



MTVA DETAILED ANALYSIS

2026-03-01_kommentar-klub

Programme: MTVA-Sendung (M1/Kossuth Rádió) | 2026-03-01 | Analysed: 2026-05-24 21:04
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TOTAL SCORE

8.2/10

Fundamental systemic one-sidedness. Very high degree of bias

0 = balanced, 10 = strongly biased/manipulative

POLITICAL SPECTRUM

Classification based on the Chapel Hill Expert Survey (CHES) 2024

The Chapel Hill Expert Survey (CHES) classifies parties on a left-right scale based on a survey of 609 political scientists (0 = far left, 10 = far right). We apply the Pew Research Center (2025) thresholds: <4.5 = Left, 4.5–5.5 = Centre, >5.5 = Right. This enables an objective classification of perceived party-political bias.

Party	DK	MSZP	Momentum	LMP	KDNP	Fidesz	Mi Hazánk
CHES	1.69	2.31	3.15	3.46	6.92	7.77	9.31
Spectrum	Left	Left	Left	Left	Right	Right	Right

The overall tendency is displayed on a 0–10 scale (0 = strongly left-leaning, 5 = balanced, 10 = strongly right-leaning). The calculation is based on the difference between the average advantage of left-wing and right-wing parties (grouped according to CHES 2024).

TENDENCY (L – R)

5.5 / 10

Balanced

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

← Left

Right →

Source: Chapel Hill Expert Survey 2024 — chesdata.eu | [Jolly et al., Electoral Studies, 2022](#) | Thresholds: [Pew Research Center](#)

This section provides political context and is not included in the total score.



POLITICAL LANDSCAPE

Hungary has been governed continuously by Fidesz-KDNP since 2010, currently holding a two-thirds parliamentary majority (135 seats out of 199). The strongest opposition force since 2024 is TISZA (the Respect and Freedom party led by Magyar Péter), which received 29.6% in the 2024 EP elections. The other opposition parties (DK, Momentum, Jobbik, LMP, MSZP) are fragmented and weakened. Mi Hazánk, a far-right party with 6 seats, is a parliamentary but non-governmental actor.

Party	CHES left-right	Seats	Government/Opposition	Base position
MSZP	3,00	(United Opp.)	Opposition	Left, social democratic
MKKP	3,50	0	Outside parliament	Left, satirical-libertarian
LMP	3,79	(United Opp.)	Opposition	Left, green-progressive
Momentum	4,17	(United Opp.)	Opposition	Centre-left, pro-EU
DK	4,28	(United Opp.)	Opposition	Centre-left
TISZA	6,17	— (new 2024)	Opposition (strongest)	Centre-right, anti-corruption
Jobbik	6,47	(United Opp.)	Opposition	Centre-right (moderated)
Fidesz-KDNP	8,61	135	Government (2/3)	Far right, authoritarian-nationalist
Mi Hazánk	9,29	6	Opposition	Far right

Hungarian political life is dominated by four main fault lines. First: the debate between Fidesz-KDNP and the opposition over EU rule of law, media freedom and corruption. Second: the relationship to the war in Ukraine — the government advocates pro-Russian neutrality, while most of the opposition demands a Western orientation. Third: narratives about foreign interference and sovereignty intensifying ahead of the 2026 parliamentary elections. Fourth: the debate over the role of civil society and independent media, which the government frames as a "pseudo-civil network".

MTVA (M1, M2, M4, M5, Duna TV) operates as a de facto government mouthpiece; the media council of the NMHH has been staffed exclusively by Fidesz-aligned individuals since 2010. The KESMA foundation (approximately 500 media companies since 2018) is the institutional framework for pro-government media concentration. Independent media outlets (Telex.hu, 444.hu, RTL, ATV) operate in an increasingly restricted space; Hungary ranks worst within the EU on the Reporters Without Borders press freedom index (85th place, 2024).



CHAPTER 1 — PARTY-POLITICAL BIAS

Representation of parties' programme positions in the broadcast

Party	Score (-5..+5)	Representation in broadcast vs. programme position
Fidesz-KDNP	+2	03:47 "This is what we experienced in Hungary too" — the government commissioner presents the Fidesz sovereignty-protection narrative; the party's positions on migration, EU-scepticism and sovereignty protection are implicitly presented as correct — partially accurate, but without criticism
TISZA	-4	The party is never mentioned by name; Magyar Péter and TISZA's programme (anti-corruption, rule of law, EU integration) are entirely absent; the opposition is uniformly portrayed as a "foreign-funded activist network" — strongly distorted/omitted
DK	-3	49:50 "MSZP can be thrown in the bin, DK, LMP, everyone can be blamed" — named only in a negative context, without programme position — distorted
Momentum	-3	Not mentioned by name; opposition parties are generally portrayed as actors "serving foreign interests" — omitted/distorted
Jobbik	-2	Not mentioned; affected by the general negative framing of the opposition — omitted
Mi Hazánk	0	Not mentioned — not relevant to the topic of the broadcast
LMP	-2	49:50 appears in a named negative enumeration, without programme position — omitted
MSZP	-2	49:50 "MSZP can be thrown in the bin" — exclusively in a negative context, without programme position — distorted

Score explanation:

- +5 = the party's programme positions correctly and fully presented
- 0 = the party/topic does not appear in the broadcast
- -5 = programme positions actively distorted or falsely presented

Party bias summary

- Most accurate representation: Fidesz-KDNP (+2)
- Strongest distortion: TISZA (-4)
- Average deviation from 0: 2.3
- Conclusion: The broadcast either completely omits all opposition parties or presents them exclusively in a negative context (foreign funding, activism, lack of credibility), while conveying the Fidesz-KDNP sovereignty-protection narrative without criticism. The opposition parties' own programme positions (anti-corruption, rule of law, EU integration, social issues) are never mentioned; the broadcast treats the opposition not as political actors but as executors of foreign interests.

Left-right overall tendency

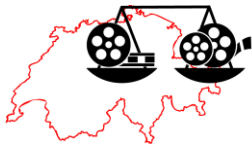
TENDENCY SCORE: -4.2

CLASSIFICATION: Strongly right-leaning



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Justification: The broadcast conveys exclusively a right-wing-conservative-sovereigntist narrative: USAID, the Soros foundations, NGOs, independent media and opposition parties are uniformly presented as instruments of foreign interference. Left-wing and liberal positions (EU integration, civil society, press freedom, rule of law) appear exclusively in a negative frame, without a single counterbalancing voice or opposition perspective. The Trump administration's dismantling of USAID and Fidesz's sovereignty policy are implicitly presented as correct, even necessary.



