

# Residency and Citizenship in Hungary

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SMC Offshore Tactics Workshop 2013



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# Hungary in Europe



# 1825



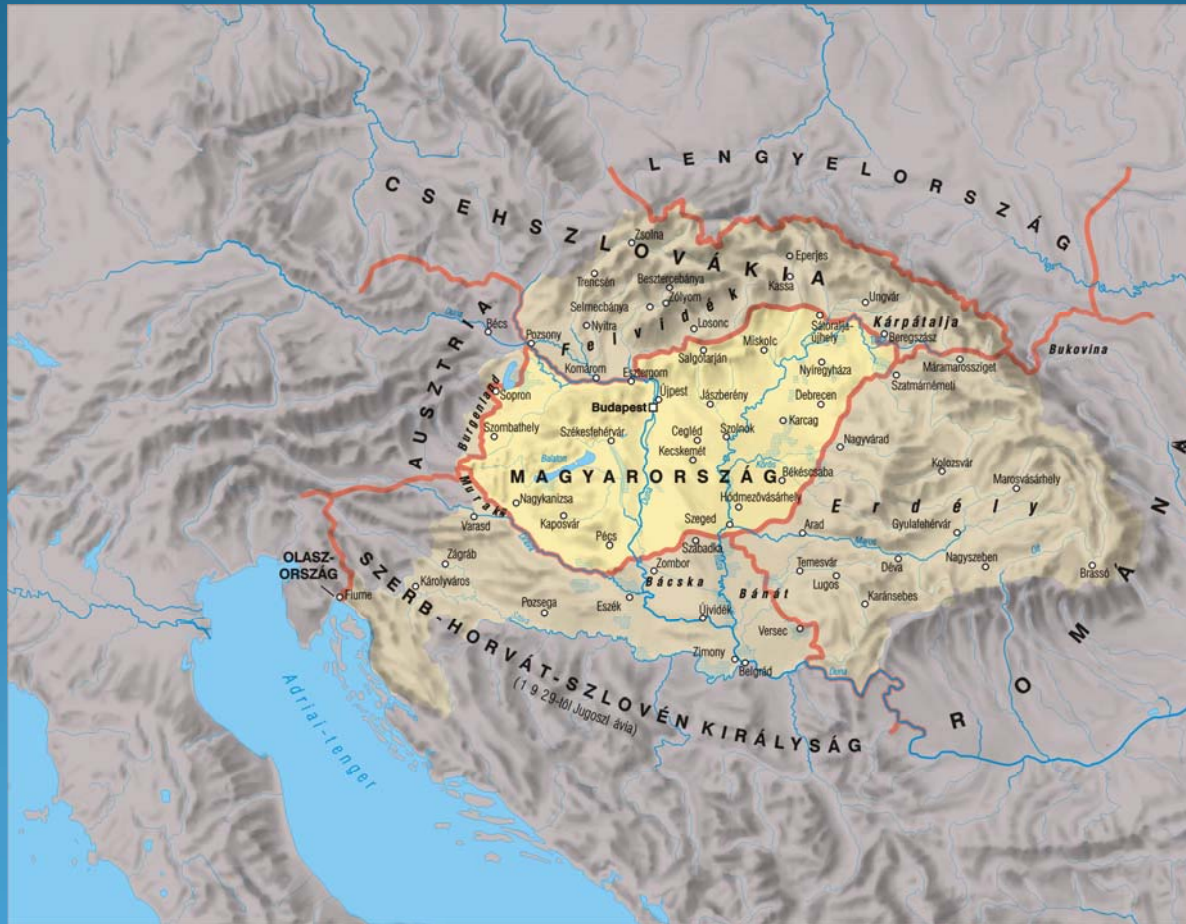
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# 1910



