

Magyar Külügyi Intézet  
Hungarian Institute of International Affairs

National Institute for Strategic Studies



Regional Branch in Uzhgorod

**International conference**

# **WHERE IS UKRAINE HEADED IN THE WAKE OF THE 2012 PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS?**

**Budapest, 14 November 2012**

## **UKRAINE – HUNGARY / THE EU: VISA CONTEXT OF RELATIONS**

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## **UKRAINE – HUNGARY / THE EU**

Cooperation with the EU currently remains a priority of the foreign policy of Ukraine. One of the most important tools of this priority (foreign policy) is Ukraine's cooperation with neighboring countries, including with Hungary.

Bilateral relations between Ukraine and Hungary as relations between two independent states based on the Agreement on Friendship and Cooperation (signed on 6.12.1991, ratified by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on 1.07.1992.) serve as an example and a model of civilized and pragmatic international cooperation in Central Europe.

Ukrainian-Hungarian cooperation has multilateral format and after Hungary's accession to the EU (2004) applies to:

- foreign policy and security;
- socio-economic reforms and development;
- taxes and customs;
- justice, logistics, environment;
- protection of the health;
- development of humanitarian cooperation;
- ensuring the rights of national minorities.

The most "sensitive" issue in international relations between Ukraine and Hungary is the issue of national minority. Ukrainian-Hungarian cooperation on protecting minority rights at the international level is defined as the example to follow.



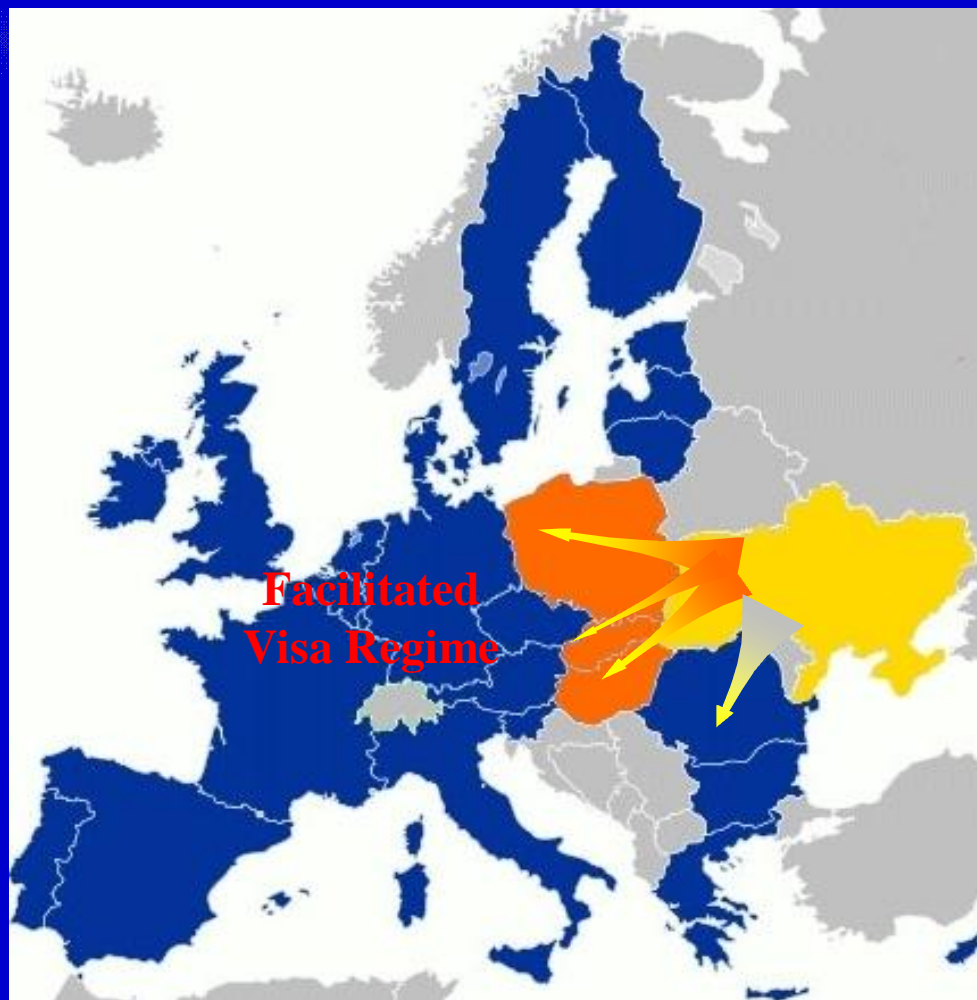


## VISA REGIME LIBERALIZATION

Hungarian visa policy and practice towards Ukraine, first of all, should be considered as a part of the EU policy on visa issues. Currently, Ukraine and the EU managed Balkan model in the negotiations, according to which the EU allows Ukraine to the European area of justice and home affairs in the case of providing systemic reforms.

