

Reports on the Situation of Hungarians Living Abroad

Government Office for Hungarian Minorities Abroad

Hungarians in Austria 2003

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Dear Reader,

You are holding in your hands the fourth updated issue of the regional reports launched in summer 2000 on the situation of the Hungarian communities abroad, supplemented with the most important events and data of the year 2002.

One of the most important events of the past year was without a doubt the acceleration of the European integration process, with Hungary's accession to the European Union becoming a reality in the near future. To this event must be added the practical realisation of the benefits law which came into force on 1 January 2002 despite some differences of views with part of the affected neighbouring countries.

Parallel with the progress of the Euro-Atlantic integration process in our region, the forces openly promoting discrimination have increasingly been squeezed out of the political leaderships of the countries involved. At the same time, the progressive forces interested in the democratic development of the given majority societies and in the stability of the region have been considerably strengthened and the Hungarian communities abroad have become eminent and indispensable participants in this stability.

The demands of the Hungarians living abroad for institutional political guarantees serving the preservation and consolidation of their communities, above all the various forms and levels of autonomy, have of course not been fully met but this could hardly be expected in view of present realities.

At the same time, an institutional dialogue has developed between the legitimate political and interest representation organisations of the Hungarians abroad and the political leadership of the given countries. In the framework of this dialogue, these organisations have the possibility in a manner they deem correct and practical to continuously raise, again and again if justified, their demands which have not yet been met.

Numerous legal regulations have been enacted in the given countries which provide an incomparably more favorable political and legal environment in the spheres of minority self-organisation, interest representation and interest assertion.

In Romania, the Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania (RMDSZ) and the government party decided in Fall 2001 to renew their one-year co-operation agreement signed after the 2000 general elections. In the spirit of the agreement, the law on local self-administration with several articles positively dealing with the use of minority languages was passed. The legal regulation dealing with the restitution of church possessions was also adopted. Several important state Hungarian educational institutions, such as the Gergely Csiky High School in Arad and the Klára Lövey High School in Máramarossziget / Sighetu Marmătiei were reopened in 2001 and 2002, respectively, and there is a promise to reopen the Lajos Áprily High School in Brassó / Braşov.

In Slovakia, Hungarian schools received significant state support in comparison with previous years, the Hungarian theatres are again law subjects and Hungarian culture and book publishing in Slovakia have received important aid as a result of the signing of relevant agreements. Communal investments in areas inhabited by Hungarians (construction of water ducts and sewage purifiers, for example) have benefited from an unprecedented amount of state assistance.

In Hungary's southern neighbour the Serbian parliament passed the law determining the spheres of competence of the various autonomous provinces (Omnibus law), thanks to which 24 state administrative areas of Vojvodina got back the spheres of authority eliminated under the Milošević regime. The passage of the law on the protection of the rights and freedoms of minorities (minority law) represents in itself a step forward in the area of minority protection, and its most important element is the recognition of the right of self-determination. On the basis of the minority law, the Hungarian Council of Vojvodina was established last Fall as a new form of self-government for the Hungarian minority, with competences mainly in the fields of education and culture.

In Ukraine, the re-establishment of the Nationality and Migration State Committee as an independent institution instead of being a mere department of the justice ministry signals a favorable change in that country's nationality policy.

In Croatia, the Sabot (parliament) passed on 13 December 2002 the new law on minority protection with constitutional validity and which, along with many other favorable guarantees for the minority communities in Croatia, allows for the establishment of minority self-governments.

The Hungarian community in Slovenia's Mura Region has achieved personal autonomy through its well-functioning institutions.

On the whole, one can witness a gradual albeit not necessarily even progress and, considering the development of the international system of requirements, there is no reason to expect a standstill or a regression in this regard.

An important development is the fact as members of the EU, Hungarian citizens will be members of the same community as their fellow Hungarians living in the developed countries of Europe. With our accession, therefore, the relationship between the Hungarian diaspora living in the EU member states and their motherland will acquire a radically different dimension.

