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Hungarian peace mission in full swing: after the meeting with Trump, a phone call with Putin today

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Viktor Orbán and Wladimir Putin 17.10.2023 in Beijing

Hungarian-American political relations are entering a golden age, and the election of Donald Trump as President of the United States could lead to better relations between Hungary and the United States than ever before, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade Péter Szijjártó said in Budapest on Tuesday.

At a press conference with his Georgian counterpart, the minister said in response to a journalist's question about his trip to the United States the previous day that the Hungarian delegation had a long meeting with President-elect Donald Trump, as well as with National

Security Advisor Mike Waltz and Elon Musk, who has been appointed to head the new Department of Government Efficiency.

"We also congratulated the President-elect, of course, as this was the first face-to-face meeting between the Prime Minister and the President since the election," he said. "The Prime Minister and the President-elect were in constant contact during the election campaign, when Donald Trump was not yet President, and they have spoken on the phone several times since then.

The fact that there are consultations between them and that these take place regularly is therefore quite natural,

he added. The chief diplomat stressed that the importance of the meeting was heightened by the fact that one of the most important implications of the transformation of the global economy is that digitalization, artificial intelligence, could play a crucial role in determining the future place of countries in the global economy. Elon Musk and his associated business empire will continue to play an important role in the spread of these new technologies in the future.

Péter Szijjártó then stated that there is now a chance for better political relations between Hungary and the United States than ever before.

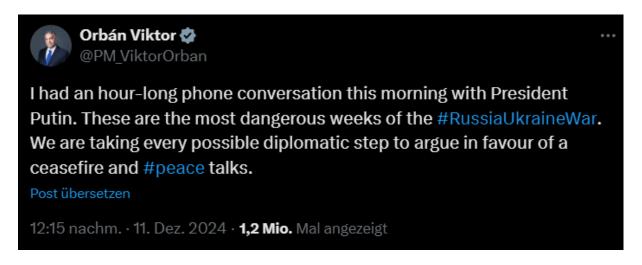
"If you want to draw the lessons from this conversation, (...) I can tell you that

Hungarian-American political relations are on the threshold of a golden age",

he explained. "I think (...) that it is no coincidence that those who are working for peace in Ukraine were happy that President Donald Trump won this election," the head of department emphasized. The minister concluded by saying that it is important that no one in the United States or Europe makes an irresponsible decision by January 20, 2025, which could trigger irreversible processes that would make peacemaking impossible.

At the same time, he stated that the efforts of the Hungarian peacekeeping mission must be intensified as the war is still ongoing.

"Last week, the Prime Minister was with the Holy Father. I was in Moscow and in Washington, we also had meetings in Malta. Now we were with the Prime Minister in Florida, and this week there will be more events, at least two, which will be part of the Hungarian peace mission, one tomorrow and one the day after tomorrow," he announced.



Prime Minister Viktor Orbán held a telephone conversation with Russian President Vladimir Putin, as Bertalan Havasi, the Prime Minister's press officer, told MTI on Wednesday. The two politicians discussed current topics of the continuously developing bilateral economic and trade cooperation. Particular attention was paid to further support for mutually beneficial energy projects.

They also discussed the situation in Ukraine, where Viktor Orbán expressed his interest in a political and diplomatic solution to the crisis, taking into account his relations with a number of Western leaders.

Vladimir Putin, for his part, gave the Hungarian Prime Minister an assessment of current developments in the situation in Ukraine. They also discussed the tense situation in the Middle East region in connection with the recent events in Syria.

Viktor Orbán will hold talks with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan in Ankara on Thursday and then take part in the closing event of the Hungarian-Turkish cultural season. During the meeting, President Erdoğan and the Prime Minister will discuss current international affairs, the conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East, the prospects for peace and a number of issues related to Hungarian-Turkish relations.