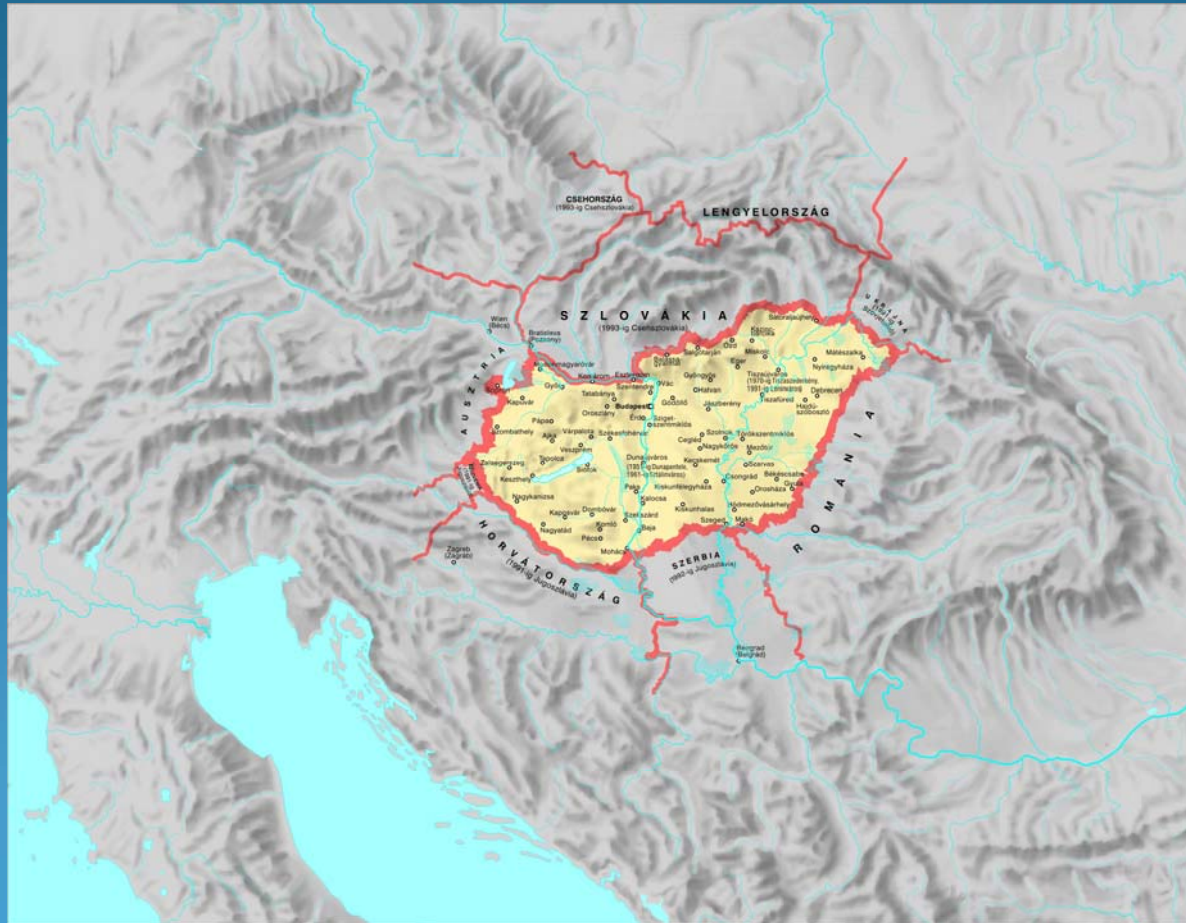
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# 1920



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# 1946



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Mr. Stephan Boldog, who has been living in the village of Tiszaújhely from 1902-1995 and he never set foot to any other village in his life was the citizen of:

- 1899-1920 Kingdom of Hungary/ Austro-Hungarian Monarchy
- 1920-1938 Czechoslovakia
- 1938-1944 Hungary
- 1944-1991 Soviet Union
- 1992- The Ukraine



# Applicable laws

- Act LX of 1993 on Hungarian citizenship
- Government Decree No. 125/1993





# Ordinary naturalization process

- Continuous residence for 8 years
- Clean criminal record
- Proof of Hungarian language knowledge
- Examination in basic constitutional matters



## Preferential naturalization – Type 1

- Continuous residence for at least 3 years and
- Either he/she has been married to a Hungarian for at least 3 years
- Or the applicant's minor child is Hungarian
- Or the person has been adopted by a Hungarian citizen
- Or the person is a recognized refugee
- Proof of Hungarian language and basic constitutional matters are also required
- Clean criminal record



## Preferential naturalization –Type 2 “Simplified naturalization” since 2010

If a non-Hungarian citizen

- has an ascendant who was born in Hungary
- can prove knowledge of Hungarian language
- has a clean criminal record

Can apply free naturalization.

More than 370 000 applications were approved.



# How to prove the citizenship of the ascendant?

- birth records
- death certificates
- marriage certificates
- military card
- pastoral certificate (before 1895)
- work certificate
- school certificate
- census report
- landing cards etc.



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- No compulsory military service



# Disadvantage of Hungarian citizenship

Taxation is based on citizenship,  
not residency

But

- Double-tax treaties help
- Tax rules for non-resident citizens are not enforced.



# The Hungarian Investor Program Starts in Q2 2013

An investment of EUR 250.000 into a Hungarian government bond with 5 years maturity would enable the applicant, spouse and his/her children to get permanent residency.



## Advantages of the Residency program

- 90 days stay in any Schengen country in any 6 months
- The 5 years residency applies to the 8 years citizenship requirement
- Easier visa applications to other countries (USA, Canada)
- The bond is repaid at maturity
- No real estate purchase is necessary
- Good inheritance rules
- Favourable taxation of pensions



Thank you for your attention!



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