CHAPTER 2 — BROADCAST DATA AND TOPIC FRAMES

Broadcast data

- Title: Kommentár Klub
- Date: 2025 (exact date cannot be determined from the filename; based on references to the 2026 elections in the broadcast: early 2025, likely February)
- Estimated length: approx. 52 minutes
- Host/Reporter: Unidentified (name not mentioned in the broadcast; a moderator role identifiable from the text by the address "te" [you])
- Invited guests:

Person	Function	Party/Affiliation	Political spectrum
"András" (likely Kósa András or similar)	Government commissioner (sovereignty protection)	Fidesz-aligned	Far right
"Petra"	Unknown (MEP or analyst)	Fidesz-aligned	Far right
"István"	Unknown (analyst/politician)	Fidesz-aligned	Far right
Moderator	Host	MTVA/Kommentár	Pro-government

Note: The names are inferred from the text, but their full names are not clearly stated.

Main topic

The broadcast claims that through the funding of USAID, the Soros foundations and the EU, a coordinated foreign network is attempting to influence Hungary's domestic politics, with particular regard to the 2026 elections.



CHAPTER 3 — 15 CRITERIA: DETAILED ANALYSIS

Hard facts — countable and scientifically verifiable

Hardfacts — 9 measurable and scientifically verifiable techniques

1. EXPERT SELECTION

9/10

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Total score: 9/10

Definition: Who speaks as an expert?

Expert 1: "András" — government commissioner (sovereignty protection)

Timestamp: 03:50

Statement: "Over the past year, since I received my government commissioner mandate, it has turned out precisely that the kind of interference we saw with the rolling dollars of 2022..."

Classification: Government appointee, an official appointed by the Fidesz-KDNP government; has a direct institutional interest in maintaining the sovereignty-protection narrative.

Missing counter-opinion: An independent lawyer who would assess the constitutionality of the sovereignty protection law.

Source deep-check:

(a) FUNDING: Hungarian state (government mandate); the conflict of interest is obvious: the government commissioner's task is to support the government narrative.

(b) MANDATE: The mandate is by definition incompatible with neutral assessment — confirming the sovereignty-protection narrative is the purpose of the office.

D1 Conflict of interest: -2 — direct government appointee

D2 Personal risk: -2 — position depends on maintaining the narrative

D3 Professional competence: +1 — political experience, but not an independent researcher

D4 Opinion consistency: +1 — consistent sovereigntist position

D5 Emotional vs. data-based: -1 — partly data-based, partly narrative

D6 Source level: 0 — secondary (own investigations, unpublished data)

TOTAL: -3 → SOURCE TRAFFIC LIGHT: YELLOW

(c) PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE: The broadcast presents him as "government commissioner", which implies institutional authority but not a neutral expert position — this is an application of technique 2 (source selection).

Expert 2: "Petra" — MEP or analyst (Fidesz-aligned)

Timestamp: 31:01

Statement: "I go into a European Parliament subcommittee... ever since at least such basic information was made public about which organisations the European Commission has supported over the past years with 17 billion euros, I always check before going into a session whether they are on the list"

Classification: Fidesz-aligned MEP; has an interest in maintaining the critical narrative towards the EU.



Missing counter-opinion: An independent EU institutional representative or lawyer.

Source deep-check:

(a) FUNDING: Fidesz-KDNP party funding and MEP allowances; conflict of interest: the EU-critical narrative serves the party's political interest.

(b) MANDATE: Party-political mandate; incompatible with neutral EU assessment.

- D1 Conflict of interest: -2 — party-political interest
- D2 Personal risk: -1 — EP mandate is secure
- D3 Professional competence: +1 — EP experience
- D4 Opinion consistency: +1 — consistent EU-critical position
- D5 Emotional vs. data-based: -1 — partly narrative
- D6 Source level: 0 — secondary

TOTAL: -2 → SOURCE TRAFFIC LIGHT: YELLOW

(c) PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE: The broadcast presents her as "MEP", which implies institutional authority but not a neutral expert position.

Expert 3: "István" — analyst/politician (Fidesz-aligned)

Timestamp: 12:29

Statement: "The decisive difference is that he is now prepared for his presidency. Prepared in every respect for his presidency."

Classification: Fidesz-aligned analyst; has an interest in a positive assessment of the Trump administration.

Missing counter-opinion: An independent American foreign policy analyst.

Source deep-check:

(a) FUNDING: Unknown (likely linked to the Kommentár journal/KESMA circle); conflict of interest: maintaining the sovereigntist narrative.

(b) MANDATE: Incompatible with neutral assessment.

- D1 Conflict of interest: -2 — ideological commitment
- D2 Personal risk: 0 — no direct risk
- D3 Professional competence: +1 — political analyst experience
- D4 Opinion consistency: +1 — consistent position
- D5 Emotional vs. data-based: -1 — partly narrative
- D6 Source level: -1 — mainly secondary/tertiary

TOTAL: -2 → SOURCE TRAFFIC LIGHT: YELLOW

Missing expert groups:

- Independent media law expert
- Development economist (to assess USAID activities)
- Independent constitutional lawyer (to assess the sovereignty protection law)

Summary (matrix result):

- "András" (government commissioner): YELLOW (-3) — direct conflict of interest, not neutral
- "Petra" (MEP): YELLOW (-2) — party-political interest
- "István" (analyst): YELLOW (-2) — ideological commitment

All three guests come from the same political-ideological direction; not a single counterbalancing voice is heard.

Source credibility overview:

Source	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	Total	Signal
expert: "András" — government	-2	-2	+1	+1	-1	0	-3	YELLOW



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commissioner (sovereignty protection)								
expert: "Petra" — MEP or analyst (Fidesz-aligned)	-2	-1	+1	+1	-1	0	-2	YELLOW
expert: "István" — analyst/politician (Fidesz- aligned)	-2	0	+1	+1	-1	-1	-2	YELLOW



2. SOURCE SELECTION									9/10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Claims without primary source = penalty points (rumour check)

Total score: 9/10

Definition: What sources are cited? Are they varied and independent?

Source 1: "We Are The World" documentary film

Timestamp: 00:47

Statement: "This is what the documentary film entitled We Are The World asserts. Let us watch an excerpt from it."

- (a) **Funding and operator:** Unknown; the film conveys a sovereigntist-conservative narrative.
- (b) **Structural conflict of interest:** The film portrays USAID and the Soros foundations negatively; the broadcast treats this as a primary source.
- (c) **Missing counter-source:** An independent documentary or academic analysis of USAID activities.

Source 2: Book by the FBI director

Timestamp: 04:52

Statement: "I was recently in America and brought back a book, which is the book of the current FBI director, which is about government gangsters."

- (a) **Funding:** FBI director appointed by the Trump administration; strong political bias.
- (b) **Structural conflict of interest:** The book reinforces the Trump administration's narrative; not a neutral source.
- (c) **Missing counter-source:** Independent FBI analysis or court documents.

Source 3: Heritage Foundation / Project 2025

Timestamp: 13:42

Statement: "The Heritage Foundation prepared a thousand-page preliminary study for Project 20-25, essentially the script for Trump's takeover of power"

- (a) **Funding:** Conservative private foundations (Koch network and similar); strong right-wing ideological commitment.
- (b) **Structural conflict of interest:** The Heritage Foundation is the developer of the Trump administration's political programme; not a neutral analytical institute.
- (c) **Missing counter-source:** Independent think-tank analysis of the consequences of Project 2025.

