

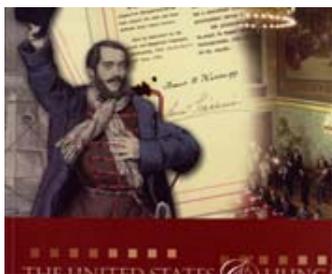


EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES

BUDAPEST NEWSLETTER

May 8, 2007

U.S.-Hungary Diplomatic History Book to Premiere at CEU



On May 8, 5:00 p.m. at the Central European University, Ambassador Foley will officially present "The United States and Hungary: Paths of Diplomacy, 1848-2006," a survey of our diplomatic relations prepared by the Department of State Office of the Historian. Following the presentation of the book to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Hungary, CEU will host a panel discussion featuring State Department Historian Marc Susser, Ambassador Péter Balázs, Ambassador Béla Szombati and Prof. Tamás Magyarics. The event will be open to the public. Address: CEU Auditorium Nádor u. 9; H-1051 Budapest.

Recently at the Embassy

Defense Minister Szekeres Discusses Military Cooperation in Washington

Hungary's Defense Minister Imre Szekeres visited Washington the week of April 23 and met with U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, Deputy Secretary of State John Negroponte and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Peter Pace. Minister Szekeres's visit highlighted the excellent cooperation between the United States and Hungary in Afghanistan, Iraq and other NATO missions.



Photo by R. D. Ward

Ambassador Discusses Climate Change at CEU

On May 2, Ambassador Foley spoke at a Seminar on Climate Change and Clean Energy at Central European University about the U.S.'s technology-based approaches to combat the critical effects of climate change. She emphasized the need to replace old technologies that contribute to emissions with new, cleaner ones. [Remarks▶](#)



U.S. Army Major General Visits Hungary

Major General Jason Kamiya, the Commander of the Joint Warfighting Center and Director of Joint Training for U.S. Joint Forces Command in Norfolk, VA, visited Hungary's recently established Joint Forces Command in Székesfehérvár and met with Hungary's Chief of Defense, General András Havril in Budapest during his four-day visit to Hungary May 1-5. MG Kamiya appreciated the gracious Hungarian hospitality and agreed to future cooperation between U.S. and Hungarian military forces.



Ambassador Travels to Paks, Pécs and Vajszló



On April 27, Ambassador Foley visited the Paks Nuclear Power Station to observe operations at this plant which provides Hungary with nearly 40 percent of its electricity and emits no greenhouse gases. She continued to Pécs for a meeting and luncheon at the American Corner before heading to Vajszló to attend the "Closing the Gap" Regional Development Conference. This conference, organized by the Kodolányi János Primary and Vocational Secondary School, a local subgrantee of the USAID-funded Roma Integration Program, highlighted programs and needs for increased employment in the "Ormánság" region, one of the most disadvantaged in Hungary.

Ohio Business and Technology Delegation Visits Hungary



A business and technology commercialization delegation from Cleveland, Ohio, met from April 30 to May 3 with many prestigious Hungarian research institutes, businesses, and universities to discuss possible joint ventures. The meetings focused on biotechnology and health services. Strengthening commercial ties between the U.S. and Hungary is one of Embassy's top priorities. The event was conducted under the auspices of the State Partnership Program between Ohio and Hungary. [More▶](#)

Ambassador Foley Attends the 15th European Congress on Obesity

As part of the Embassy's healthy lifestyles promotion, on April 22 Ambassador Foley attended the opening ceremony of the 15th European Congress on Obesity in Budapest. In her remarks, Ambassador Foley summarized U.S. government efforts to confront this health challenge, and encouraged the participants to popularize the importance of lifestyle changes. About 500 people attended the event, including medical professionals, government officials and students.

Weekend of Cultural Connections Brings U.S. and Hungary Closer

Ambassador Foley opened a weekend of major cultural connections between the U.S. and Hungary with a reception on May 4 in honor of the visiting New York Philharmonic Orchestra. At the reception, the Ambassador presented Philharmonic President ZUrin Mehta with the Ambassador's Award for Music Diplomacy. This is an honor given to those individuals and groups who represent the best of American culture not only through the virtuosity of their performance, but by bringing together Americans and Hungarians to share common cultural values.

[New York Philharmonic](#)▶



On May 5, Ambassador Foley led a 10-person Embassy delegation to attend the 50th anniversary of the Benkó Dixieland Band at the Papp László Sports Arena. Televised by Hungarian State Television, Ambassador Foley presented to Mr. Benkó a letter of appreciation from President George W. Bush for 50 years of sharing a unique form of American music with jazz lovers in Hungary and around the world. [Benkó Dixieland Band](#)▶

Hungarians Jazzed to Join U.S. in April Commemoration

Curator of American Music at the Smithsonian Institution, John Hasse, visited Budapest April 23-25 to commemorate Jazz Appreciation Month. Over 100 students and musicians at three universities heard Hasse emphasize the value of jazz as an international cultural language and learned about the innovations in American jazz as new immigrants to the U.S. interpret jazz through their distinctive musical traditions.



"Take Your Child to Work Day" at the Embassy

The Embassy participated in this year's "Take Your Child to Work Day" on April 26. Twenty-five school-aged children of Embassy employees visited various offices of the Embassy to learn about daily activities inside an Embassy. Ambassador Foley hosted the children in her office where they were able to learn more about the work of an ambassador.



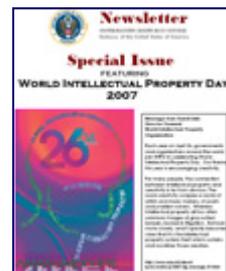
Looking Ahead

[Webchats](#)▶

Why is America Such a Hard Sell? with Juliana Pilon on May 10 at 9:00 p.m. CET;
Can Cities and Communities Be Environmentally Friendly and Profitable? with Doug Newman on May 15 at 3:00 p.m. CET;
Democracy Dialogues: Threats to Journalists and Media Professionals with Sherry Ricchiardi on May 22 at 4:00 p.m. CET.

New Publication

[IRC Newsletter](#)▶ *Economic Issues* featuring intellectual property rights.



In the News... from Washington

2007 U.S.-EU Summit



White House photo
by Eric Draper

"We, the leaders of the United States of America and the European Union, met today in Washington to deepen our strategic partnership. This partnership is based on common values, in particular on the deeply shared conviction that peace, prosperity and human development depend upon the protection of individual liberty, human rights, the rule of law, economic freedom, energy security, environmental protection and the growth of strong, democratic societies."

President George W. Bush [More](#)▶