



EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES

# BUDAPEST NEWSLETTER

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(AP Photo)

## HUNGARY'S NATIONAL DAY

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton  
Washington, DC • August 20, 2010

On behalf of President Obama and the people of the United States, I congratulate the people of Hungary as you celebrate Saint Stephen's Day and the founding of the Hungarian state over 1,000 years ago on August 20.

Hungary's cultural contributions – from the music of Bartók to the poetry of Petőfi – have enriched the world for centuries. And a vibrant community of more than 1.5 million Hungarian-Americans continues to strengthen the United States.

As we join in honoring your long history of statehood, we also celebrate 20 years of free elections in Hungary. And we look forward to continuing our work together to advance democracy and human rights through Hungarian initiatives such as the International Center for Democratic Transition and the planned Tom Lantos Institute in Budapest. We are proud to count Hungary as a close friend and key ally in NATO, and we appreciate Hungary's partnership in Afghanistan as we promote and defend shared interests and values.

On this occasion, I wish all Hungarians a happy national day and look forward to continuing the strong alliance between our countries.



## U.S. Investment Leads to Bio-Ethanol Plant in Dunaföldvár

Pannonia Ethanol Zrt. has broken ground on Hungary's largest and most environmentally friendly bio-ethanol production facility in Dunaföldvár. The U.S. company involved in the project, Fagen Inc., is the largest builder of ethanol plants in the United States and is noted for its use of cutting-edge technology, reliability, efficiency and safety. In addition to the seventy-seven direct jobs being created, the project will indirectly support 250 jobs during the construction phase and over 600 once the plant is operational. [More▶](#)

Groundbreaking ceremony (Embassy photo)



## U.S. Embassy Makes a Splash at Sziget

For the third year in a row, the U.S. Embassy organized a tent at Sziget, the premier music festival in Central Europe, where hundreds of young people stopped by to learn more about the United States and opportunities to study there. The highlight of the U.S. Embassy program was a performance by the environmentally-conscious band, the *Pleasant Revolution*. This group from California is unique in that the electricity for all their instruments and their sound system is provided by bicycle-powered generators. [More▶](#)

Ambassador Kounalakis pedals to generate electricity for the performance of the Pleasant Revolution Band at Sziget. (Embassy photo)



## Hungarian Red Cross Press Conference Highlights USAID Grant

The Hungarian Red Cross held a press conference to highlight the \$50,000 USAID grant that was provided to them for emergency flood relief this spring and early summer. As a sign of appreciation, the USAID logo was placed on two rescue boats recently purchased by the Hungarian Red Cross and displayed at the event. [More▶](#)



## Building Bridges through English

English language students and their teachers were participating in a summer camp at Lake Balaton, where in addition to practicing their English skills, they were learning about each other's countries and cultures. The 45 students from Hungary and nearby countries were communicating in a common language, English, which put everyone on an equal footing and encouraged them to share their thoughts and opinions. The annual program is fully sponsored by the American Embassy in Budapest, and the U.S. Embassies in Bulgaria, Kosovo, Lithuania, Montenegro, Romania, and Serbia. (Embassy photo) [More►](#)

## Remembering Roma Victims of the Holocaust

Embassy officials attended two separate memorials in honor of the Roma victims of the Holocaust. The yearly events commemorate the 23,000 Roma who were deported from Hungary during the Second World War, many of whom were killed in Auschwitz-Birkenau on the night of August 2, 1944. The Embassies of Germany, the Netherlands, the UK, Slovakia and Israel joined the U.S. Embassy in laying wreaths in memory of the victims. (Embassy Photo)

## Roma and Friends Camp

As part of the ongoing effort to assist Hungary in integrating the Roma minority population, the U.S. Embassy in Budapest held the first round of this year's "Roma and Friends" Summer Camp between July 17-24, 2010 in Balatonlelle, Hungary. Organized since 2008, this unique English language tolerance-building summer camp hosted five ethnically diverse groups of five English teachers and their thirty-two teenage students of both Roma and non-Roma origin. The diverse groups came from three different geographic regions of Hungary where the minority population is underserved. (Courtesy photo by Camp Counselor Mária Varsányi) [More►](#)

## Fellowships

### Embassy Fellowship Program

The Embassy of the United States of America in Budapest, Hungary is now accepting applications for the Embassy Fellowship Program. Applicants must come from a historically disadvantaged background based upon race, ethnicity, socio-economic status, gender, physical handicap, etc. Preference will be given to applicants who have overcome especially difficult circumstances.

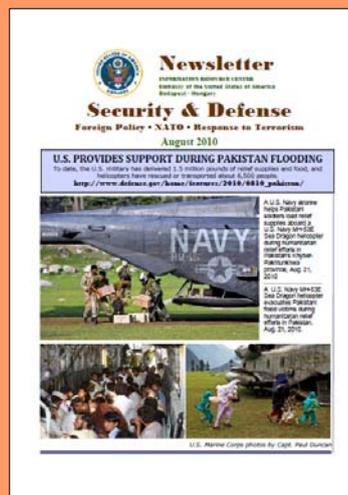
**Deadline: September 20, 2010.** [More►](#)

### The Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellows Program

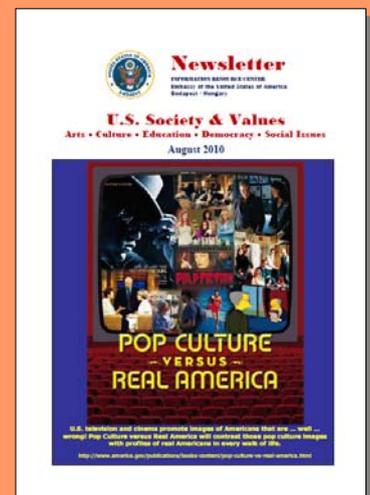
The Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellows Program is intended primarily for practitioners and scholars from emerging and aspiring democracies.

**Deadline: November 1, 2010.** [More►](#)

## New Publications



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