Rumour check (penalty points):

Rumour 1:

Timestamp: 21:41

Claim: "according to some reports it is majority-owned by a company called Higher Ground Labs, which is linked to the Obama circle"

Verbal marker: "according to some reports"

Primary source: NO — penalty point (+1)

Rumour 2:

Timestamp: 22:19



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Claim: "Obama himself and his wife have a company that has a media venture"

Verbal marker: No explicit marker, but the claim is made without a source

Primary source: NO — penalty point (+1)

Rumour 3:

Timestamp: 44:53

Claim: "Ukraine could not do this without the invisible European deep state supporting it behind the scenes"

Verbal marker: "invisible"

Primary source: NO — penalty point (+1)

Summary: The broadcast uses exclusively sovereigntist-conservative sources (documentary film, book close to Trump, Heritage Foundation); three unverified claims are made without a primary source. Not a single independent, counterbalancing source appears.



3. TIME ALLOCATION								8/10	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Total score: 8/10

Definition: Distribution of speaking time among different positions.

Estimated speaking time:

- "András" (government commissioner): approx. 18 minutes (35%)
- "István" (analyst): approx. 14 minutes (27%)
- "Petra" (MEP): approx. 10 minutes (19%)
- Moderator: approx. 10 minutes (19%)
- Opposition/critical voice: 0 minutes (0%)

Summary: The entire speaking time of the broadcast is distributed exclusively among guests representing the sovereigntist-pro-government narrative; not a single counterbalancing voice is given the floor. This is not a random imbalance but a systematic exclusion.



4. SELECTIVE OMISSION

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Total score: 9/10

Definition: What does not appear, even though it would be relevant?

Omission 1:

Context: The results of USAID's humanitarian activities (health programmes, disaster relief, education)

Relevant timestamp: 00:32 — "The United States Agency for International Development was created as part of the American national security network. Its task is covert and overt pressure worldwide."

Effect: USAID appears exclusively as an instrument of political pressure; not a single documented result of its humanitarian activities is mentioned, creating a false overall picture.

Omission 2:

Context: The KESMA media concentration and pro-government media financing

Relevant timestamp: 29:20 — "This is 444, Lakmus... Telex. They pay exactly the same ones."

Effect: The broadcast criticises the foreign funding of independent media while not mentioning with a single word that the pro-government media system (KESMA, ~500 media companies) also operates not on a market basis but from state and oligarchic funding — this is a serious contextual omission.

Omission 3:

Context: Criticism of the sovereignty protection law (2023) and constitutional concerns about it

Relevant timestamp: 03:50 — the government commissioner speaks about his own mandate

Effect: The legal assessment of the law, and the possible position of the Constitutional Court or the EU Court of Justice, are never mentioned; the law and the government commissioner's mandate are presented as natural givens.

Summary: The omissions are systematic and consistent: every fact, piece of data or perspective that would weaken or nuance the government narrative is absent.

Missing voices

- Independent media law expert: Would have contributed to presenting the legal framework of press freedom and the rules on funding transparency
- Representative of the Helsinki Committee: Would have contributed to presenting the organisation's actual activities and funding structure
- Opposition politician (TISZA, DK): Would have contributed to presenting the political response to the accusation of foreign interference
- EU institutional representative: Would have contributed to presenting the legal and democratic framework of EU funding mechanisms
- Development economist: Would have contributed to assessing USAID's actual development activities and the consequences of its dismantling
- Civil society activist (not government-aligned): Would have contributed to a nuanced presentation of the difference between genuine voluntary civil organisations and "political activist organisations"
- Media economics expert: Would have contributed to a comparative analysis of KESMA concentration and pro-government media financing

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- Ukrainian or Eastern European analyst: Would have contributed to contextualising the claims related to the war in Ukraine



5. NUMBER MANIPULATION						6/10			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Complete figures include: absolute value, ratio (%) and trend

Total score: 6/10

Definition: Selective or misleading use of statistics.

Finding 1:

Timestamp: 04:04

Number: "the Open Society Foundation, or approximately 10 million dollars sent here from György Soros's circles"

Dimensions: (a) absolute value given — (b) ratio MISSING — (c) trend MISSING

Missing context: How large is this sum relative to Hungarian GDP, government communication expenditure or KESMA financing? What period does it cover?

Effect: The figure of 10 million dollars seems large on its own, but without a basis for comparison it cannot be interpreted; the financing of the pro-government media system is orders of magnitude larger, but this is not mentioned.

Finding 2:

Timestamp: 11:22

Number: "eliminates 80% of the funding"

Dimensions: (a) ratio given — (b) absolute value MISSING — (c) trend MISSING

Missing context: What was the total USAID budget? Which programmes does the dismantling affect? What are the humanitarian consequences?

Effect: The figure of 80% creates a dramatic impact, but the real consequences of the dismantling (developing countries, humanitarian programmes) are not mentioned.

Finding 3:

Timestamp: 24:32

Number: "the number of working-age persons over 15 is exceeded only by the populations of China and India"

Dimensions: (a) absolute value MISSING — (b) ratio MISSING — (c) trend MISSING

Missing context: What is the source of this data? On what definition is the count of "civil society" members based? The claim is unverifiable.

Effect: The unverifiable figure dramatises the size and dangerousness of the "civil network".

Summary: The figures cited in the broadcast are consistently presented without context, without a basis for comparison and without trend, creating a misleading overall picture.



6. GUILT BY ASSOCIATION

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Total score: 9/10

Definition: Discrediting through association with negative groups/ideas.

Association 1:

Timestamp: 29:20

Quote: "This is 444, Lakmus, so the whole Hungarian yeti group, Magyar Hang, Political Capital, Direct36, K-Monitor, Ökotárs, the Helsinki Committee... Transparency, Átlátszó, and so on. They pay exactly the same ones."

Technique: Organisations with different profiles (investigative journalism, human rights organisation, transparency organisation) appear on a single list, as if they were parts of a network with the same purpose and funding.

Effect: The enumeration suggests that these organisations are coordinated foreign agents, whereas they are organisations with different profiles and in part entirely different funding.

Association 2:

Timestamp: 05:53

Quote: "tries to colonise civil society, and then enter political decision-making, and actually take over the function of elected leaders, and direct things from the background as a shadow state"

Technique: Identifies the activities of the Soros foundations with colonisation and shadow-state control — these are strongly negatively connoted concepts stated without proof.

Effect: The listener automatically identifies the Soros foundations as an anti-democratic, colonising force.

Association 3:

Timestamp: 23:14

Quote: "Newland, who publicly and traceably admitted that they spent 5 billion dollars on the Maidan revolution. So they prepared revolutions, and also carried out subversive acts everywhere."

