



Recently at the Embassy



Ambassadors for Hungary's Transparency

On May 8, ambassadors of eight highly developed countries that account for 85% of the foreign direct investment in Hungary (Austria, the U.S., France, the Netherlands, Japan, Canada, the U.K. and Germany), the American Chamber of Commerce in Hungary, and representatives of Hungarian political parties met at the British Embassy in Budapest to set up a working group aimed at improving Hungary's transparency and public administration. [More▶](#)

Ambassador Promotes Empowerment of Women

Ambassador Foley addressed a group of Lebanese women leaders during a seminar in Budapest May 14 on "Increasing Lebanese Women's Participation in Political Life." The program, organized by Hungary's International Center for Democratic Transition (ICDT), was sponsored by the Department of State in the framework of the Women's Empowerment Pillar of the Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI). [MEPI▶](#)

On May 11, Ambassador Foley joined Member of the Hungarian Parliament Dr. Klára Sándor and Member of the European Parliament Dr. Zita Gurmai at a conference in Szeged, Hungary, on "Women and Career in the 21st Century" co-sponsored by U.S. company Procter & Gamble.

"The United States and Hungary: Paths of Diplomacy 1848-2006"

On May 9, the U.S. State Department presented this new monograph to representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and a diplomatic and academic audience at CEU. After Ambassador Foley's introduction, Director of the Office of the Historian of U.S. Department of State Dr. Marc Susser presented findings of the book, which was followed by a panel discussion of historians and diplomats about U.S.-Hungarian relations, and the role of history in diplomatic and foreign relations. [More▶](#)

Auto Alley Considers Trade Opportunities with Hungary

As part of a larger European itinerary, representatives from the Michigan-based U.S. company consortium Automation Alley met with Hungarian company officials May 18 to find potential regional business partners. The U.S. companies included Advanced Design Resources International, Enterprise Automotive Systems, Dragun Corporation and Fluxtrol Manufacturing. [Automation Alley▶](#)

Budapest ESTH and ILEA Host Training Program on Illegal Logging

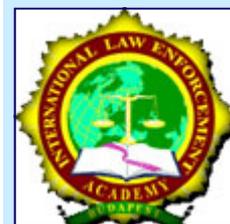
Between May 14-17, the Budapest Environment, Science, Technology and Health (ESTH) HUB and the International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) hosted a regional training program on illegal logging for participating officials from Bulgaria, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro, Kosovo, and Hungary. Instructors from the U.S. Justice Department's Environmental Crimes Section, the U.S. Forest Service's International Programs Division, and the World Bank shared strategies, approaches and tools on how most effectively to combat illegal logging. [ILEA▶](#)

Hungarian Participants Return from FORTUNE Mentoring Program

Orsolya Szűcs, Regional Director for Hungary and Austria of the Epicor Software Corporation, and Beáta Kála, Sales Director of the SCD Company returned to Hungary following a one-month FORTUNE/State Department Women Leaders Mentoring Program. Under this innovative program, thirty two emerging women leaders from around the globe attended leadership training in Washington, DC, followed by pairing of each participant with one of FORTUNE's most powerful women leaders. [More▶](#)

Ambassador Shares U.S.-EU Summit Results with Hungarian Parliament Committee

Ambassador Foley was invited to address a meeting of the parliamentary European Affairs Committee on May 8 to present the U.S. perspective on U.S.-EU Summit results. In addition, she entered into a discussion on energy security issues, including various pipeline projects that Hungary is considering and their respective impact on Hungary's energy dependency. [Remarks▶](#)



Former Consultant on U.S. Intelligence Reform after 9/11

Stan Taylor, Professor Emeritus of Brigham Young University and a former Consultant and Staff Member of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, delivered a lecture on U.S. intelligence reform after 9/11 to a group of thirty students at ELTE University on May 18.

Hungarian Teens Demonstrate Knowledge of U.S. Culture



Economic Officer Aspen Russell and Community Liaison Officer Susan Gray represented the Embassy as judges for the Kaposvár City Middle School's 12th annual, county-wide British and American Civilization Competition. Thirty six students competed from 9 schools demonstrating their knowledge of English language as well as British and U.S. history and modern culture.

Tolerance Youth Drama Exchange Finale in Budapest

On May 10-11, 29 students and 5 teachers from Romania and Serbia traveled to Budapest to perform "Together is Better", an original theatrical play written and rehearsed by the students during meetings in Serbia and Romania supplemented by on-line correspondence. The play addressed gender issues and inter-ethnic understanding and is part of Regional English Language Office (RELO) Budapest's tolerance summer camp follow-up programming. Three hundred students and teachers viewed the plays at the American International School of Budapest and Karinthy Frigyes Bilingual High School. [RELO](#)



Hungarian Students Inspired by American Short Stories

Embassy Public Affairs Section provided the prizes and Ambassador Foley the keynote speech at an awards ceremony for a high school creative writing contest on May 15. A total of 200 students from 14 Hungarian and international schools submitted five-page works inspired by their study of American short stories.

Looking Ahead

New Baseball Field Opens in Debrecen

On June 2 at 10 a.m., Embassy Political and Economic Counselor Eric Gaudiosi will pitch the first ball at the opening of a 2-day tournament inaugurating Hungary's newest baseball field. Admission is free to watch the game and also to participate in the "learn how to play baseball" session. Address: Debrecen Ipari Park, Határ u. 10 (entrance from Globiz). Further information at the Debrecen [American Corner](#)



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Public Lecture on Free Speech at CEU

The U.S. Embassy and the CEU Center for Media and Communication Studies invite you to the public lecture: *The Law of Libel and the Boundaries of Free Speech* by David E. McCraw, Counsel, The New York Times Company on May 31, at 4:30 p.m. Venue: CEU Gellner Room (Nádor u. 9, Budapest V).

[Webchat](#) ► **Democracy Dialogues: Journalists' Access to Government Information** with Eric Johnson on June 4 at 1400 CET.

New Publications

USA Literature in Brief

This publication provides a historical overview of American literature, up to the beginning of the 21st Century, as well as short profiles of the major writers. [Publication](#) ►

eJournal: *Countering the Terrorist Mentality* [eJournal](#) ►

Several of the world's leading scholars in this field examine the motivations of those who carry out terrorist attacks and the techniques terrorist organizations like al-Qaida use to recruit and motivate them.

IRC Newsletters: [Defense Issues, NATO, Response to Terrorism](#) ► [U.S. Society and Values](#) ►

In the News... from Washington

President Bush Welcomes NATO Leader at Texas Ranch (05/21)

Security in Afghanistan, Kosovo's future and European missile defense figured prominently in discussions between President Bush and NATO Secretary-General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer during a two-day meeting at the president's ranch in Crawford, Texas. [More](#) ►



White House photo by Eric Draper