

## PHOTO OF THE DAY



Statue of Archangel Gabriel on the Millennium Monument ahead of renovation

MTI/Balázs Mohai

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**EU foreign ministers' informal meeting in Brussels**

**Events related to Hungary's EU presidency**

**Events related to the wars in Ukraine, Middle East**

## TOP STORY

# BRUSSELS'S MIGRATION POLICY 'IRRESPONSIBLE'

Brussels is pursuing an "irresponsible" migration policy, "yet Hungary is the one being penalised", Barna Pál Zsigmond, a state secretary of the European affairs ministry, has said.

Commenting on recent knife attacks in Germany committed by migrants, Zsigmond told public television M1 that he has expressed his condolences to a parliamentary delegation from North Rhine-Westphalia over the recent deadly stabbings in Solingen. The state secretary said the EU needed to take action against illegal migration because these kinds of attacks were becoming widespread in major western European cities. He added, however, that western European countries were only able to carry out 22% of their deportation rulings, "and in Germany, the mainstream left-liberal media doesn't even allow this to be discussed".

The Hungarian model, on the other hand, was effective, he said, noting that it called for assessing asylum applications outside the border, effective border protection and firm action against people smugglers. Deportation rulings, he added, also had to be enforced, and help should be provided at the point where it is needed. He said Hungary had spent more than 2 billion euros on border protection in line with its obligations as a member of the Schengen area.

Hungary Matters is an English-language newsletter produced and distributed by the Media Service Support and Asset Management Fund (MTVA) with content provided by Duna Media Service Provider exercises copyright over all content. No part of this publication may be copied, reproduced, redistributed or transmitted without prior written permission from the publisher, with the exception of copies made by individuals for private use, educational purposes or scholarly research, provided that such transmissions do not exceed the extent justified by the purpose and are not aimed at financial gain, even indirectly, and the source name are indicated at all times.

All rights reserved. Enquiries should be made to the English Help Desk at +361 441 9340  
For MTI's real time coverage please visit <http://english.mti.hu>, <http://econews.hu>



---

## **SERVICES AT KELETI STATION RESUME AFTER DERAILMENT**

Train services at Budapest's Keleti railway station were set to resume early Tuesday after a derailment halted traffic, Mávinform said overnight on Monday. Trains arriving from the east and the southeast of the country were set to start arriving early in the morning. Trains coming from the west and the southwest were expected to be diverted to Kelenföld railway station until 9am. Full service is expected to resume on these lines gradually, and certain trains will be arriving at and departing from other Budapest stations, Mávinform said. Service at Keleti station was suspended after five carriages of an InterCity train arriving from Cluj-Napoca (Kolozsvár) derailed on Sunday evening. János Lázár, the construction and transport minister, said later on Tuesday that rail traffic has resumed at Keleti station. In a Facebook post, Lazar thanked the railway workers for their work to restore service and passengers for their patience and understanding.

---

## **PRESIDENT SULYOK: CHRISTIANITY REPRESENTS HUNGARY'S 'MORAL FOUNDATION'**

Christianity and following Christ's teachings represent Hungary's moral foundations, President Tamás Sulyok said at the Pannonhalma Archabbey

on Monday, addressing a celebration marking the 800th anniversary of the consecration of the abbey built in honour of Saint Martin. Pannonhalma plays an important role in the survival of Christianity and in safeguarding the future of the nation, helping future generations preserve their faith and Christian Hungarian self-identity, Sulyok said, adding that no country could work without moral foundations and order. "Pannonhalma is a place where they have been using the language of peace for a thousand years, and using this language is something that the whole world badly needs today," he added.

---

## **OFFICIAL: NUMBER OF REGISTERED JOBBEEKERS FALLS TO ALL-TIME LOW IN AUGUST**

The number of registered jobseekers in Hungary fell to 224,598 this month, an all-time low for the month of August, the state secretary for employment policy said on Tuesday, citing data from the National Employment Service (NFSZ). The number of registered jobseekers fell by 1.7 percent from the same month a year earlier, Sándor Czomba said in a statement. While the number of workers in the domestic primary labour market increased by 26,000 in August, the number of fostered workers decreased by 12,000, he said. In an effort to mobilise a domestic labour reserve of an estimated 300,000 people, the government aims ensure that anyone

who is willing and able to work can find a job in Hungary, the state secretary said.

---

## **HUNGARY CBANK KEEPS BASE RATE ON HOLD**

Hungarian central bank (NBH) rate-setters kept the base rate unchanged at 6.75% at a regular policy meeting on Tuesday. The Monetary Council also decided to keep the central bank's O/N deposit rate at 5.75% and the O/N collateralised loan rate at 7.75%. Barnabás Virág, the NBH's deputy governor, said today's pause in rate cuts was in line with the bank's stability-focused monetary policy, but further cautious reductions may be possible in the upcoming period. July headline and core inflation have inched higher, Virág told an online press briefing after the rate decision, noting that headline inflation again exceeded 4%, mainly on the back of higher food prices.

Still, the longer-term inflation outlook was unchanged and the price index would return to the tolerance band in the coming months, he said. Disinflation may start to take hold from the first quarter of 2025, he added.

---

## **SZIGET FESTIVAL BOOSTS TOURISM ACCOMMODATION TURNOVER**

Revenue of tourism accommodations in the capital climbed by more than one-third during the Sziget, Hungary's

biggest summer music festival, from the previous week, the Hungarian Tourism Agency said. Around 178,000 tourists spent 336,000 guests nights at tourism accommodations in the capital during the Sziget on August 7-12, the agency said, citing figures from the National Tourism Data Service Centre (NTAK). The number of guest nights climbed about one-fourth, it added. Guests included around 160,000 foreigners who spent 10pc more guest nights than during last year's Sziget. Dutch visitors accounted for the largest number of foreigners, followed by Italians, Brits, Germans and Spaniards.

The most visited city sites during the Sziget included the area around

the parliament building, Margaret Island, Saint Stephen's Basilica, the Szechenyi baths and the Great Market Hall.

---

### **GEORGIA GUEST OF HONOUR AT THIS YEAR'S BUDAPEST WINE FESTIVAL**

Georgia will be a guest of honour at the 33rd Budapest Wine Festival, and will present its special vintages alongside wines from Hungarian and international producers. The festival running from Sept 12 to 15 on the terraces of the Buda Castle also features gastronomic specialties and discussions,

among other programmes. Archaeological research indicates that Georgian wine culture dates back 8,000 years, and many of the typical amber, skin-fermented, high-tannin natural white wines produced today are made using very similar methods. Georgian dishes associated with its different regions will also be on offer as well as gastronomic selections, served as an accompaniment to the wines, as diverse as Indian, French and Taiwanese fare. Also, celebrated and lesser-known wineries will have the chance to present their wines at the prestigious VinAgora International Wine Competition.