The socialist-liberal government which took office in Spring 2002 in Hungary considers it as his political and moral duty, also set down in the constitution, to support the Hungarians living abroad. Accordingly, it wishes to modify the law on benefits without damaging its original aims and the interests of both Hungary and the Hungarians abroad, and at the same time to make it conform with European norms and, as a condition for the law's further smooth implementation, acceptable for the governments of the states involved. The hoped for success of these efforts can become the pledge that after its accession to the European Union, Hungary will be able to ensure without any changes the organic relationship between the Hungarian communities abroad and their mother country.

The task of the Government Office for Hungarian Minorities Abroad, responsible for co-ordinating government activities relating to the Hungarian government and ethnic Hungarians living abroad, is to make sure that the historical opportunity for the spiritual and cultural reunification of the Hungarian nation within the framework of Europe through our country's EU membership will become as soon as possible a reality.

József Bálint-Pataki
Chairman

The Situation of Hungarians in Austria

According to the data of the 2001 census in the Republic of Austria, 40,583 persons (25,884 Austrian and 14,699 foreign citizens) designated Hungarian as their contact language in response to the question relating to the language they used in their surroundings (private contacts). This figure represents an increase of 7,124 or 21.29% compared to the figure registered ten years earlier. According to the Hungarian organizations in Austria, the number of persons living in Austria who consider themselves to be Hungarian or of Hungarian origin may be around 60,000 to 70,000. The increase registered in 2001 is due primarily to the political changes in Hungary during the past decade as a result of which Hungarians in Austria could declare their origin without any political considerations. The majority of them live primarily in Vienna and its surroundings, in other large cities (Graz, Linz, Salzburg, Innsbruck), and dispersed in other localities of the country. On the basis of their origin, they can be divided into two main groups. One of these is the „native” ethnic group in Burgenland which came under Austrian jurisdiction under the terms of the 1920 Trianon Peace Treaty and following the Sopron regional referendum which corrected the territorial provisions of the treaty. The second group consists of emigrants or refugees who settled down at various periods of time and whose numbers, together with those who arrived from the successor states in the Carpathian Basin, have increased until recent times.

1. THE HUNGARIAN IMMIGRANTS

The Hungarian *diaspora* actually developed during the period of the Dual Monarchy between Austria and Hungary that lasted until 1918, and a more significant number of political and economic emigrants settled down in Austria only after the two world wars and after 1956.

At the end of the Second World War, a large number of Hungarian military and civilian refugees remained in Hungary in the occupation zones of the Western Powers. By 1947, the majority of the refugees left mainly for overseas (North and South America, Australia). Emigrants of 1944–45 enjoyed the greatest movement of freedom in the French zone of occupation where the former members of the military soon began to organize themselves under the leadership of Generals Ferenc Farkas and András Zákó. The centre of the organization was Innsbruck. Lieutenant Colonel Ferenc Adonyi-Naredy was the leader of similar activities in the British zone in Carinthia. In 1947, the *Community of Fellow Soldiers* was formed and was renamed one year later the *Community of Hungarian Fighters* and moved its centre first to Germany and then to Canada. In 1947, the *Comradely Society of the Hungarian Royal Gendarmerie* was established in Graz and continued to function after 1949 as the *Community of the Hungarian Royal Gendarmerie*, with a significant number of its members later settling overseas. Under the pretext of „legal continuity”, members of the 1939 Hungarian Parliament who went abroad and other political elements established the *Group of Legislators Based on the Hungarian*

Historic Constitution, later called the *Union*. The so-called moderate 39-ers formed the forefront of the group under the leadership of Count Béla Teleki, former Chairman of the Transylvanian Party, Count József Pálffy, and Lajos Máriaffi. Miklós Bonczos, former minister of the interior in the Lakatos Cabinet, established the *Hungarian Service*, an organization with a social program. These along with other organizations with similar programs formed the *National Anti-Bolshevik Force* and which, despite their intention, were not able to achieve the role of a top body.

