



EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES

**BUDAPEST NEWSLETTER**

JANUARY 2010

## AMBASSADOR KOUNALAKIS PRESENTS HER CREDENTIALS



On January 11, Ambassador Kounalakis presented her credentials to Hungarian President Sólyom. After the credentialing ceremony at the Sándor Palace, Ambassador Kounalakis proceeded to Heroes Square where she laid a wreath on the tomb of the unknown soldier.

[Full text](#) | [Video](#) | [Photo gallery](#)

### *Embassy News*



#### **Ambassador Meets with Prime Minister Bajnai**

As part of her initial orientation to Hungary, the new U.S. Ambassador Eleni Tsakopoulos Kounalakis is meeting with the country's political leaders. After presenting her credentials to President Sólyom, she met with Foreign Minister Balázs, and on January 14 she paid a call on Prime Minister Bajnai at his office in the Parliament. [More▶](#)



#### **Ambassador Inaugurates "Jazz Ambassadors" Exhibit**

Ambassador Tsakopoulos Kounalakis inaugurated the State Department's travelling photo exhibit "Jam Session: America's Jazz Ambassadors Embrace the World" at Budapest's Palace of the Arts on January 25. [More▶](#) | [Video▶](#)



#### **Pápa Air Base Supports Humanitarian Relief for Haiti**

The Multinational Strategic Airlift Capability (SAC) has conducted a humanitarian relief mission to Haiti on 18 January 2010 delivering first-aid kits and supplies to help Haiti, whose capital Port-au-Prince has been devastated in a massive earthquake. This was the first humanitarian assistance flight by SAC's operational arm, the Heavy Airlift Wing based in Pápa Air Base in Hungary. [More▶](#)



#### **Embassy Fellowship Program Graduates First Group**

On January 15, Ambassador Eleni Kounalakis and Deputy Chief of Mission Jeffrey Levine awarded certificates of completion to the first two participants of the fellowship program for multiply disadvantaged persons launched by the U.S. Embassy Budapest in November 2009. [Full text▶](#) | [Video▶](#)



#### **Farewell for Deployment to Afghanistan**

On 8 January, Chargé Jeffrey Levine and Defense Attaché Colonel Robert Duggleby attended the farewell ceremony for the third Joint Hungarian-U.S. Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team (OMLT) at the 25th Infantry Brigade in Tata, Hungary. [More▶](#)



## Washington News

### President Obama's State of the Union address (January 27, 2010)

In his first State of the Union address, Obama focused heavily on his domestic agenda, but also recapped his administration's foreign policy goals. [Speech](#)►



### Secretary Clinton on Internet Freedom (January 21, 2010)

In a major foreign policy speech, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton outlined the U.S. commitment to Internet freedom, which she said is essential to upholding human rights and encouraging economic prosperity.

[Speech transcript](#)► | [Watch the video](#)►



### Call for Applications for the Benjamin Franklin Transatlantic Fellowship Summer Institute Deadline: March 1, 2010

[Full text](#)► | [About the program](#)►

The U.S. Embassy in Budapest is seeking applications from ambitious 16-18 year-old Hungarian students with fluent English to be part of the 3-4 week long Benjamin Franklin Transatlantic Fellowship Summer Institute in the U.S., June-late August, 2010.

### Professional Fellowship Program for Multiply-Disadvantaged People

[More](#)►

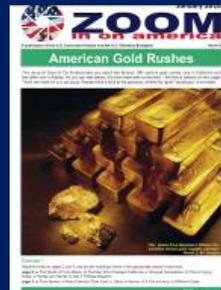
The U.S. Embassy in Budapest is pleased to announce the second round of its Professional Fellowship Program for multiply-disadvantaged people. The fellowship aims to develop professional skills that potential employers consider beneficial. The Embassy is committed to ensuring a fair and transparent selection process.

## New Publications

### More Than Elections: How Democracies Transfer Power. *EJournal USA* | Vol 15, No.1. | January 2010

Democracy requires more than holding elections. Healthy democracies are defined by the expectations of citizens and the common rules, understandings, and trust they build. This *eJournal USA* explores the contours of civil society and political legitimacy within which peaceful transitions of power can occur.

[eJournal](#)►



## IRC PUBLICATIONS

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