The National Széchényi Library and the National Library of Albania sign cooperation agreement

2026/11/09



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the Hungarian Book Corner. The initiative aims to introduce Hungarian literature and cultural heritage to Albanian readers and to strengthen professional ties between the two national libraries.

On 3 November 2026, the official opening of the Hungarian Book Corner and the signing of a cooperation agreement between the two national libraries took place at the ‘Sotir Kolea’ Centre of the National Library of Albania. The event was organised by the Embassy of Hungary in Tirana.

The event featured speeches by **Martina Kasnyik**, Ambassador of Hungary to Tirana; **Majlinda Toçi**, Director of the National Library of Albania; and **Lira Pipa**, Albania's Deputy Minister of Culture. Representatives of the diplomatic corps, the Albanian cultural and academic communities, and the local Hungarian community also attended.

To mark the opening, **a representative collection of approximately 150 volumes of Hungarian literature** was presented to the National Library of Albania. The establishment of the Hungarian Book Corner, as well as the selection and transport of the collection, was organised and carried out by the Miklós Bánffy Special Library of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, with the National Széchényi Library (OSZK) contributing a donation of books. The Hungarian Book Corner aims to make the treasures of Hungarian literature and intellectual heritage accessible to Albanian readers and, in the future, to become an active venue for cultural dialogue between the two countries.



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Another highlight of the ceremony was **the signing of a five-year strategic cooperation agreement between the National Széchényi Library and the National Library of Albania.** The first agreement of its kind in the history of the two institutions provides a framework for establishing direct professional relations and implementing joint initiatives in the future.

In their speeches, the participants emphasised the importance of cooperation between cultural institutions. Ambassador Martina Kasnyik also highlighted the international recognition of Hungarian literature, mentioning, among others, the works of Imre Kertész and László Krasznahorkai. The Ambassador announced that the Hungarian Book Corner collection would be further expanded with works by István Schütz, a Hungarian Albanologist, and Përparim Kabo, an Albanian philosopher and cultural anthropologist.

The opening of the Hungarian Book Corner and the signing of the cooperation agreement create new opportunities to deepen professional and cultural ties between the national libraries of the two countries, contributing to the promotion of Hungarian cultural heritage internationally.


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