Technique: Linking the name of Victoria Nuland and the Maidan revolution with USAID and the Soros foundations — the chain of association: USAID → Soros → Nuland → Maidan → "subversive acts".

Effect: The Ukrainian revolution appears as a foreign intelligence operation, which aligns with the Russian narrative.

Chain of association: USAID → Soros foundations → NGOs → independent media → opposition parties → "subversive acts" → "colonisation"

Examination of the listed organisations (category classification):

- 444.hu / Telex / Direct36: Investigative journalism, partly with foreign foundation funding — CATEGORY A (system-critical journalism with methodology, documented sources)
- Helsinki Committee: Human rights organisation, partly with EU and UN funding — CATEGORY A (documented human rights work, not political activism)
- Political Capital: Political analysis institute — CATEGORY B (partly analytical, partly advocacy work)
- K-Monitor / Transparency / Átlátszó: Transparency organisations — CATEGORY A (anti-corruption work, documented methodology)

Note: The broadcast's own framing (these are "political activist organisations") is NOT evidence for Category C. The categorisation is based exclusively on the above criteria.



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Summary: The broadcast systematically applies the guilt by association technique: it draws organisations with different profiles into a single negative associative network, without proof.



7. TIMING							7/10		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Total score: 7/10

Definition: Strategic placement of information (beginning/middle/end).

Finding 1:

Position: 00:32 (beginning)

Content: "The United States Agency for International Development was created as part of the American national security network. Its task is covert and overt pressure worldwide."

Timing effect: The first sentences of the broadcast immediately present USAID in the most negative frame; this defines the interpretive frame for the entire broadcast before any nuanced information is heard.

Finding 2:

Position: 37:30 (middle-end)

Content: "let us now glance towards 2026, we too are only ahead of an election, so let us take a look at what is happening in Hungary now"

Timing effect: In the second half of the broadcast, the global USAID narrative is explicitly projected onto the 2026 Hungarian elections; this structure suggests that foreign interference is a direct and current threat.

Finding 3:

Position: 41:57 (towards the end)

Content: "I cannot rule out that if Fidesz wins the 2026 elections, it will be handled with similar types of unrest"

Timing effect: The prediction of unrest heard at the end of the broadcast creates maximum emotional impact; the listener takes this away as their last impression.

Summary: The structure of the broadcast is consciously built up: global narrative → Hungarian application → electoral threat; this progressive dramatisation is a manipulative timing technique.



8. SELECTIVE OUTRAGE								8/10	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Outrage = bias. Selective outrage reinforces the finding. Score = degree of outrage (0–5) + selectivity (0–5)

Total score: 8/10

Definition: Outrage at certain positions but not at similar others.

Methodological principle: Before each assessment, the triggering event must be documented. A reaction can only be classified as selective if a similar triggering event at other positions did not produce an analogous reaction.

Calculation of degree of outrage:

Score = Degree of outrage (0–5) + Selectivity (0–5)

Finding 1:

Timestamp: 11:38

Triggering event: Mention of USAID transgender and LGBTQ programmes

Reaction: "So transgender men, menstruating men. Study of the USA, spreading LGBTQ in Botswana, support for transgender opera in Colombia. Sensitisation of the Nigerian police to LGBTQ. These too were among the priorities of the USA's programmes."

Comparison: The KESMA financing, state media concentration or the financing of pro-government media never triggered a similar outrage — analogous event: none

Asymmetry: Confirmed — LGBTQ programmes trigger a strong emotional reaction, while the financing of the pro-government media system is never mentioned

Degree of outrage: 4/5

Selectivity: 4/5

Finding 2:

Timestamp: 44:07

Triggering event: Prediction of possible unrest after the 2026 elections

Reaction: "I dare to risk saying that if, say, the Polish parliamentary election two years ago had not turned out that way, I think we would have seen similar things in Warsaw too"

Comparison: The 2006 Budapest riots (organised by Fidesz against the MSZP government) are never mentioned — analogous event: none

Asymmetry: Confirmed — unrest organised by foreign-funded organisations triggers outrage, Fidesz-aligned unrest does not

Degree of outrage: 3/5

Selectivity: 5/5

Summary: The broadcast consistently and exclusively expresses outrage towards the activities of the progressive/liberal/opposition side; similar activities of the pro-government side (media concentration, state financing, political pressure) never trigger an analogous reaction.



9. SELECTIVE OMISSION — OVERALL PICTURE

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Total score: 9/10

Definition: How complete is the broadcast's treatment of the topic?

Finding 1:

Timestamp: 29:20

Missing perspective/fact: The KESMA media concentration and pro-government media financing

Relevance: The broadcast criticises the foreign funding of independent media, while the pro-government media system (~500 media companies, state advertising revenues, oligarchic financing) is never mentioned.

Effect: The listener gets the impression that only the financing of opposition media is problematic, while the financing of the pro-government media system appears as a natural given.

Finding 2:

Timestamp: 03:32

Missing perspective/fact: The consequences of the dismantling of USAID's humanitarian activities

Relevance: The 2025 dismantling of USAID has serious humanitarian consequences in developing countries (health programmes, famine prevention, disaster relief); these are never mentioned.

Effect: The dismantling of USAID appears exclusively as a positive event, without the real humanitarian consequences.

Finding 3:

Timestamp: 23:03

Missing perspective/fact: The context of the war in Ukraine and Hungary's responsibility

Relevance: The broadcast presents Ukraine as a "flagship project" and instrument of foreign interference, while the consequences of Hungary's pro-Russian policy (circumventing EU sanctions, dependence on Russian gas) are never mentioned.

Effect: The Ukraine narrative reflects exclusively the Russian/sovereignist perspective.

Summary: The broadcast's lack of completeness is systematic: every fact, piece of data and perspective that would weaken or nuance the government narrative is absent.

Soft facts — debatable, not merely countable



Softfacts — 6 qualitative techniques

10. DEFINITION OF INTERPRETIVE FRAME

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Total score: 9/10

Definition: How is the topic fundamentally framed?

Finding 1:

Timestamp: 00:39

Quote: "Its task is covert and overt pressure worldwide."

Manipulation: The first sentences of the broadcast immediately define USAID as an intelligence pressure organ; this interpretive frame is determinative for the entire broadcast.

Why problematic: USAID's statutory mandate is development assistance; the framing of "covert pressure" is stated without proof and provides the interpretive basis for the entire broadcast.

Finding 2:

Timestamp: 25:53

Quote: "tries to colonise civil society"

Manipulation: The concept of "colonisation" carries strongly negative historical connotations; framing the financing of civil society as colonisation automatically triggers a hostile reaction in the listener.

Why problematic: There is no logical or legal equivalence between colonisation and the financing of civil society; the application of the concept is emotional manipulation.

Finding 3:

Timestamp: 30:14

Quote: "so the so-called civil society... within this civil society the number of working-age persons over 15 is exceeded only by the populations of China and India"

Manipulation: The qualifier "so-called" frames the concept of civil society as inherently discredited; the unverifiable statistic dramatises the size and dangerousness of the "network".