Hungarian Visa policy towards Ukraine is based on:

- Schengen acquis,
- Agreement between the European Community and Ukraine on the facilitation of the issuance of visas, Amendment to the Agreement,
- The EU Visa Code,
- Agreement between Hungary and Ukraine on local border traffic.





## **FEATURES OF THE VISA PRACTICE OF HUNGARY**

**International consortium of expert organizations and think tanks "Europe Without Barriers" (Regional Branch of the NISS in Uzhgorod is one of members co-organisers) provides the monitoring of visa policy and practice of the EU countries. Six stages of the monitoring during previous 5 years (2008-2012) showed:**

**High quality implementation of the Agreement of visa issuance facilitation (articles 4-7), the EU Visa Code, Agreement on about local border traffic between Ukraine and Hungary.**

**The best overall results in all components of visa practice.**

**Leadership by the number of issued multi-entry visas (validity of 58.1% visas is more than six months, including a record 22.5% of visas with a term of 365 +, mainly 2,3 and 5 years).**

**A small percentage of visa refusals.**

**Simplified package of documents for applying for Schengen visas for members of the Hungarian minority.**

**Certainly, all positive results of Hungary fixed by the monitoring caused by the concern about their own ethnic minority compactly settled in Transcarpathian region. Record indicators of Hungary formed mainly due to special visa policy in two of its consulates located in Transcarpathia (Uzhgorod, Beregovo).**





## TYPES OF VISA PRACTICE OF THE EU CONSULATES IN UKRAINE

«Friendly» visa practice

**Hungary, Poland,  
Slovakia, Estonia**

«Neutral» visa practice

**Latvia, Lithuania, Spain,  
Sweden, Austria, Denmark**

« Contrasting» visa practice

**Germany, France, Belgium,  
Finland, Greece, Slovenia, Portugal,  
the Netherlands**







« Problematic» visa practice

**Italy, Czech Republic, Great Britain**



# UKRAINE – HUNGARY / THE EU: VISA CONTEXT OF RELATIONS

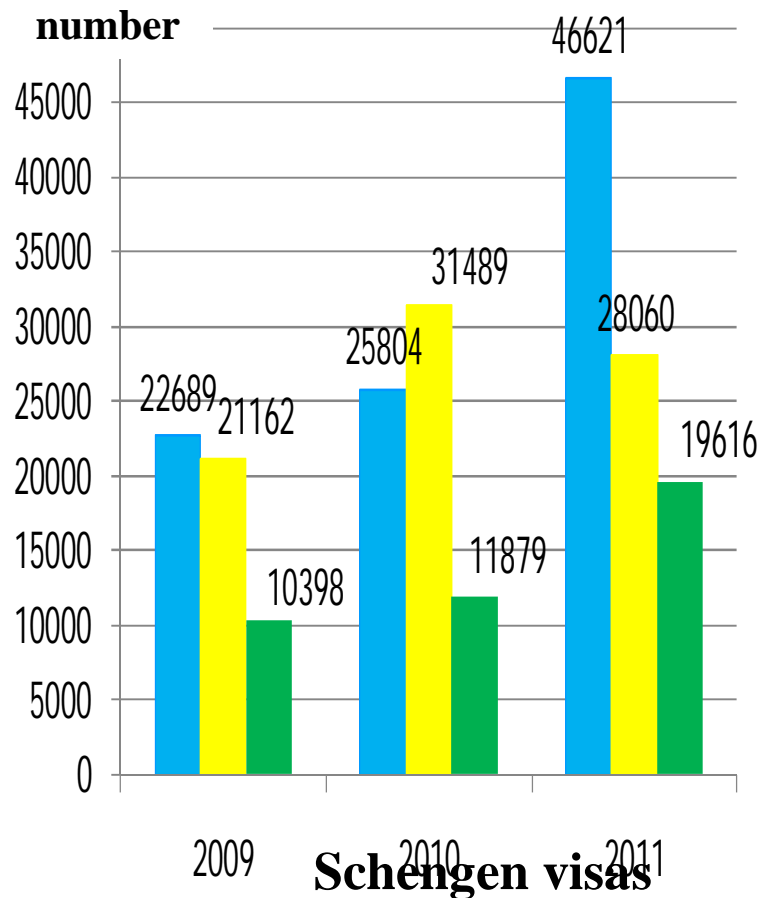
## LOLCAI BORDER TRAFFIC: FORMS AND CONDITIONS