Following the 1956 Revolution, 181,000 Hungarian refugees arrived in Austria. By 1959, 162,000 of them had left for other Western countries and 7,772 had returned to Hungary. Austria at that time took in a larger number of refugees than could be expected, which was quite respectable even if other Western countries also did their share in helping the large number of refugees. Among the better known aid organizations operating in Austria, one must primarily mention *First Aid for Hungary* (whose representative in Austria was Lieutenant General Béla Lengyel), *Free Europe Citizen Service*, *Forumhilfe* and *Volkshilfe*, and *Hungarian Refugee Service* managed by László Taubinger. The task of these Hungarian-oriented organizations was to complement the activities of the International Red Cross and the services for refugees of various countries.

At the end of 1956, the World Federation of Political Refugees, later called the Federation of Hungarian Political Prisoners, was founded in Vienna. At the beginning of 1957, the Hungarian Freedom Fighters (National Guard) Society, headed by General Béla Király, was established. The above-named politically oriented organizations hardly played any role in the development of the later community life and either ceased to exist within a short time or left neutral Austria which had developed a „special” relationship with Hungary. From the end of the 1970s on the remaining *émigré* organizations increasingly took a cultural and identity preserving character.

The recognition by the state of the statutes of the top body of the Hungarian associations outside Burgenland occurred on 12 November 1979. At a general assembly held on 7 May 1980 with the participation of representatives of 22 organizations, the *Central Federation of Hungarian Associations and Organizations in Austria* (*Zentralverband Ungarischer Vereine und Organisationen in Österreich*) was established. In the meantime, the number of member organizations has dwindled to 15, but no organization still active has so far left the Federation. As a top organization, the *Zentralverband* is the representative body of the member associations and harmonizes and coordinates their activities. Beyond that, it carries out the task of a planning and organizational centre for all undertakings exceeding the capabilities of the various member associations. The joint commemoration of national holidays in Vienna is organized each year by the top body. Since March 1980 it publishes the bi-monthly *Becsi Naplo* (*Vienna Diary*) whose editor-in-chief is Dr. Ernő Deák; for the sixth year it runs the Hungarian Theatre of Vienna by presenting guest companies, and it organizes concerts and exhibitions.

Since September 1987, the Zentralverband maintains the *Hungarian School of Vienna*, with instruction taking place every second Saturday in the Urania building. Year after year, the number of those enrolled exceeds 100 and a nursery group also functions for the past three years. The staff consists of three kindergarten teachers and three female teachers. In addition, at the initiative of the *Zentralverband*, instruction in the Hungarian language is given in five Vienna primary schools, and for the third year in a school in Mödling for two hours a week outside of the regular teaching schedule.

In Fall 2001 a yearly advanced *teacher's training and adult education course* for a better knowledge of the Hungarian people (literary and cultural history, history, social knowledge, political geography, ethnography) was launched with the participation of 30 to 50 persons. These forms of children and adult education are financially supported by the Hungarian Ministry of Education and logistically by the Government Office for Hungarians Abroad.

In the past few years, the idea of establishing with the support of the Austrian state a Hungarian-language secondary school located in Vienna has come up on several occasions among the Hungarian community. The debate between supporters and opponents of the proposal over the possible number of students and degree of utilization of such a school appears to be undecided.

A scientific forum and at the same time a high level dissemination of knowledge are represented since the beginning of the 1990s by the „*Kufstein Conferences*” organized every second year (the first such conference was held at the castle of Kufstein) at which, in connection with selected topics or anniversaries, experts from the Carpathian Basin and Hungary deliver lectures. On each occasion, the material of the conferences is also published as a book. After a one-year interruption due to lack of financial support, the next conference will take place in Fall 2003.

