

In the light of the example of the lives of their elders, many younger generations discovered their parents' and grandparents' lost continent, the Hungarian Atlantis, and its people. They themselves rediscovered and were captivated by our culture and its greatest treasures while discovering and captivating each other; and even if they cannot bequeath this wonderful country to their children, they can help them to take possession of their forebears' inheritance from generation to generation.

My Friends,

In addition to becoming useful and valued citizens of the land of freedom, you have nurtured your solidarity with the Hungarian nation. We belong together because of our common past, our common language and our common dreams. We belong together because we have chosen each other at decisive moments. You have chosen solidarity again and again. Although belatedly, the time has come for us in Hungary to return a little of all that history has taken from your parents and you by granting you your citizenship. I ask you to take advantage of this option in large numbers.

The history of the Hungarian people, our common history, has not come to an end. The 21st century lies ahead of us, whose history we, too, can and must shape. A great deal depends on how much we can be involved in each other's lives; how much we will share common causes which we will fight for together, common celebrations where we can meet, and common dreams which together we can turn into reality.

You should continue to be the bridge between our most important ally, the American people, and the Hungarian people. You understand Hungary far better than the Americans and understand America far better than the Hungarians living on the banks of the Danube.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

*I sincerely hope that the words of the Megyer Creed will be fulfilled for us all.
"For anyone on whom the Holy Spirit has breathed,
Life or death does not matter:
They will live and stand, and sing and create
In Megyer and in Hungary,
On the seven continents and in the other world.
So help them God. Amen."*

With all good wishes,

Hende Csaba
Csaba Hende
Hungary's Minister of Defense