Countries	Zone of entering and staying	Permit	Permit's price	Waiting period for a permit	Term of permit's validity	Term of staying
	<b>50 km</b> (244 Hungarian & 384 Ukrainian settlements)		<b>20€</b> <i>(do not pay disabled, pensioners, children under the age of 16 and under the age of 21)</i>	<b>10 days</b>	<b>1-5 years</b>	<b>not more than 90 days</b>
	<b>30-50 km</b> (299 Slovak & 280 Ukrainian settlements)		<b>free of charge</b>	<b>60-90 days</b>	<b>1-5 years</b>	<b>90 days per one visit</b> (in general – not more than 90 days during 6 month).
	<b>30 km</b> (1822 Poland & 1545 Ukrainian settlements)		<b>20€</b> <i>(do not pay disabled, pensioners and children under age of 18)</i>	<b>60-90 days</b>	<b>1-5 years</b>	<b>60 days per one visit</b> (in general – not more than 90 days during 6 month).

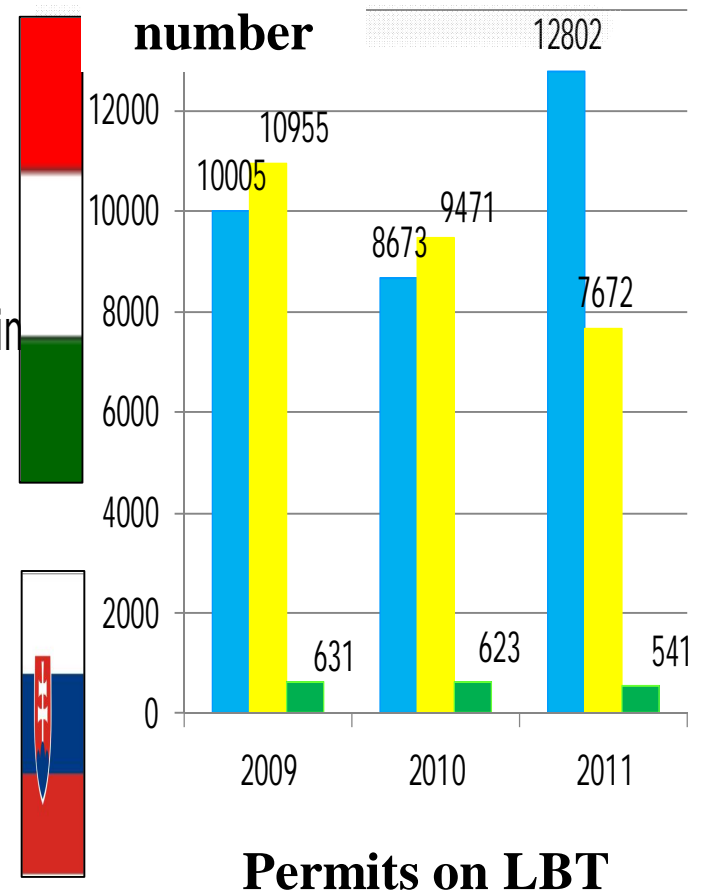
# UKRAINE – HUNGARY / THE EU: VISA CONTEXT OF RELATIONS



## NUMBER OF ISSUED SCHENGEN VISAS AND PERMITS ON LOCAL BORDER TRAFFIC



- General Consulate of Hungary in Uzhgorod
- Consulate of Hungary in Beregovo
- General Consulate of the Slovak Republic in Uzhgorod