The institutes of higher education in Austria do not have a Hungarian-language section. The students enrolled at the *Finno-Ugrian Faculty of the University of Sciences of Vienna* may take a separate teacher's qualifying examination. Moreover, students can earn a kindergarten teacher's qualification certificate at Hungarian-language and bilingual courses at the *Kindergarten Education Centre at Felsőőr*.

Possibilities for supplying these educational institutes with teaching and support materials as well as methodological consultation are provided through the assistance of the Hungarian Ministry of Education and on the basis of an agreement between the *Education Centres of Eisenstadt (Kismarton) and of Sopron*.

No independent Hungarian party or political organization functions in Austria.

At the initiative and urging of the *Zentralverband*, the Austrian government on 30 June 1992 (the Parliament approved the government decision on 9 July) recognized the Hungarians living in Vienna and its vicinity as an ethnic group. As a result, the number of the members of the *Hungarian Ethnic Group Council* rose from 8 in 1993 to 16 (with a

fifty–fifty ratio representation for Burgenland and Vienna). The expanded body held its inaugural meeting on 25 March 1993 and is renewed every four years.

Among the organizations functioning independently from the *Zentralverband*, the *Dachverband*, set up on the basis of the *Hungarian Workers' Association of Vienna* founded in 1896, also deserves mention, together with the *Hungarian Pastoral Service of the Lutheran Church (Ungarischer Seelsorgendienst der Evangelischen Kirche AB in Österreich)*. Hungarian Catholic and Protestants church offices function in several localities.

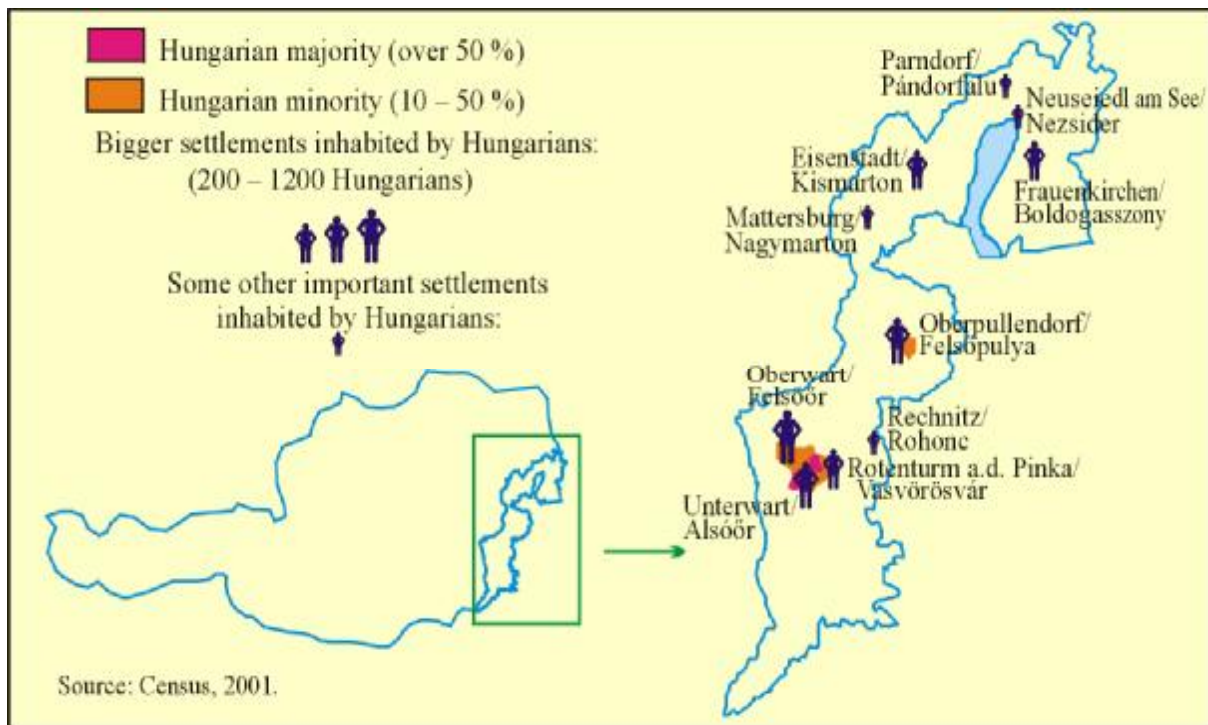
Although the situation of Austria's Hungarian ethnic group is settled, the *Zentralverband* is of the opinion that the organization (for rationally not understandable reasons) is judged in an increasingly rigorous manner. This is shown among other things by the fact that in spite of the funds at its disposal the Chancellery did not assume the costs of the Vienna community's premises purchased in Fall 1999 at a price of 3.5 million ATS and which, together with alteration and other expenses, totalled 4.5 million ATS. As a result, the repayment of the long-term loan put the organization in a very difficult situation. Difficulties were further increased as of November 2002, the Chancellery Office did not accept in the order of 295,000 ATS the settlement of accounts of the state support for the year 2000. The organization was obliged to repay the amount because a refusal would have resulted in the cessation of any further budgetary support.

