



EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES

## BUDAPEST NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2009

### THANKSGIVING DAY - PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION



"What began as a harvest celebration between European settlers and indigenous communities nearly four centuries ago has become our cherished tradition of Thanksgiving. This day's roots are intertwined with those of our Nation, and its history traces the American narrative.

(...)

From our earliest days of independence, and in times of tragedy and triumph, Americans have come together to celebrate Thanksgiving."

[Full text ►](#)

◀ *The First Thanksgiving by Jean Leon Gerome Ferris*

### *Recently at the Embassy*

#### **JOINT STATEMENT ON TRANSPARENCY November 18, 2009**

This press release is being issued with the support of the Embassies of Belgium, France, Germany, Japan, Norway, Switzerland, The Netherlands, The United Kingdom and The United States. We represent countries whose companies provide the majority of Hungary's foreign direct investment.

As friends of Hungary who have witnessed its recent difficulties and its concerted efforts to tackle the effects of the global economic crisis, we look forward to the recent encouraging predictions of renewed economic growth in Hungary becoming a reality.

[Full text ►](#)



#### **Good corporate governance and ethical practices**

To increase awareness and work for adoption of good corporate governance and ethical practices in Hungary, the Embassy organized a digital video conference with Dr. John D. Sullivan, Executive Director of the Center for International Private Enterprise (CIPE) as part of a one-day seminar by the American Chamber of Commerce in Hungary on corporate governance.

[More ►](#)



#### **Szeged Opera Festival**

Five opera companies competed at this year's Szeged Opera Festival held from November 3-17. The Embassy supported the staging of the American opera "Emmeline" composed by Tobias Picker of the New York DiCapo Opera Theater as well as the travel of the American artists to Hungary. The Hungarian direction of the American opera presented a unique means of cultural collaboration between the artists of the two countries.

[More ►](#)



### American Chamber of Commerce Celebrates 20 Years in Hungary

Chargé d’Affaires Jeffrey Levine addressed attendees of the anniversary celebration on November 6 in the Upper House of the Hungarian Parliament. He noted that American companies have invested more than nine billion dollars in Hungary, making the U.S. the fourth largest foreign investor, and trading more than four billion dollars worth of goods and services last year. He attributed much of

this tremendous achievement to the efforts of American Chamber of Commerce. [More▶](#)



### Meeting with District 5 neighbors

Members of the Embassy met with neighbors to discuss a pending Embassy construction project to improve security and further beautify Szabadság Square. Mr. Zoltán Cselovszki, the Chief Architect of District V also participated.

[More▶](#)

## Looking Ahead

### Trafficking in Persons Competitive Grant Program for 2010

U.S.-based non-profit and non-governmental organizations (NGO), public international organizations (PIO), foreign NGOs, and institutions of higher education are encouraged to apply by submitting a Statement of Interest. For more information please visit [GrantSolutions.gov](http://GrantSolutions.gov). Deadline: December 3, 2009

## New Publications

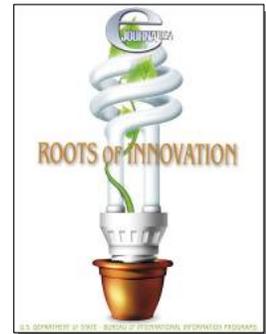
The Hungary-related chapter of the **International Religious Freedom Report 2009** is available [in Hungarian▶](#)

### ROOTS OF INNOVATION

*EJournal USA* Vol 14, No.11. | November 2009

Economic expansion depends more and more on innovation — not simply producing more goods and services, but producing ever newer goods and services. This issue of *eJournal USA* seeks to show that innovation needs the right conditions to emerge.

[eJournal▶](#)



### IRC PUBLICATIONS



Economic Issues



Security & Defense