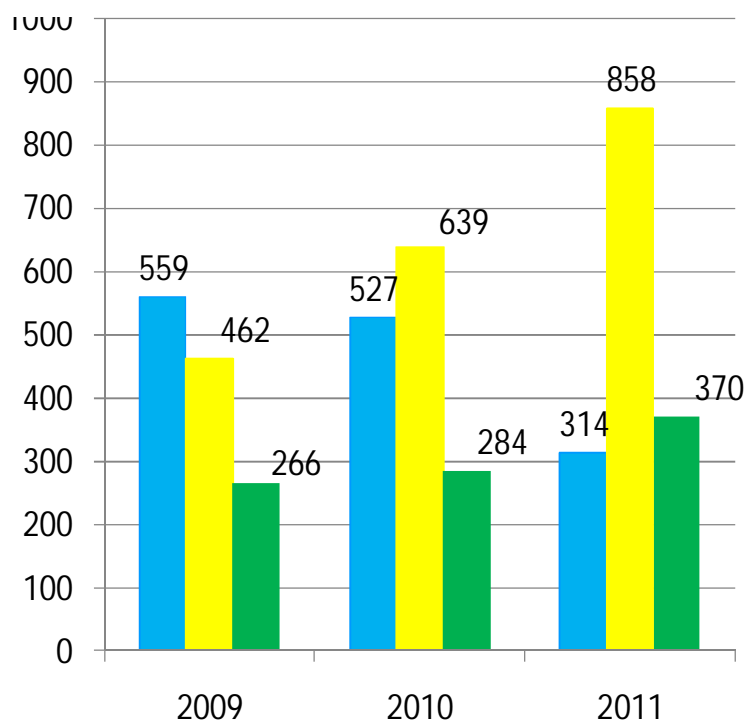


## NUMBER OF VISAS REFUSALS:

a) number

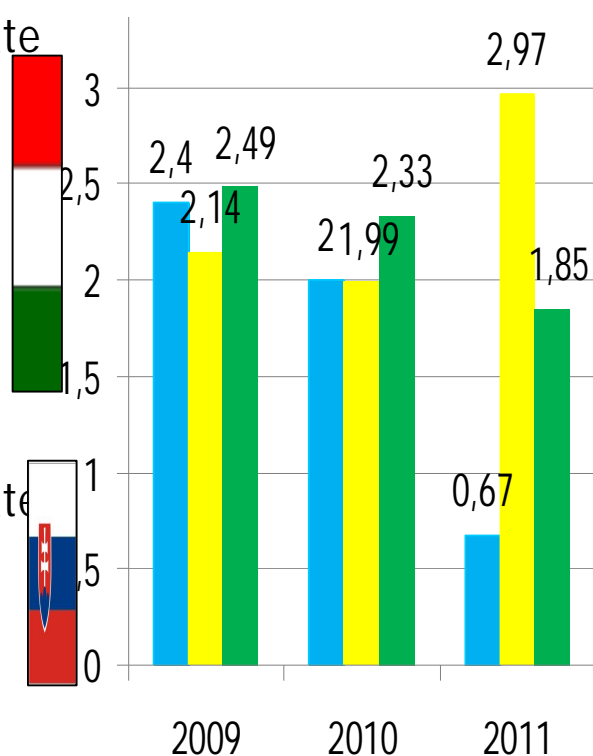
b) in % of  
number submitted for  
visa applications

number



- General Consulate of Hungary in Uzhgorod
- Consulate of Hungary in Beregovo
- General Consulate of the Slovak Republic in Uzhgorod