The minority rights enshrined in the Austrian legal system – in accordance with the 1976 law on ethnic groups – theoretically also ensure the survival of ethnic groups in the sphere of financial support, but the practical application of the law can nevertheless place the ethnic groups in an impossible situation.

2. THE HUNGARIANS OF BURGENLAND (ŐRVIDÉK)

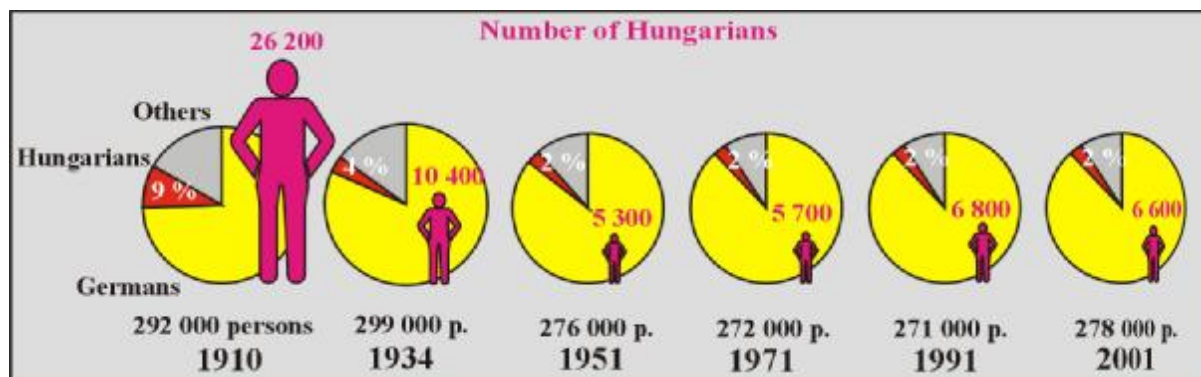
The indigenous Hungarian ethnic group lives in the province of Burgenland in eastern Austria. It numbered 24,867 according to the 1920 Hungarian census based on the mother tongue, and has been reduced to one-sixth of that number since the transfer of the territory to Austria. In the 2001 census on the basis of the language used in the immediate surroundings, 6,641 persons (of whom 4,704 were Austrian citizens and 1,937 foreign citizens) declared themselves to be Hungarians. This figure represents a 5.4% decrease compared to the figure of ten years ago. The drop was mostly felt in the localities of Unterwart (Alsóőr) and Oberwart (Felsőőr) which are considered to be the traditional centres of the indigenous Hungarian minority. The numerical decrease in other localities has lessened, presumably thanks to the arrival of new settlers.