Why problematic: The systematic discrediting of the concept of civil society attacks one of the basic institutions of democratic participation.

Summary: The framing of the broadcast is consistent and systematic: USAID, the Soros foundations, civil society and independent media are placed into a single negative interpretive frame (foreign interference, colonisation, intelligence network), from which not a single counterbalancing perspective emerges.



11. LANGUAGE AND CONCEPTS								8/10	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Total score: 8/10

Definition: What language is used? What connotations are created?

Finding 1:

Timestamp: 06:39

Quote: "those were written off as tinfoil hat wearers by mainstream opinion-formers"

Manipulation: The expression "tinfoil hat wearer" denotes believers in conspiracy theories; the broadcast suggests that critics of USAID were previously unjustly stigmatised.

Why problematic: The application of the concept frames the sovereigntist narrative as "suppressed truth", which is a typical rhetorical device of conspiracy theories. Neutral alternative: "critics" or "sceptics".

Finding 2:

Timestamp: 27:10

Quote: "pseudo-civil organisations... political activist organisations"

Manipulation: The systematic replacement of the concept of "civil" with "pseudo-civil" and "political activist" calls the legitimacy of the organisations into question without proving this.

Why problematic: The substitution of concepts is itself a political act; neutral alternative: "civil organisations" or "NGOs" (with separate assessment of funding and activities).

Finding 3:

Timestamp: 12:07

Quote: "those progressive kids who wanted to spread woke culture in an extremely aggressive manner throughout the world"

Manipulation: "Woke culture" and "progressive kids" are strongly negatively connoted political jargon; the qualifier "in an aggressive manner" implies hostile intent.

Why problematic: The concepts are not neutral descriptions but political labels; neutral alternative: "spreading progressive values" or "liberal programmes".

Summary: The language of the broadcast consistently applies sovereigntist-conservative political jargon; neutral concepts (civil society, NGO, development assistance) are systematically replaced with negatively connoted ones.



12. MODERATOR CONDUCT								8/10	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Total score: 8/10

Definition: Asymmetries in follow-up questions, interruptions, expressions of sympathy.

Methodological principle: Before each assessment, the triggering event must be documented. An intervention can only be classified as asymmetric if a similar triggering event with other guests did not produce an analogous intervention.

Finding 1:

Timestamp: 05:19

Triggering event: The guest claims that USAID was not initially a "front organisation"

Moderator quote: "Or was it a front organisation even then?"

Comparison: The moderator never critically follows up on the guests' unverified claims (e.g. "they spent 5 billion dollars on the Maidan revolution" — 23:19); this single follow-up question also reinforces the narrative rather than weakening it.

Asymmetry: Confirmed — the moderator only asks follow-up questions in a direction that deepens the sovereigntist narrative.

Finding 2:

Timestamp: 37:26

Triggering event: The guest steers the conversation towards the 2026 elections

Moderator quote: "let us now glance towards 2026, we too are only ahead of an election, so let us take a look at what is happening in Hungary now"

Comparison: The moderator actively assists in placing the global narrative into the Hungarian electoral context; not once does he ask about the evidence base for the claims.

Asymmetry: Confirmed — the moderator operates as a facilitator, not a critical questioner.

Finding 3:

Timestamp: 19:23

Triggering event: The guest speaks positively about the German Marshall Fund scholarship

Moderator quote: (does not interrupt, allows the guest to continue)

Comparison: This is the only moment when a positive aspect of foreign funding arises; the moderator does not ask whether this contradicts the broadcast's main narrative.

Asymmetry: Confirmed — a moment that contradicts the narrative receives no moderatorial attention.

Summary: The moderator consistently operates as a facilitator, not a critical questioner; not once does he ask about the evidence base for unverified claims, and not a single counterbalancing perspective is introduced.



13. QUESTION ASYMMETRY								8/10	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Total score: 8/10

Definition: Questions of different hardness/softness to different people.

Asymmetry 1:

From the moderator to "András", 04:40: "How did USAID actually become such an integral part of the American deep state?" — SOFT (the question presupposes the "deep state" narrative, does not question it)

Comparison: The listed organisations (444.hu, Helsinki Committee, etc.) are never given the opportunity to respond — NO QUESTION (exclusion)

Comparison: The question presupposes the validity of the concept of "deep state"; not a single critical follow-up question is asked.

Asymmetry 2:

From the moderator to "István", 17:16: "But why was he able to do this?" — SOFT (the question presupposes Trump's success, does not question it)

Comparison: Not a single question is asked about the humanitarian consequences of the Trump administration's dismantling of USAID.

Asymmetry 3:

From the moderator to "Petra", 31:43: "And why?" — SOFT (open, facilitating question)

Comparison: Not a single critical question is asked about the legal framework or transparency rules of EU funding mechanisms.

Summary: The moderator asks exclusively facilitating questions that deepen the narrative; not a single critical question that challenges the narrative is asked throughout the entire broadcast.



14. FALSE BALANCE							7/10		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Total score: 7/10

Definition: Artificial balance despite actual inequality.

Finding 1:

Timestamp: 20:01

Construction: "admittedly, the Soros foundation initially supported specialist colleges, gave scholarships to young people, supported Bibó, supported the poor. I saw it directly, after a while I don't know what that turning point was"

Analysis: The broadcast apparently acknowledges the earlier positive activities of the Soros foundations, but immediately neutralises this with the "baiting" metaphor (34:38: "it's like fishermen baiting, and then they want to catch the fish"). This is false balance: the positive acknowledgement only serves to make the final negative verdict more credible.

Finding 2:

Timestamp: 08:47

Construction: "I am also sceptical as to how much the so-called lofty goals were in the majority, because I don't want to deny it, there were certainly such projects within the funding frameworks too"

Analysis: The sentence "there were certainly such projects too" apparently nuances the position, but is immediately withdrawn with the turn "we would not see that today either". This is false balance: the apparent acknowledgement reinforces the final negative verdict.

Summary: The broadcast applies false balance twice: it acknowledges the earlier positive activities of the Soros foundations and USAID, but immediately neutralises this with the "baiting" narrative, which makes the final negative verdict more credible.



15. AGENDA-SETTING

9/10

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

Total score: 9/10

Definition: What counts as natural/self-evident? What does not get onto the agenda?

Finding 1:

Agenda item: The equation foreign funding = interference

Timestamp: 08:14 — Evidence: "What consequences does it have for them? They express their opinion in the same way, they call themselves independent and objective in the same way, while it is written in black and white that they did not receive this money because they wanted to strengthen the independent press or the various NGOs"

Alternative agenda: The financing of the pro-government media system (KESMA, state advertising) also influences content — this never gets onto the agenda.

Finding 2:

Agenda item: The 2026 elections as targets of foreign interference

Timestamp: 37:30 — Evidence: "let us now glance towards 2026, we too are only ahead of an election"

Alternative agenda: Ahead of the 2026 elections, Fidesz-KDNP's own campaign financing, the disproportionalities of the electoral system and inequalities in media access never get onto the agenda.

