



CLOSE U.S.-HUNGARY TIES RE-AFFIRMED



Signing ceremony at the U.S. Department of State

SECRETARY CLINTON'S REMARKS:
TEXT ► | VIDEO ►

On June 10, 2009 Hungarian Foreign Minister Peter Balázs met with Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in Washington, D.C. Secretary Clinton noted the 20 year anniversary of the fall of the Iron Curtain that began with the Hungarians taking down the barbed wire along the border with Austria. Among other issues they discussed mutual defense guarantees as NATO allies, efforts to work together on economic challenges and law enforcement, as well as jointly standing up for tolerance and human rights. After their meeting they signed the Protocols of Exchange of Instruments of Ratification for the 2005 U.S.-Hungary Mutual Legal Assistance Protocols and the U.S.-Hungary Extradition Treaty. These twin agreements will give the police and prosecutors in both countries state-of-the-art tools to cooperate more effectively in bringing criminals to justice on both sides of the Atlantic. Secretary Clinton concluded the signing ceremony by stating: "I look forward to working with the foreign minister as we tackle problems from European security to the Balkans, from human rights in our countries and beyond, to a real sense of working together for a more peaceful, prosperous future."

Recently at the Embassy



Embassy Links Minority Police Spokesmen from U.S. and Hungary

Hungarian National Police Spokesman György Makula and Chicago Police Department Spokesman Roderick Drew met via a video-conference arranged by the U.S. Embassy. The meeting came in response to Mr. Makula's interest in communicating with someone from the United States who, like him, is a minority police spokesman.

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Energy Efficiency Expert Mark Hopkins Addresses Climate-related Issues in Hungary

Director of International Energy Efficiency at the UN Foundation, Mark Hopkins visited Budapest to discuss the Obama Administration's special emphasis on global climate issues.

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U.S. Special Envoy for Guantanamo in Hungary

Since the Hungarian government expressed willingness to consider a U.S. request to receive a small number of former Guantanamo inmates who were no longer considered security risks, Senior U.S. diplomat, Special Envoy for Guantanamo Daniel Fried visited Budapest to follow up on earlier U.S.-Hungarian discussions.

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Serenades and Celebration: Chargé at Gypsy Festival

Chargé d'Affaires Jeffrey Levine paid a visit to the annual "Gypsy Magic" music festival in Budapest to celebrate the Gypsy community's contributions to Hungarian culture and to meet with prominent Roma intellectuals.

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Networking Training for Academic Alumni

Public Affairs Officer Michael Hurley opened a two-day first ever training and networking session for leaders of alumni organizations in Hungary. Attendees were from Hungarian organizations who sponsor educational exchange with the U.S.

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Premiere of "Blessed Is the Match"

Public Affairs Officer Michael Hurley spoke at the Hungarian premiere of the film "Blessed Is the Match," a documentary on Hannah Szenes. Produced and directed by Roberta Grossman, the film depicts the life of Hannah Szenes, a Hungarian-born "fighter and poet."

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Public online voting period to select Democracy Video Challenge closed

The Democracy Video Challenge asked people around the world to create short videos completing the phrase, "Democracy is..." Over 900 contestants from 95 countries answered the call. The independent jury has selected the 21 finalists. From May 15 – June 15 the online public was asked to cast their votes for the winners. The Democracy Video Challenge has been an exciting project for everyone involved. In this series of videos, we introduce you to a few of them.

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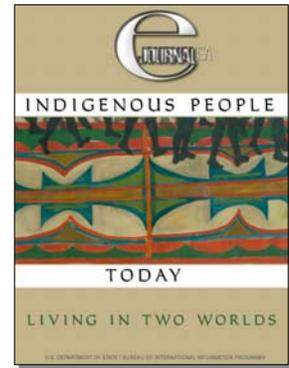
New Publications

Indigenous People

EJournal USA Vol 14, No.6. June 2009

The June 2009 edition of eJournal USA provides insight into Native Americans and other indigenous peoples. Articles provide historical background and look at issues surrounding their languages and culture, their legal status, and how they are networking around the world.

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