Figure 1 Hungarians in Burgenland



Local estimates are of the opinion that the Hungarian community is numerically larger but this could be proven only if the question asked in the census would refer to mother tongue or origin. As a result of the question now being asked, the persons of Hungarian origin and self-identity living in mixed marriages or in exclusively German-language communities are lost for the Hungarian ethnic group. The aging of the Hungarian minority, the linguistic and cultural influence of the German environment, and the economic attraction of the large cities are also responsible for this numerical decrease. Emigration and assimilation appear to accelerate but the process could be slowed down by means of more resolute assistance. The view that the assimilation of the Hungarians of Burgenland is of an entirely spontaneous nature is open to debate. For a long time, the difficulty in having direct contacts with Hungary and the subtle acceleration of this process on the part of Austria also played a role. From the change of regime in Hungary on until recently, this was also due to the economic fears on the Austrian side that with the opening of the border between the two countries, Burgenland investors showed a growing interest in the west Hungarian region compared to that in the province. Nowadays this trend seems to have reversed itself, with Austrian enterprises attracting not only working capital through price policy and other maneuvers but also purchasing power and the still cheaper labour force from Hungary over to the Austrian side of the border. All this could contribute to a repetition of the trends felt at the turn of the 1990s and give a new impetus to the economic development of the province of Burgenland.

Figure 2 Burgenland's nationality composition and Hungarian population trend between 1910 and 2001



Minority education in Burgenland is regulated by the provincial law on minority school law adopted in 1994, and the compulsory instruction of the minority language in elementary and higher elementary schools by the 1995 provincial school law. On that basis *bilingual instruction* is currently taking place in the elementary schools of Alsóőr (Unterwart) and Örsziget (Siget in der Wart), and *optional Hungarian language exercise* is offered in ten other schools. The Hungarian language is used in nursery schools in Felsőpulya (Oberpullendorf), Örsziget, Felsőőr (Oberwart) and Alsóőr.

There is no independent Hungarian-language *high school* in Burgenland since 1920. Progress in this field was made from the 1981/82 school year on with the creation of a *Hungarian-language section* in the high school of Felsőlovő (Oberschützen) and from the 1987/88 school year with the setting up of a so-called „Pannonian” class in which Hungarian and Croatian are taught as compulsory subjects. A *bilingual high school* with a Hungarian and a Croatian section opened its doors in Felsőőr in 1992. Some discrepancies can still be found, however, between the legal regulations ensuring Hungarian-language instruction and their use in practice and this does not make it possible for students to master the Hungarian language at an adequate level. (25.9% of the population of Felsőőr and 23.9% of that of Felsőpulya received Hungarian-language instruction in the course of their life).

Some two-thirds of the Hungarians in Burgenland are *Roman Catholic*. In 1998, the *parish of Alsóőr* (Unterwart) came under the jurisdiction of the Head Abbacy of the Benedictine Order in Pannonhalma, Hungary, which until the recent retirement of vicar Dr. Ireneusz Galambos OSB was one of the regional centres for the cultivation of Hungarian language and culture. The majority of the Hungarian Catholic priests serving in Austria completed their studies in Hungary.

The *Reformed (Calvinist) Church* of Burgenland has its only congregation in Felsőőr (Oberwart), while the Lutheran Church has one in Örsziget (Siget in der Wart). The assimilation of the two Protestant congregations is at an advanced stage because part of

the religious services is in the German language. Their ministers complete their studies in Hungary.

Since 1990 Burgenland's ORF Television broadcasts four times a year a half-hour program for the Hungarian minority entitled „*God Bless You Hungarians!*”. In the mid-1990s, citing the low level of audience the provincial cable television society took off the Hungarian-language programs from its main airtime and also drastically cut their content. Outside intervention became practically impossible because of the difficulty to influence a profit-oriented private society with other arguments. The event took place at the time when the provincial head of the province of Burgenland, Karl Stix, expressed on several occasions his antipathy toward Austria's eastern neighbour in connection with the enlargement of the EU.