%

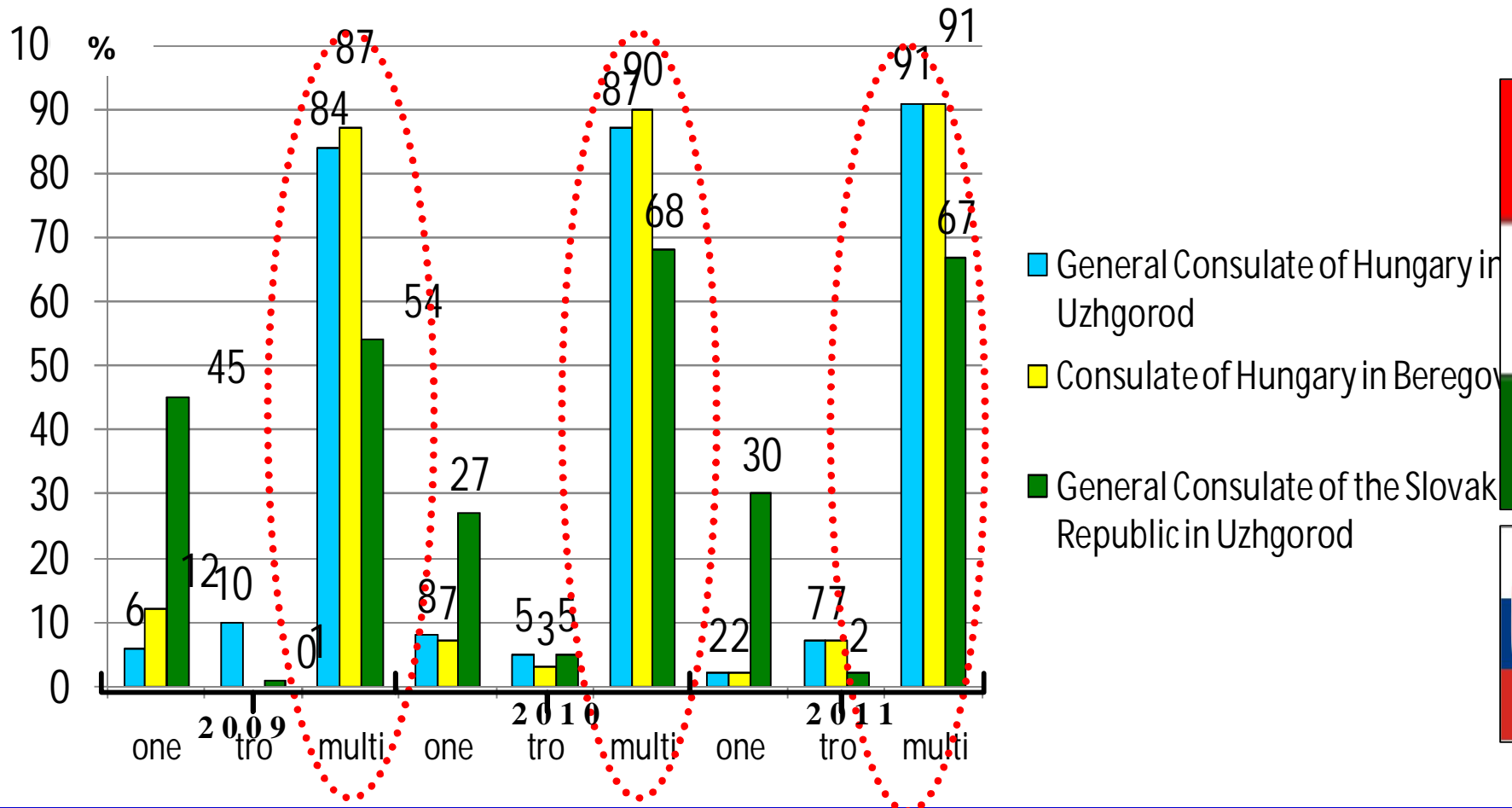




# UKRAINE – HUNGARY / THE EU: VISA CONTEXT OF RELATIONS



## NUMBER OF ENTRIES TO THE EU (ONE, TWO, MULTI), WHICH IS PROVIDED BY SCHENGEN VISAS



# UKRAINE – HUNGARY / THE EU: VISA CONTEXT OF RELATIONS

## NUMBER OF DAYS OF STAYING AND TERM OF VALIDITY OF SCHENGEN VISAS AND TERM OF VALIDITY OF THE PERMITS ON LOCAL BORDER TRAFFIC