Finding 3:

Agenda item: Civil society = foreign agent

Timestamp: 24:15 — Evidence: "this so-called civil society... all of them carry out their activities under a disguised mode of operation"

Alternative agenda: Genuine voluntary civil organisations (local communities, volunteer firefighters, cultural associations) are never mentioned; the concept of civil society appears exclusively in a negative context.

Summary: The broadcast's agenda systematically excludes topics that would weaken the government narrative; the presuppositions treated as "natural givens" (foreign funding = interference, civil society = agent network) remain without critical examination.



CHAPTER 4 — OVERALL ASSESSMENT

Overview of individual scores

No.	Criterion	Type	Score	Main finding (1 sentence)
1	Expert selection	H	9	Exclusively Fidesz-aligned, pro-government guests speak, without a single counterbalancing voice
2	Source selection	H	9	Exclusively sovereigntist-conservative sources (documentary film, book close to Trump, Heritage Foundation), with three unverified claims
3	Time allocation	H	8	The entire speaking time is distributed exclusively among those representing the sovereigntist narrative
4	Omission	H	9	KESMA concentration, USAID humanitarian activities and opposition perspectives are systematically absent
5	Number manipulation	H	6	Three key figures are cited without a basis for comparison and without trend, creating a misleading overall picture
6	Guilt by association	H	9	Organisations with different profiles are drawn into a single negative associative network without proof
7	Timing	H	7	The structure of the broadcast is consciously built: global narrative → Hungarian application → electoral threat
8	Selective outrage	H	8	Outrage appears exclusively towards the activities of the progressive/liberal side
9	Completeness	H	9	Not a single counterbalancing perspective appears; the lack of completeness is systematic
10	Framing	S	9	USAID, Soros foundations and civil society are placed into a single negative frame (foreign interference, colonisation)
11	Language	S	8	Systematic concept substitution: civil → pseudo-civil, NGO → political activist organisation
12	Moderator conduct	S	8	The moderator operates as a facilitator, not a critical questioner
13	Question asymmetry	S	8	Exclusively facilitating, narrative-deepening questions are asked
14	False balance	S	7	The apparent acknowledgements (Soros's earlier positive activities) reinforce the final negative verdict
15	Agenda-setting	S	9	Topics that would weaken the government narrative are systematically excluded from the agenda

Results

- HARD FACTS SCORE (average of criteria 1–9): 8.2 / 10
- SOFT FACTS SCORE (average of criteria 10–15): 8.2 / 10
- TOTAL SCORE (average of all 15 criteria): 8.2 / 10



Dominant techniques

- 1. Guilt by association (9/10):** The broadcast draws organisations with different profiles (investigative journalism, human rights organisation, transparency organisation) into a single negative associative network, identifying them without proof as parts of a foreign agent network. This technique reaches its peak in the enumeration at 29:20, where everyone from 444.hu to the Helsinki Committee appears on a single list.
- 2. Framing (9/10):** From the first sentences of the broadcast, the topic is locked into a single interpretive frame (foreign interference, colonisation, intelligence network); not a single counterbalancing perspective emerges from this frame throughout the entire 52 minutes. The definition of the frame (00:32) precedes any nuanced information.
- 3. Agenda-setting (9/10):** The broadcast systematically excludes topics that would weaken the government narrative: KESMA concentration, USAID humanitarian activities, opposition perspectives and the disproportionalities of the electoral system never get onto the agenda. The presuppositions treated as "natural givens" remain without critical examination.

Messages of the broadcast

MESSAGE 1 (CONTENT): "USAID, the Soros foundations and the EU are trying to overthrow the Fidesz government through a coordinated foreign network ahead of the 2026 elections."

Technique: Framing + guilt by association + agenda-setting — Evidence: 00:32, 29:20, 37:30

MESSAGE 2 (PERSONAL): "Independent media outlets, NGOs and polling institutes are not genuine civil actors but political activist organisations serving foreign interests."

Technique: Language + guilt by association + omission — Evidence: 27:10, 29:20, 08:14

MESSAGE 3 (SOCIAL): "After the 2026 elections, if Fidesz wins, foreign-funded organisations may organise unrest in Hungary."

Technique: Timing + selective outrage + agenda-setting — Evidence: 41:57, 44:07, 37:30

Classification of degree of manipulation

Justification: The broadcast's total score of 8.2/10 indicates extreme imbalance. Not a single counterbalancing voice, source or perspective appears throughout the entire 52 minutes; every invited guest comes from the same political-ideological direction; the listed organisations and individuals appear exclusively as defendants, without their own position being heard. The requirements of actuality, objectivity and balance of information, and the obligation to reflect diversity of opinion, as prescribed by Mtv. §83, are not met in respect of a single criterion. The broadcast is not informational in character but clearly serves a propagandistic function.

SUMMARY

The examined episode of Kommentár Klub systematically and seriously violates the requirement of balanced and objective information as prescribed by Mtv. §83. The broadcast features exclusively Fidesz-aligned, pro-government guests who discuss the role of USAID, the Soros foundations, civil society and independent media within a single interpretive frame (foreign interference, colonisation, intelligence network). The listed organisations (444.hu, Telex, Helsinki Committee, Direct36, etc.) appear exclusively as defendants, their own position never being heard; KESMA media concentration and pro-government media financing are never mentioned. The structure, timing and language of the broadcast consciously serve political mobilisation ahead of the 2026 elections, which is incompatible with MTVA's public service mandate.



OVERALL ASSESSMENT OF THE 15 CRITERIA

Individual scores — All 15 criteria

No.	Criterion	Score	Classification
1	EXPERT SELECTION	9/10	Systematic imbalance
2	SOURCE SELECTION	9/10	Systematic imbalance
3	TIME ALLOCATION	8/10	Pronounced imbalance
4	SELECTIVE OMISSION	9/10	Systematic imbalance
5	NUMBER MANIPULATION	6/10	Significant imbalance
6	GUILT BY ASSOCIATION	9/10	Systematic imbalance
7	TIMING	7/10	Pronounced imbalance
8	SELECTIVE OUTRAGE	8/10	Pronounced imbalance
9	SELECTIVE OMISSION — OVERALL PICTURE	9/10	Systematic imbalance
10	DEFINITION OF INTERPRETIVE FRAME	9/10	Systematic imbalance
11	LANGUAGE AND CONCEPTS	8/10	Pronounced imbalance
12	MODERATOR CONDUCT	8/10	Pronounced imbalance
13	QUESTION ASYMMETRY	8/10	Pronounced imbalance
14	FALSE BALANCE	7/10	Pronounced imbalance
15	AGENDA-SETTING	9/10	Systematic imbalance

HARDFACTS SCORE (1-8)

9.0/10

Fundamental systemic one-sidedness. Very high degree of bias

SOFTFACTS SCORE (9-14)

8.2/10

Fundamental systemic one-sidedness. Very high degree of bias

TOTAL SCORE

8.6/10

Fundamental systemic one-sidedness. Very high degree of bias

Average of Hardfacts and Softfacts



LEGEND — Meaning of scores

Individual scores per criterion (0–10)

0	No finding	No relevant anomaly detectable.
1–2	Weak finding	Minor anomaly without material effect on balance.
3–4	Mild-moderate finding	Recognisable tendency; low-moderate impact relevance.
5	Moderate finding with impact	Relevant imbalance that influences the audience's opinion-forming potential.
6	Significant finding (threshold)	Scores of 6 or higher qualify as "significant findings".
7	Significant finding	Clear, well-documented imbalance with obvious impact relevance.
8–9	Serious finding	Pronounced imbalance; multiple individual findings documented for this criterion.
10	Maximum severity	Systematic and pervasive imbalance for this criterion.