Since 1 January 2002, the *Burgenland studio of Austrian Radio* is broadcasting a five-minute daily program and a 25-minute Sunday program in the Hungarian language. The „*Heimat, fremde Heimat*” magazine of Vienna's ORF reports from time to time on events organized by the Hungarian organizations. Among the commercial radios, „*Radio MORA – Multilingual Open Radio*” broadcasts a one-hour program in each of the Hungarian, Croatian and Roma languages dealing with questions affecting the minorities.

The *Hungarian Cultural Association of Burgenland*, formed in 1968 with its seat in Felsőőr is the main interest representation body of the indigenous Hungarian ethnic group in the province. With its publications and programs, it not only serves the preservation of the Hungarian minority and cross-border cooperation but also the cultivation of relations with the majority population. The current chairman of the organization is József Plank.

3. GENERAL FINDINGS ABOUT THE SITUATION OF THE HUNGARIANS IN AUSTRIA

The document entitled „*Report on the Situation of Ethnic Minorities in the Republic of Austria*” prepared August 2000 for the „Wise Men” of the European Union (Martti Ahtisaari, Prof. Dr. Jochen Frowein, Dr. Mercelino Oreja) by the Austrian Centre for Ethnic Groups (Österreichisches Volksgruppenzentrum) presented in detail the situation of the Austria's ethnic groups and supported its findings with the applicable legal background in force. The report, adopted without major objections by the members of the Centre's committee also gives a correct historical review of the Hungarian ethnic group in Austria which constitutes a linguistic island („Sprachinsel” in the province of Burgenland. It refers to the numerical change underwent by the Hungarian population since 1920 and also to the fact that in the censuses held since then, the viewpoints for data collection („Umgangssprache” – language for daily contacts, „Muttersprache” – mother tongue, „Familiensprache” – language used in the family, „Denksprache” – the language for thinking, „Kulturkreis” – cultural circle) changed several times. The re-

port finds that major decrease and assimilation characterize all ethnic groups.

The document breaks down the changes in Austria's minority policy since the Second World War into the following periods: *permissive* (Gewährungspolitik, 1945–1955), *hindering* (Verhinderungspolitik, 1955–1972), *restrictive* (Restriktive Politik, 1972–1988), *dialogue* (Dialogpolitik, 1988–1994), *ignoring* (Ignoranzpolitik, 1994–2000) and *monitoring* (Monitoring Politik, since 2000). The law amended in summer 2000 (B-VG-Novelle) gives the following definition of state-building ethnic groups (Staatszielbestimmung Volksgruppen): „The Republic is characterized by linguistic and cultural diversity which expresses itself in the form of indigenous ethnic groups. Attention must be paid and guarantee and support must be given to the survival and preservation of the ethnic groups' language and culture.” Each ethnic group, including the Hungarian one, receives an annual support from the state budget.

On the basis of the Austrian country report, the *Council of Europe's Advisory Committee* drafted a *report* on the implementation by Austria of the frame agreement on minority protection. The members of the committee also made personal inquiries in Austria in December 2001. This reports ascertains that the situation of the Croatian, Slovene, Hungarian, Czech and Slovak minorities is characterized by harmonious coexistence with the majority nation on the basis of tolerance. At the same time, it finds that progress is needed in consolidating and developing the institutions for the teaching of the Hungarian, Czech and Slovak languages, and further in increasing in the media sphere the television and radio programs for the Hungarian, Czech and Slovak minorities.

The Hungarian ethnic group in Austria does not have any territorial autonomy and has no guaranteed parliamentary representation, bilingual documents (such as identity card), and independent economic structure and activity. It is entitled to the official use of the minority language in four localities, to its use in the courts in two localities, and to bilingual locality name signs in four localities (Felsőpulya/Oberpullendorf, Felsőőr/Oberwart, Alsóőr/Unterwart, and Órsziget/Siget in der Wart).