# UKRAINE – HUNGARY / THE EU: VISA CONTEXT OF RELATIONS



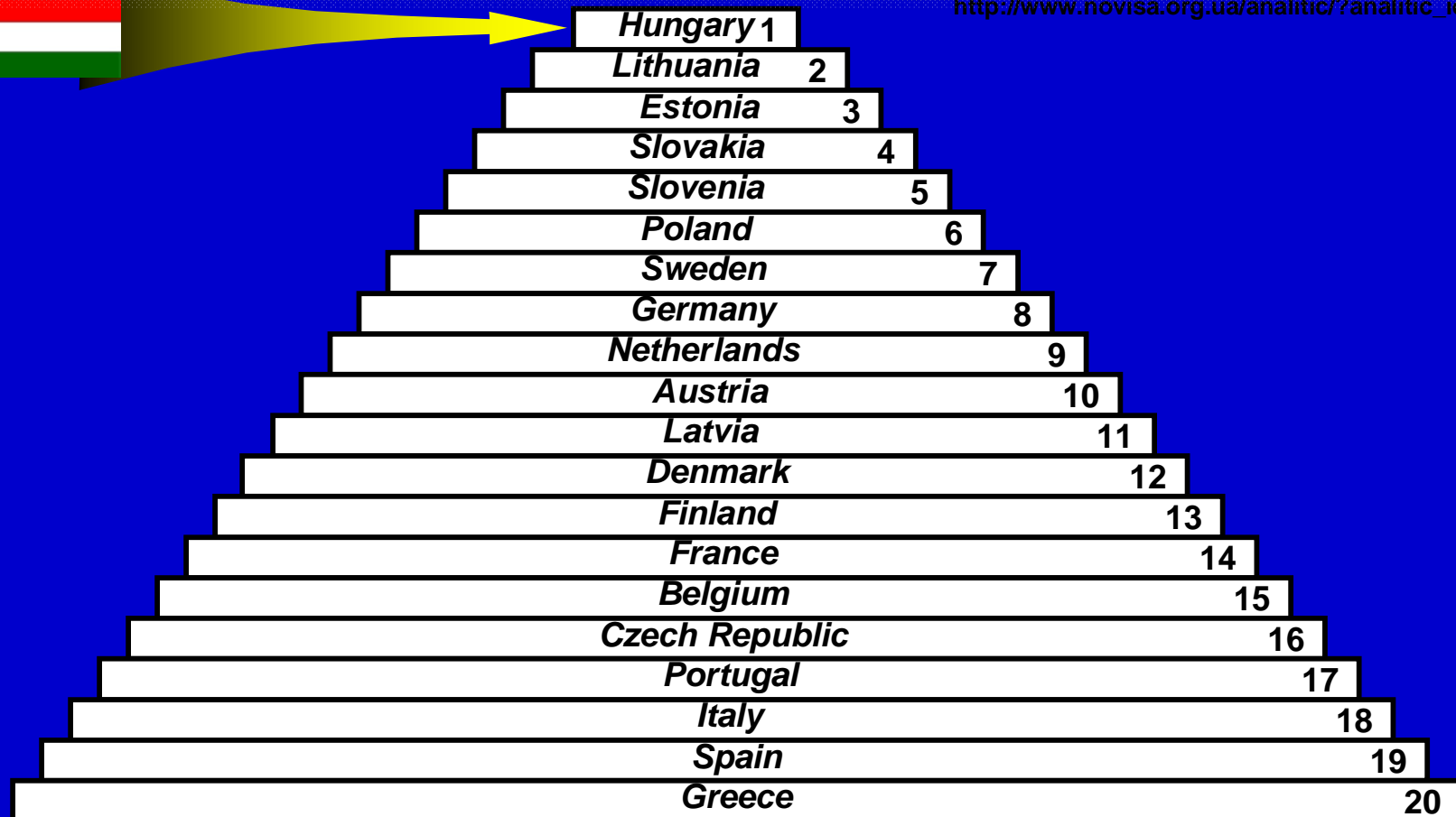
NUMBER OF CITIZENS OF UKRAINE,  
WHO CROSS THE BORDER IN 2011 THROUGH CHECKPOINTS IN  
TRANSCARPATHIAN REGION



# UKRAINE – HUNGARY / THE EU: VISA CONTEXT OF RELATIONS

## RATING OF SCHENGEN CONSULATES IN UKRAINE (2011)

[http://www.novisa.org.ua/analytic/?analytic\\_id=52](http://www.novisa.org.ua/analytic/?analytic_id=52)