Overall deviation index — Interpretation ranges

0.0 – 2.5	Imperceptible	No material patterns detectable; the broadcast meets the balance requirement.
2.6 – 4.0	Mild imbalance	Isolated anomalies; statistically visible but still within the tolerance threshold.
4.1 – 6.0	Significant imbalance	Multiple significant findings; relevant impairment of viewpoint diversity.
6.1 – 8.0	Serious deviation from the balance requirement. High degree of deviation	Pronounced, cross-broadcast patterns; high impact relevance.
8.1 – 10	Fundamental systemic one-sidedness. Very high degree of bias	Maximum pronouncedness in almost every criterion; systematically one-sided reporting.

Party-political bias (from –5 to +5)

–5 to –3	Strongly disadvantaged	The party is significantly under-represented in framing, speaking time or presentation.
–2 to –1	Mildly disadvantaged	Recognisable but mild disadvantage.
0	Neutral	No preference or disadvantage detectable.
+1 to +2	Mildly advantaged	Recognisable but mild preference.
+3 to +5	Strongly advantaged	The party is significantly over-represented in framing, speaking time or presentation.



CHAPTER 5 — LEGAL ASSESSMENT (Mttv. §83)

Assessment under Mttv. §83

Mttv. §83 requires that in news programmes and informational programmes, information must be current, objective and balanced, and must reflect diversity of opinion.

Violation 1:

Norm: Mttv. §83 (1) — balance and diversity of opinion

Facts: The broadcast presents not a single counterbalancing perspective; every invited guest comes from the same political-ideological direction (Fidesz-aligned, sovereigntist); the position of opposition parties, independent media and civil organisations is never heard.

Evidence: Entire broadcast — particularly 29:20: "This is 444, Lakmus... Telex. They pay exactly the same ones." — the listed organisations appear exclusively as defendants.

Assessment: The obligation to reflect diversity of opinion is fully violated; the broadcast functions as one-sided political propaganda.

Violation 2:

Norm: Mttv. §83 (1) — objectivity

Facts: Several unverified claims are made in the broadcast without a primary source (e.g. 23:19: "they spent 5 billion dollars on the Maidan revolution"; 44:53: "the invisible European deep state"); the broadcast treats these as facts, not as opinions.

Evidence: 23:19 — "Newland, who publicly and traceably admitted that they spent 5 billion dollars on the Maidan revolution."

Assessment: Treating unverified claims as facts violates the requirement of objectivity.

Violation 3:

Norm: Mttv. §83 (1) — actuality and completeness

Facts: The humanitarian consequences of the dismantling of USAID, the KESMA media concentration and the legal assessment of the sovereignty protection law are never mentioned, even though these would be indispensable for a comprehensive treatment of the topic.

Evidence: 00:32 — "Its task is covert and overt pressure worldwide." — not a single documented result of USAID's humanitarian activities is mentioned.

Assessment: The systematic omission violates the requirement of completeness and actuality.

Violation 4:

Norm: Mttv. §83 (2) — the special obligation of the public service media provider

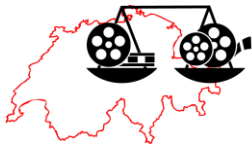
Facts: MTVA's public service mandate requires that broadcasts serve society as a whole, not the interests of a single political force. The examined broadcast exclusively reinforces the Fidesz-KDNP sovereignty-protection narrative and explicitly serves a political mobilisation function ahead of the 2026 elections.

Evidence: 37:30 — "let us now glance towards 2026, we too are only ahead of an election" — the broadcast explicitly becomes part of the electoral campaign.

Assessment: The public service mandate and the obligation of political neutrality are seriously violated.

Overall assessment under Mttv. §83

The examined episode of Kommentár Klub systematically and seriously violates the requirements of balance, objectivity, completeness and diversity of opinion as prescribed by Mttv. §83. The broadcast is not informational public service content but clearly political propaganda preparing the Fidesz-KDNP 2026 electoral campaign, broadcast



through MTVA's public service infrastructure. The NMHH media council — if it were truly acting on the basis of Mttv. §83 — would be obliged to establish the violation and impose sanctions; however, given that the NMHH media council has been composed exclusively of Fidesz-aligned individuals since 2010, the structural enforcement deficit itself reflects a state of affairs contrary to the spirit of Mttv. §83.

SOURCE DEEP-CHECK (Mandatory for every cited organisation/NGO/advisory institution)

1. "We Are The World" documentary film

- 1. FUNDING:** Unknown; the film conveys a sovereigntist-conservative narrative; likely conservative private foundation funding.
- 2. MANDATE:** Incompatible with neutral assessment — the film carries an explicit political message.
- 3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** The film portrays USAID and the Soros foundations negatively; the broadcast treats this as a primary source.
 - D1 Interessenkonflikt: -2
 - D2 Persönliches Risiko: 0
 - D3 Fachkompetenz: -1
 - D4 Meinungskonsistenz: 0
 - D5 Emotionalisierung vs. Daten: -2
 - D6 Quellenstufe: -2
 - TOTAL: -7 → QUELLENAMPEL: PIROS**
- 5. COUNTER-OPINION:** An independent documentary or academic analysis of USAID activities is not heard.

2. Book by the FBI director

- 1. FUNDING:** Official appointed by the Trump administration; strong political bias.
- 2. MANDATE:** Incompatible with neutral assessment — the book reinforces the Trump administration's narrative.
- 3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** The author of the book is an appointee of the Trump administration; has a direct interest in maintaining the narrative.
 - D1 Interessenkonflikt: -2
 - D2 Persönliches Risiko: -1
 - D3 Fachkompetenz: +1
 - D4 Meinungskonsistenz: 0
 - D5 Emotionalisierung vs. Daten: -1
 - D6 Quellenstufe: 0
 - TOTAL: -3 → QUELLENAMPEL: S**
- 5. COUNTER-OPINION:** Independent FBI analysis or court documents are not heard.