4. HUNGARIAN ORGANIZATIONS IN THE REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA

Central Federation of Hungarian Organizations and Associations in Austria

(Zentralverband Ungarischer Vereine und Organisationen in Österreich)

President: Dr. Ernő Deák

Péter Bornemissza Society

President: Dr. Béla Miklós

Hungarian Labor Society in Vienna

President: Anna Pokorny

Hungarian Cultural Association of Burgenland

President: Dr. József Plank

Hungarian Adult Education of Burgenland (Volkshochschule der Burgenländischen Ungarn) Head: Attila Somogyi

The **Zentralverband** was founded on 7 May 1980 in Vienna.

Objectives: The representation of the community (organizational) interests of Hungarians of Austrian citizenship toward the relevant Austrian authorities and abroad. The recognition of the Hungarian ethnic groups of Austrian nationality outside of Burgenland as an ethnic community served this purpose. This was done in July 1992 on the part of the Austrian government with regard to the Hungarians in Vienna and Lower Austria.

Functions:

- representative body
- coordinating authority
- organizational centre

Activities:

- Joint commemoration of Hungarian national holidays
- Bimonthly publication of *Bécsi Napló (Vienna Journal)* since March 1980; publication of the trilingual *Ország Calendar* (since 1985); publishing house by the name of *Sodalitas* (reminiscent of the Danubian Scholars' Society of 1497–1508);
- Maintaining since September 1988 the so-called Hungarian School of Vienna;
- Holding since 1990 biannual so-called „Kufstein” conferences of Hungarians living in Western Europe and of minority Hungarians entitled: „*Being a minority is no fate but a mission*” (Kismarton/Eisenstadt/, 1992); „*Organization and network system of scattered Hungarian minorities*” (Innsbruck, 1994); „*Consciousness and History*” (Felsőpulya/Oberpullendorf), 1996); „*1848–1849: Legacy and Remembrance*” (Felsőpulya, 1998); „*What is Man Worth if Hungarian? The Historical Components of Hungarian Consciousness*” (Felsőpulya, 2000);
- Publishing the materials of the conferences;
- Commemoration in September 1991 of the 200th anniversary of the birth of Count István Széchenyi, and organization a scientific conference in German;
- The „Hungarian Theatre of Vienna” operates since 1995, with the appearance two to three times a year of Hungarian minority theatre companies;
- Joint celebration on 18 May 1996 in Felsőőr (Oberwart) with the Hungarian Cultural Association of Burgenland of the 1100th anniversary of the arrival of the Hun-

garian tribes into the Carpathian basin, and the millennium of the first mention of Austria;

- Commemoration on 26 October 1996 of the 40th anniversary of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution in Mosonmagyaróvár and Mosontarcsa (Andau);
- Organization on 4 November 1996 of a reception to express gratitude to Austrian and international aid organizations, as well as to the Vienna representations of those Western countries which supported and admitted Hungarian refugees in 1956;
- Holding on 23 September 2000 of an international folklore festival in Vienna's city hall with the participation of Hungarian choirs and dance ensembles from eight countries;
- Holding on 20–21 October of a German-language international conference entitled *One-Thousand Years of Living Together in Central Europe*;
- Publication for more than ten years of the program bulletin listing the events organized by the Hungarian associations in Vienna;
- Organization of occasional exhibits and concerts.

Member Associations:

Vienna:

- Hungarian Roman Catholic Church Office
- St. Stephan Society
- „Europa” Club
- „Jenő Kerkai” Hungarian Church Sociological Institute
- „Kaláka” Club; Economic Interest Community of Hungarians in Austria

Graz:

- Roman Catholic Hungarian Church Office
- Christiana Hungaria
- Club of Hungarian Students and Academics (University Students)

Linz:

- Roman Catholic Hungarian Church Office
- Hungarian Cultural Association of Upper-Austria
- „Árpád” boy scout troop No. 80

Innsbruck:

- Roman Catholic Hungarian Church Church Office
- Federation of Hungarian Academics and University Students of Innsbruck
- Hungarian Student Hostel Association

Salzburg:

- Hungarian Circle of Salzburg
- President: Péter Karsay



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