



## U.S. Appreciates Hungary's Help on Guantanamo



On September 16, 2009 while visiting Budapest, senior U.S. diplomat, Special Envoy for Guantanamo Daniel Fried took the opportunity during a joint press briefing at the Parliament with Prime Minister Gordon Bajnai to express U.S. gratitude for Hungary's assistance in helping to resolve the Guantanamo issue. [More ►](#)

*Ambassador Fried speaking with Kossuth Rádió*

## Recently at the Embassy



### Chargé Levine Visits Debrecen

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On September 10, Chargé Levine met with students of Fazekas High School and delivered remarks on U.S. study opportunities and U.S. Embassy activities. He also called attention to the importance of tolerance in light of the recent attacks on Hungary's Roma minority.



### Honoring the Memory of 9/11

Embracing the American tradition of community service, the U.S. Embassy staff participated in a successful blood drive organized by the Hungarian Red Cross as part of the effort to commemorate the eighth anniversary of 9/11. [More ►](#)



### U.S. Embassy Goes Green

Embassy Budapest has taken many steps in the spirit of Secretary Clinton's Greening Diplomacy Initiative. Older cars are being replaced by fuel efficient hybrids, like the recently ordered Ford Fusion which gets 17.4 km/liter. Please see some of the creative steps the Embassy has taken to become more environmentally friendly. [More ►](#)



### Chargé Levine at the Summer University

Chargé Levine visited Balatonszárszó on August 28 to speak to young people attending the third annual Summer University organized by the Fidesz Youth Section. In opening remarks, Mr. Levine discussed the current status of transatlantic affairs and foreign policy developments during the first months of the Obama administration. Later, Mr. Levine took questions from members of the audience, representing some thirteen European countries, elaborating on topics such as missile defense in Europe, the NATO-Russia relationship and implications of the recent elections in Afghanistan.



### **Week of Education 2009**

The 2009 "Week of Education" took place at Hungexpo Budapest Fair from September 9-13. In cooperation with the Hungarian Fulbright Commission and the Institute of International Education's European Office, the American Embassy put on exhibits at a well-located booth to promote EducationUSA. The hundreds of visitors who stopped by received comprehensive information about the possibilities of studying in the United States. Handouts and other literature were

also distributed.



### **SUPPORT FOR BUDAPEST GAY PRIDE FESTIVAL**

**Joint Statement Expressing Support for Budapest Gay Pride Festival**, issued by the Embassies of Australia, Canada, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States. ►

[Chargé Levine's Remarks at the Gay Pride Festival Opening ►](#)

[Whoopi Goldberg Statement in Support of Budapest Gay Pride ►](#)

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## *News from Washington*



### **World Leaders Meet in New York on the Occasion of the UN General Assembly Annual Meeting**

President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama pose for a photo during a reception at the Metropolitan Museum in New York with Gordon Bajnai, Prime Minister of the Republic of Hungary, Wednesday, September 23, 2009.

*First Lady Michelle Obama, Prime Minister Bajnai, and President Obama (Official White House Photo)*

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## *Looking Ahead*

### **Second Annual Democracy Video Challenge Launch**

On September 15th, the U.S. Department of State, with its partners from youth and democracy organizations, academia, and the film/entertainment industry, launched the Second Annual Democracy Video Challenge—a worldwide competition aimed at enhancing the global dialogue on democracy. The *Democracy Video Challenge* asks filmmakers, democracy advocates, and the general public to create short videos that complete the phrase, "Democracy is..." Deadline: January 31, 2010

The winners are selected by the online voting public. Six regional winners receive an all-expense paid trip to the United States.



[More►](#)

### **Visa Lottery 2011**

DV-2011 Lottery online registration takes place from October 2 until November 30, 2009.

[More►](#)

# New Publications



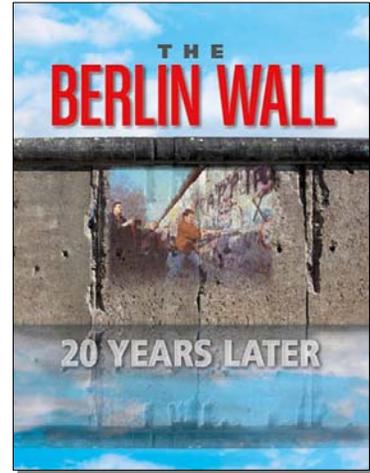
## Climate Change Perspectives eJournal USA Vol 14, No.9. September 2009

This eJournal USA offers perspectives of experts and activists in several key countries on effective policies to curb greenhouse gas emissions to mitigate global warming and adapt to irreversible changes. [eJournal](#)▶

### The Berlin Wall: 20 Years Later September 2009

The Berlin Wall — symbol of a divided city within a divided nation within a divided continent — marked the geopolitical and ideological cleavage of Cold War Europe. Its demise marked the triumph of western models of personal autonomy and economic entrepreneurialism, and of the desire to live in freedom. Among the voices gathered here are those of leading scholars, a dissident from a time when dissent required real bravery, and a journalist who was there when the walls came down all through Eastern Europe.

[Publication](#)▶



## IRC PUBLICATIONS



U.S. Society & Values

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