3. Heritage Foundation / Project 2025

- 1. FUNDING:** Conservative private foundations (Koch network and similar); strong right-wing ideological commitment.
- 2. MANDATE:** The Heritage Foundation is the developer of the Trump administration's political programme; not a neutral analytical institute.
- 3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** Has a direct interest in justifying the Trump administration's policies.
 - D1 Interessenkonflikt: -2
 - D2 Persönliches Risiko: 0
 - D3 Fachkompetenz: +1
 - D4 Meinungskonsistenz: +1
 - D5 Emotionalisierung vs. Daten: -1
 - D6 Quellenstufe: 0
 - TOTAL: -1 → QUELLENAMPEL: S**
- 5. COUNTER-OPINION:** Independent think-tank analysis of the consequences of Project 2025 is not heard.

4. György Soros's book "The Alchemy of Finance"

- 1. FUNDING:** György Soros's own publication; the context of the cited passages is unverifiable in the broadcast.
- 2. MANDATE:** Autobiographical/essayistic work; not a scientific source.



3. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** The broadcast uses the book to support the Soros narrative, but the context of the quotes cannot be verified.

- D1 Interessenkonflikt: -1
- D2 Persönliches Risiko: 0
- D3 Fachkompetenz: +1
- D4 Meinungskonsistenz: 0
- D5 Emotionalisierung vs. Daten: -1
- D6 Quellenstufe: +1
- TOTAL: 0 → QUELLENAMPEL: S**

5. **COUNTER-OPINION:** The full context of the book and Soros's own interpretation are not heard; the passages cited by the guest may be selective.

IMPORTANT NOTE: "Recognised" is not a factual qualification. It is a social attribution that must itself be examined. Not a single source in the broadcast receives an independent, critical assessment; every source reinforces the sovereigntist narrative, and every source receives at least a YELLOW or RED classification according to the credibility matrix.

Source credibility overview:

Source	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	Total	Signal
"We Are The World" documentary film	-2	0	-1	0	-2	-2	-7	RED
Book by the FBI director	-2	-1	+1	0	-1	0	-3	S
Heritage Foundation / Project 2025	-2	0	+1	+1	-1	0	-1	S
György Soros's book "The Alchemy of Finance"	-1	0	+1	0	-1	+1	0	S

Legal and methodological classification

Not a finding of fact	The results presented do not constitute a finding of fact regarding individual persons, editorial offices or broadcasts. They are the results of standardised operationalisation, not a determination of individual responsibility.
Not a legal judgement	The overall deviation index does not replace the legal assessment under Mttv. §83. The determination of whether a given broadcast violates the statutory requirements is exclusively the task of the competent authorities (in particular the Media Council).
Not evidence of causality	Statistical correlations must not be interpreted as evidence of causal relationships or editorial intent. Deviation values may be influenced by topic selection, the news situation, political controversy or format logic.
Not an assessment of intent	The analysis measures the observable structural characteristics of broadcasts. A score of 7 means that significant imbalance has been established — not that the editorial team did this intentionally. The methodology makes no statements about motives.
Heuristic comparative tool	The index serves for comparative pattern recognition across thousands of broadcasts, not for precise metric measurement of individual contributions. The threshold values serve as heuristic orientation, not as precise legal qualification.



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ANNEX 1: NATIONAL LEGISLATION

Legal basis Hungary — MTVA

Laws

- Act CLXXXV of 2010 on media services and mass communication (Mttv.)
- Act CIV of 2010 on press freedom (Smtv.)
- Fundamental Law of Hungary (2011)

Relevant articles

Mttv. (Media Act 2010)

- §83 (1): Public service obligation — current, objective and balanced information in news and informational programmes.
- §83 (2): Information must reflect diversity of opinion.
- §12: Protection of plurality of opinion as a fundamental principle.
- §13: Prohibition of one-sided information in news programmes.

Smtv. (Press Freedom Act 2010)

- §4: Freedom of the press and freedom of expression.
- §10: Separation of news and opinion.
- §13: Right of correction.

Fundamental Law

- Article IX: Freedom of opinion and the press, media pluralism as a state obligation of protection.

European reference framework

- ECHR Article 10: Right to freedom of expression (European Convention on Human Rights)
- EU Rule of Law Report: Annual assessment, documenting systematic media freedom deficiencies since 2018
- RSF Press Freedom Index: Reporters Without Borders, annual ranking
- EMFA (European Media Freedom Act, 2024): EU-level minimum standards for media freedom

Special case — Structural non-enforcement

IMPORTANT: The Mttv. formally contains correct balance obligations. The criticism is not directed against the text of the law but against the structural non-enforcement by the government-aligned NMHH. MTVA is a broadcaster operating under de facto state-aligned control.

Supervisory authority

- NMHH (National Media and Infocommunications Authority): National media and communications authority. Structurally government-aligned in composition since 2010.

Complaints procedure

1. NMHH (formally, but structurally not independent)
2. Kúria (Supreme Court, in theory)



ANNEX 2: ACADEMIC REFERENCES

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The following books are available from SVFAB:

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Unbalanced reporting as a response to the Swiss halving initiative: This book describes the manipulation techniques in detail, starting with the selection of staff and sources. It then outlines 15 principles: omission, framing, temporal framing, guilt by association, emotionalisation, removal of context and many more, illustrated with numerous examples. It also reveals where we ourselves apply these techniques — fostering not only understanding but also empathy.

Optionally, playing cards are also available to accompany the book.

Also available as an audiobook.



The interview is not a conversation. It is a stage — and someone else wrote the script.

Anyone who does not understand this is handing out material. Good quotes that were poorly edited. Correct statements placed in the wrong context. Honest answers framed as confessions.

This book is not a media criticism book. It is a toolkit — for everyone who has a microphone in front of their face and wants to know what they can do about it. 7 chapters. 7 tools: What an interview actually is. The 7 most common pitfalls. The three principles of control — anchoring, framing and setting boundaries. Preparation in one hour. Body and voice. What to do when things go wrong. And what counts after the interview.

For politicians, activists, entrepreneurs, whistleblowers — for everyone who is in the public eye and wants to understand how the game works. To stop being played — and start shaping it.

In A5 format. Easy to use. For preparation, as a reference, for follow-up and when things get difficult.



Schweizerischer Verein für ausgewogene Berichterstattung
Association suisse pour une information équilibrée
Associazione svizzera per un reporting equilibrato



You think you see the world. In reality, you see the frame that someone has placed around it. Framing is the world's oldest and most elegant manipulation technique. It does not change the facts — it changes what we think about them. How we feel. What we believe. How we decide. And it works — because we all participate in it. Every day. Unconsciously. You too. This book is not a dry textbook. It is a workbook — playful, direct, full of real examples. You will not only learn how others frame you. You will learn how to frame yourself — and how to use it consciously and fairly.

Because those who understand framing see the world more clearly. They hear the news differently. They conduct conversations with greater confidence. And they are no longer so easily influenced by frames chosen by someone else.

With numerous exercises and concrete examples from politics, the media and everyday life — and a few chuckles along the way.

Stylish framing. Because the frame changes everything.