoke of Mr. Kántor’s activities and praised the results of his prominent scientific and research work.

## Transcarpathia’s governor holds talks in Budapest

On Monday, government commissioner responsible for the government coordination of cooperation and accorded development tasks of Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg County and Transcarpathia and State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad Árpád János Potápi received the governor of Transcarpathia Hennadiy Moskal in their office in Budapest. The meeting was also attended by Hungary’s consul general in Ungvár/Uzhhorod József Buhajla. The governor informed the representatives of the Hungarian government about the situation of the building of a road to Verecke and the bypass of Beregszász/Berehove. Mr. Moskal also expressed his pleasure that Ukraine has appointed a new ambassador to Budapest, Liubov Nepop, and said that he is looking forward to cooperation with her. During his stay in Hungary, the governor of Transcarpathia also met with Deputy Prime Minister responsible for Hungarian Communities Abroad Zsolt Semjén. The parties discussed the current situation of the Hungarian community in Transcarpathia and recent results in the field.





## Zsolt Semjén: Cooperation is in the interest of both Hungarians and Romanians

On Thursday, speaking to Hungarian journalists in Transylvania's Sepsikőröspatak/Valea Crișului, Deputy Prime Minister responsible for Hungarian communities abroad Zsolt Semjén said that close cooperation between Hungary and Romanian is in the interest of both countries. The Deputy Prime Minister said that "our hand is outstretched, and we hope that the next Romanian government will be more willing to improve Hungarian-Romanian relations than Victor Ponta's government was." Mr. Semjén, who took part in the jubilee meeting of the National Forestry Association in Transylvania, said that the best Romanian-Hungarian relations were seen during the government of the Democratic-Liberal Party (PDL) and the Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania (RMDSZ). The Deputy Prime Minister recalled that what led to the fall of Mihai Răzvan Ungureanu's cabinet was that he could not settle the issue of the University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Targu Mureș.



## New office of the Hungarian National Trading House opens in Slovakia

On Wednesday, a new office of the Central European trade development network of the Hungarian National Trading House was opened in Slovakia's Ipolyság/Šahy, therefore the Slovakian network of the institution consisting of seven offices was completed. At an economic forum held at the opening of the office, Hungary's Ambassador to Slovakia/Bratislava Éva Czibalmosné Molnár said that it is a major aim of the Hungarian government to increase its economic presence in the field of trade and investment in order to strengthen relations between Hungary and the Hungarian communities of its neighboring countries. At the meeting, State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad Árpád János Potápi spoke about the "2016 – Year of Young Hungarian Entrepreneurs Abroad" program launched by the state secretariat in March. Speaking to the Hungarian news agency MTI, the state secretary said that there is a considerable overlap between the goals of the thematic years of the state secretariat and the office network of the Hungarian National Trading House. He added that the trading house is a partner of the state secretariat in the organization of the thematic year of Hungarian entrepreneurs abroad, as part of which a call for applications was announced last week for young Hungarian entrepreneurs living outside Hungary worth HUF 525 million (EUR 1.6 million).

## The MKP wants more daypart for Hungarian-language TV and radio programs in the Slovakian public media

The head of the National Council of the Party of the Hungarian Community (MKP) Péter Óry has told the Hungarian news agency MTI that the MKP is working on a law amendment the aim of which is to increase the daypart of Hungarian-language radio and TV programs in the Slovakian public media, proportionally to the number of



Hungarians living in the country. Mr. Óry said that the national council of the MKP decided on Tuesday to submit an amendment to the current law and to initiate the settling of the current situation both at Slovakia's public media and at bodies supervising its operation. This meeting was the first one of the newly elected presidency of the MKP which was set up two weeks ago. Mr. stressed that the rate of Hungarian-language TV and radio programs is much lower than the rate of Hungarians living in Slovakia. He stressed that this situation is unacceptable and should be solved urgently, taking into account the number of Hungarians in Slovakia.



### Hungarian journalists of the Carpathian Basin hold meeting in Zenta

The 2016 meeting of the Convention of the Associations of Hungarian Journalists Abroad began on Thursday in Vojvodina's Zenta. The meeting was attended by a high number of participants from all parts of the Carpathian Basin. The opening event was also attended by Prime Ministerial Commissioner Katalin Szili and the president of the Hungarian National Council (MNT) Jenő Hajnal. The Convention of the Associations of Hungarian Journalists Abroad was established in 2005. Its main purpose was to promote cooperation between Hungarian journalist associations in Transylvania, Slovakia, Transcarpathia, Vojvodina, Croatia and Slovenia, since – although they face different problems – the situation in these regions is very similar. The head of the Association of Hungarian Journalists in Vojvodina Lívía Tóth said that “minority journalism have the same problems in almost every region, it is usually lack of money or lack of experts, but the main problems are the same.” The main of goal of meeting of the Convention of the Associations of Hungarian Journalists Abroad was to summarize results achieved so far and to draw up future plans.



### The Hungarian Government and society is beside the Hungarian community in Transcarpathia

On Friday, speaking at the graduation ceremony of the Ferenc Rákóczi II. Transcarpathian Hungarian Institute, State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad Árpád János Potápi said that the Hungarian Government and the Hungarian society are beside Hungarians living in Transcarpathia, and this community can continue to rely on the support of the kin-state. At the event which was held at the Reformed Church of Beregszász/Beregove, the state secretary said that when the institute was established, the basic aim was to provide an opportunity for Hungarian students in the region to study in their homeland in their mother tongue. However, during the years the institute became the center of Hungarian intellectual and scientific life. Today the Ferenc Rákóczi II. Transcarpathian Hungarian Institute plays a crucial role not only in the Hungarian-language higher educational life of the Hungarian community in Transcarpathia, but also in the region's Hungarian cultural life. The rector of the institute Ildikó Orosz said that the institute has undergone



serious infrastructural developments and reached great results in the field of education, science and culture. This academic year, the institute had 1013 students, out of them 712 took part in state accredited training, and 148 graduated from the institute.