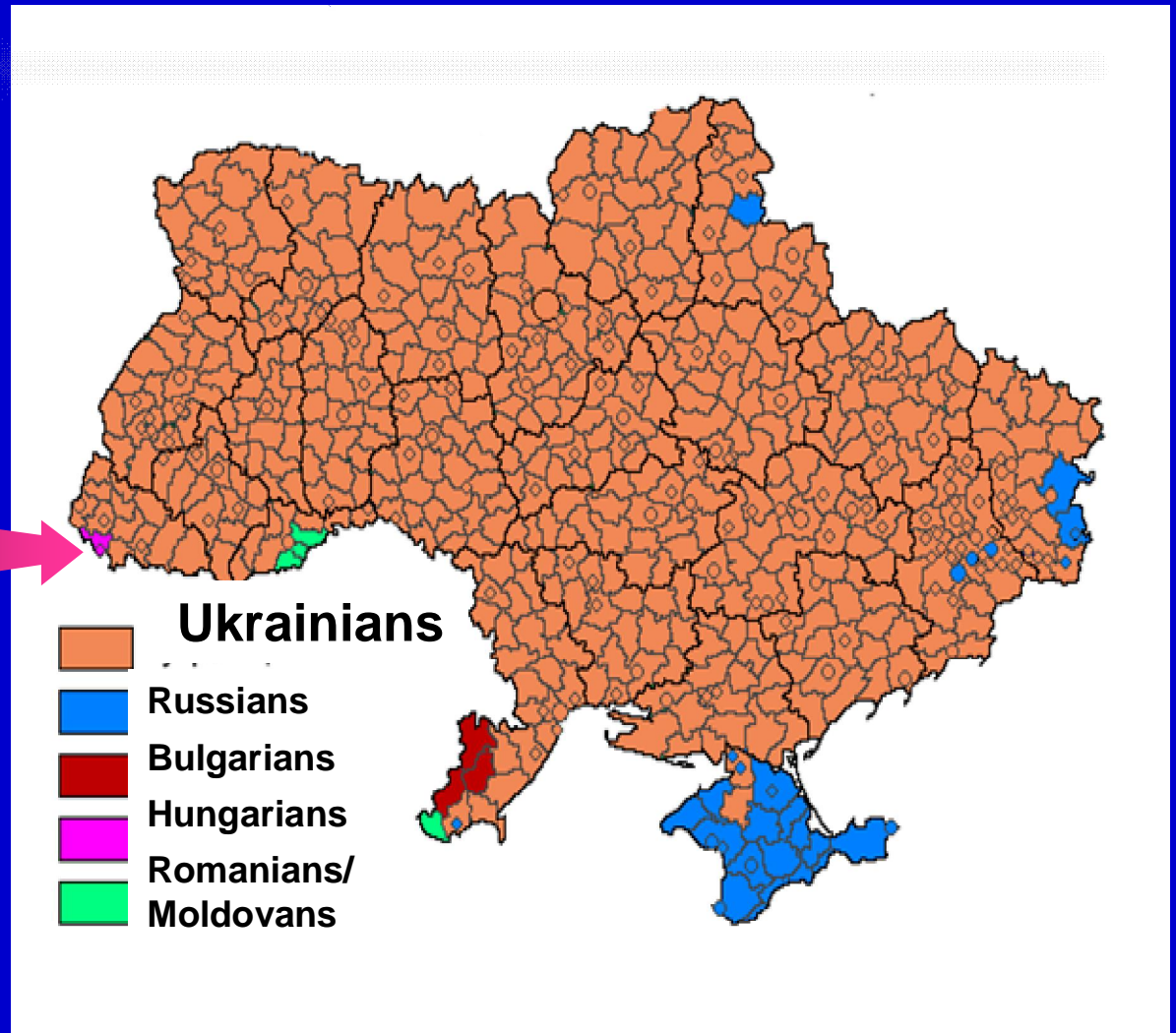




**MULTIETHNIC COMPOSITION OF THE POPULATION OF UKRAINE**

**156, 6 thousand  
Hungarians live in  
Ukraine**

**151,5 thousand  
of them live  
in the  
Transcarpathian  
region**





## CHALLENGES FOR UKRAINE

Ukraine provides cultural and educational needs of the Hungarian minority in Transcarpathia:

- the three level education system in Hungarian language:
    - children gardens (70 units),
    - primary and secondary schools (97 units),
    - Hungarian Institute named after Ferenc Rákóczi II (Berehovo),
    - Department of History of Hungarian and European Integration in Uzhgorod National University,
    - Hungaralogian Center;
  - Mass media in Hungarian (20 units);
  - Hungarian NGOs (13 units);
  - Political Parties (2), a representative of one of them came to the Parliament of Ukraine.
- This situation in Transcarpathian region is unique one for the Europe.

Low integrated minorities into society. The majority of Hungarian minority in villages don't want to learn and use Ukrainian language.

There are intentions concerning getting the territorial autonomy in Transcarpatian region.

**Of course, it makes impossible to provide an internal integration and national consolidation in Ukraine. It became a huge challenge for nowadays Ukraine.**

***THANK YOU  
FOR ATTENTION!***



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