



**Welcome to Seklerland!
One of the most unique corners of culture in Europe**

On behalf of Harghita County Council, we are pleased to send you our international newsletter of Winter Issue 2013

General News

Mr. Csaba Borboly asked for EU funding for local community works

According to the county council president the close-up process of Republic of Moldova has to be supported

Mr. Csaba Borboly, president of Harghita County Council called the attention on the importance of EU funding for local community works, as well as the support for the close-up process of Republic of Moldova by all possible means, on the meeting of the Committee of the Regions and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, organized in Paris on 9th of December.
[Read more....](#)



Planned events for promoting Seklerland in Brussels

Between the period of 27th and 29th of November the official delegation of Harghita County Council had a meeting with the representative of the European Office of the National Union of County Councils of Romania (UNCJR) in Brussels, discussing next year events aimed at promoting Seklerland. According to the plans, in 2014 an international conference will be organized with the topic of Sekler



wooden carved gates, presenting Mrs. Piroska Kovács' devoted work for saving these gates being part of local cultural heritage. [Read more....](#)

The Committee of the Regions' draft opinion on the European higher education Mr. Csaba Borboly took part in a meeting with the representative of the Lithuanian presidency of the EU

The president of Harghita County Council, Mr. Csaba Borboly together with a local specialist, Mr. László Csák, participated in a meeting with the representative of the Lithuanian presidency of the EU, Mrs. Milda Špelytė-Letulienė, on 5th of November 2013, in Brussels. The meeting was organized within the framework of the consultation series aiming the elaboration of the Committee of the Regions' draft opinion concerning the European higher education in the world, Mr. Csaba Borboly being the rapporteur of the document. Harghita County Council believes that it is important to organize and to take part in cultural programs and events. [Read more....](#)

Focus on universities offering training in minority languages The EDUC Commission of Committee of the Regions unanimously accepted the draft opinion of Mr. Csaba Borboly

The Commission for Education, Youth and Research (EDUC) of the Committee of the Regions has accepted the draft opinion entitled as 'European Higher Education in the



World', on 13th of November. Mr. Csaba Borboly, president of Harghita County Council, being the rapporteur of the mentioned document underlined that 'in a multilingual and multi-ethnic Europe, institutions of higher education offering learning opportunities in minority languages can play a very significant role'. [Read more.....](#)

Activities toward the efficient promotion of Seklerland in Brussels

Within the framework of Harghita County Council's programme, entitled *Representation and promotion to the institutions of the European Union*, an official delegation of the county council promoted the local, traditional, cultural and touristic values of Harghita County at the European Parliament in Brussels, between 3-5th of December. At the same time, the delegated persons took part in a meeting with the colleagues of the Romanian Cultural Institution in Brussels, in order to evaluate the possibilities to organize and to participate in art and photo exhibitions, dance spectacles, conferences and other cultural events in the future. [Read more.....](#)

EPP declaration about European Energy Security



On 18th of October the European People Party's Group of the Committee of the Regions (EPP Group) held a meeting in Kaunas, Lithuania on energy security in the European and the EU energy market, as well as on the role of local and regional authorities in this regard. The participants of the meeting have discussed about sustainable energy supply, the necessity of assuring affordable energy prices, establishing a common European energy market, as well as the possibilities of connecting the electric and gas networks of European states were also brought into discussion. [Read more....](#)

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Committee of the Regions: Mr. Csaba Borboly's amendments were accepted

The EPP Group of the Committee of the Regions accepted in all 18 amendments submitted by Mr. Csaba Borboly, member of CoR and president of Harghita County Council on the meeting organized in Brussels on 8th of October.



These amendments were also voted to be accepted by the Plenary as well. President of Harghita County Council submitted amendments regarding the *Entrepreneurship 2020 Action Plan; Urban-Rural Partnership and Governance; Cars 2020: Action Plan for a competitive and sustainable automotive industry in Europe*; [Read more.....](#)

Shop of local and traditional products opened in Miercurea Ciuc

Owing to the successful organization of the Sekler Product Agricultural Cooperative, on 25th of November the Sekler Products' shop was opened. The cooperative was established in 2013 and its members are 16 associations and companies, as well as 5 individual entrepreneurs. During the opening ceremony, the president of the cooperative, Mr. István Márton, director of the Rural Development Association of Harghita County Council welcomed the participants. He said that after overcoming several difficulties they could realize the launch of this shop, in order to offer the possibility for local producers to sell their local and traditional products. [Read more....](#)



The farmer association in Cristuru Secuiesc and the Sekler Product programme are considered exemplary on international level

The meeting between Mr. Csaba Borboly and the Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development of the EU

On 28th of November, the official delegation of Harghita County Council, among them Mr. Csaba Borboly, county council president and member of the Committee of the Regions, met with Mr. Dacian Cioloş, Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development of the European Commission. During the meeting, the county council president presented the Sekler Product programme of Harghita County Council, providing an ample picture about the collaboration of the local community through which more hundred farmers have bought and restarted the milk processing factory in Cristuru Secuiesc. [Read more....](#)



Economic development of Harghita County with small airport systems

Driven by the view that efficiently operating a small airport in Harghita County would have a positive impact on the economic development of the region, Mr. Csaba Borboly has visited the small airport in Drobeta Turnu Severin city, Mehedinți County, Romania, having the main aim of getting to know how it is operated. The county council president declared that 'from the perspective of the region's economic development, supporting and operating small airports would be highly beneficial since at the moment it does not seem that a highway would be developed near Harghita County. [Read more....](#)



Cave rescue team established in Harghita County



The Mountain and Cave Rescue Public Service of Harghita County Council reached the realization of its objective to efficiently handle and overcome cave accidents in Harghita County, by establishing a cave rescue team on the meeting organized at the mountain rescue base situated near the Killer Lake, on 30th of November. There are several caves situated in Harghita County, and in

the past time the number of those tourists, who ventured in more hidden and dangerous places, has been increased. [Read more....](#)

Project News

Robinwood Plus – Local Best Practices for Forestry Development *Side-event to Metsä2013*

The partners of INTERREG IVC Robinwood Plus project organized a side-event to Metsä2013 with the purpose of presenting the project and best practices within the



field of forest management on 11th of December in Rovaniemi, Finland. Metsä2013 was the joint session of the UNECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the FAO European Forestry Commission, which took place between 9th and 13th of December. The aim of Robinwood Plus project is to promote the multifunctional role of forests as engine for economic development, environment protection, improvement of life quality in rural areas, in accordance with the EU Forest Action Plan and sustainability policies. [Read more.....](#)

The Progress project "Young Graduates and the Social Sector: Developing new job opportunities" is close to end in Harghita county



The project funded by the European Commission, aims to identify new professional opportunities for young, unemployed graduates within the social sector, and to contribute to the exchange of good practices among partner regions from Italy, Slovakia, Slovenia, Czech Republic and Romania. The project period is settled from 23rd of January 2013 to 23rd of January 2014.

[Read more.....](#)

Mrs. Ildikó Márton's and Mrs. Imola Veres' art works exhibited in Lecce, Italy *Travel exhibition and partner meeting within the framework of CreArt*

The works of 15 European artists, among them of Mrs. Ildikó Márton and of Mrs. Imola Veres from Harghita County can be viewed in Lecce, South Italy within the *Travel Exhibition* carried out in partnership with Harghita County Council, within the framework of CreArt (Network of Cities for Artistic Creation) EU funded project. The location in Lecce is the second station of the Travel Exhibition. [Read more.....](#)





For further information visit Harghita County Council's official website:
www.harghitacounty.ro

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