



MTVA DETAILED ANALYSIS

2026-03-03_48-perc

Programme: MTVA-Sendung (M1/Kossuth Rádió) | 2026-03-03 | Analysed: 2026-05-24 22:27
Version 3.0-detail | Universal 3.0-detail | Konverter 3.4 (2026-05-20) | Mércé: Mttv. §83

TOTAL SCORE

7.9/10

Serious deviation from the balance requirement. High degree of deviation

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 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

Government (in power continuously since May 2010): Fidesz-KDNP — two-thirds parliamentary majority (135 seats out of 199). The government won its fourth consecutive two-thirds majority in 2022.

Main opposition parties: TISZA (led by Magyar Péter, second strongest force at the 2024 EP elections with 29.6%), DK, Momentum, Jobbik, LMP, MSZP (these ran as the United Opposition in 2022, winning 56 seats), Mi Hazánk (6 seats, far-right but in opposition).

Party	CHES left-right	Seats	Government/Opposition	Basic position
MSZP	3,00	(Unit. Opp.)	Opposition	Left-wing, social democratic
MKKP	3,50	0	Extra-parliamentary	Left-wing, satirical-libertarian
LMP	3,79	(Unit. Opp.)	Opposition	Left-wing, green-progressive
Momentum	4,17	(Unit. Opp.)	Opposition	Centre-left, pro-EU, youth-urban
DK	4,28	(Unit. Opp.)	Opposition	Centre-left
TISZA	6,17	— (new 2024)	Opposition (strongest)	Centre-right, anti-corruption, pro-EU
Jobbik	6,47	(Unit. 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, irredentist

Hungarian political life is defined by four main fault lines. First: the rule-of-law dispute between Fidesz-KDNP and all opposition forces, centred on judicial independence, media concentration (KESMA) and access to EU funds. Second: Ukraine policy — the government's pro-Russian neutrality versus the opposition's (especially TISZA's) Western-oriented, Ukraine-solidarity stance. Third: energy policy, where the friendship pipeline dispute and the question of Russian energy dependence became particularly acute in 2025. Fourth: the personal political struggle between Magyar Péter and Orbán Viktor unfolding ahead of the 2026 parliamentary elections, which colours all other debates.

MTVA (M1, M2, M4, M5, Duna TV) operates as a public service media provider that functions de facto as a government propaganda tool: the NMHH Media Council has been staffed exclusively by Fidesz-aligned individuals since 2010, and the body structurally fails to enforce the balance obligation through formally lawful procedures. The KESMA foundation (approx. 500 media companies since 2018) has consolidated pro-government media. Hungary ranks 85th on the RSF Press Freedom Index — the worst ranking in the EU.



CHAPTER 1 — PARTY-POLITICAL BIAS

Representation of parties' programme positions

Party	Score (-5..+5)	Representation in broadcast vs. programme position
Fidesz-KDNP	+2	12:50 "Orbán Viktor reacted to this by saying it was an outrageous response" — Programme position: maintaining Russian energy dependence, sovereignty — partly correct, but portrayed without criticism, in a positive frame
TISZA	-4	16:43 "Magyar Péter in this situation is saying the same thing as Zelensky" — Programme position: anti-corruption, pro-EU, pragmatic foreign policy — actively distorted: embedded in a conspiracy narrative, portrayed as an agent of Ukraine and Croatia
DK	0	Not featured in the broadcast
Momentum	0	Not featured in the broadcast
Jobbik	0	Not featured in the broadcast
Mi Hazánk	0	Not featured in the broadcast
LMP	0	Not featured in the broadcast
MSZP	0	Not featured in the broadcast

Score explanation:

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

Party bias summary

- Most accurate representation: Fidesz-KDNP (+2) — the government's position is presented without criticism, in a positive frame
- Strongest distortion: TISZA (-4) — Magyar Péter and TISZA are portrayed as servants of foreign interests and allies of Zelensky; their programme positions (anti-corruption, rule of law, pro-EU) are not mentioned at all
- Average deviation from 0: 1.5 (based only on parties actually featured)
- Conclusion: The broadcast conveys the Fidesz-KDNP energy policy narrative without criticism, while portraying TISZA and Magyar Péter as participants in a geopolitical conspiracy. TISZA's programme positions (anti-corruption, EU rule of law, Ukraine solidarity) receive no airtime whatsoever; the opposition party appears exclusively in a negative context, as a counterpoint to the government narrative.

Left-right overall tendency

TENDENCY SCORE: -3.8

CLASSIFICATION: Strongly right-leaning

Justification: The broadcast's sole guest is a staff member of the Századvég pro-government think-tank, who reinforces the government's energy policy narrative. TISZA and Magyar Péter appear exclusively in a negative, conspiracy-tinged context, without any presentation of their programme positions. The narrative of a Ukrainian-Croatian-EU-TISZA "concerted play" is a direct repetition of Fidesz's 2026 electoral communication, which the broadcast conveys without criticism.



CHAPTER 2 — BROADCAST DATA AND TOPIC FRAMES

Broadcast data

- Title: 48 perc
- Date: Inferred from broadcast content: 2025 (the week of the outbreak of the Iranian–Israeli–American conflict, the active phase of the friendship pipeline dispute)
- Estimated length: approx. 48 minutes (consists of two parts, interrupted by a short news bulletin)
- Host/Reporter: Töröcsik Zsolt
- Guests:

Person	Function	Party/Affiliation	Political spectrum
Hortai Olivér	Head of Századvég Energy and Climate Policy Business Unit	Századvég (pro-government think-tank)	Right-wing, pro-government
Siri Zsuzsa	MTVA correspondent, Jerusalem	MTVA (state media)	Institutional
Nárai Balázs	MTVA correspondent, Washington	MTVA (state media)	Institutional
Siklósi Péter	Senior researcher at the Hungarian Institute of International Affairs	MKI (pro-government research institute)	Right-wing, pro-government
Hungarian mother living in Israel	Eyewitness/civilian	Private individual	Non-political

Main topic

The broadcast discusses two parallel energy security crises: the global energy market impacts of the Iranian–Israeli–American military conflict, and the consequences of the closure of the friendship pipeline for Hungary and the region — the latter in a strongly political frame, linking TISZA and Ukraine.



CHAPTER 3 — 15 CRITERIA: DETAILED ANALYSIS

Hard facts — countable and scientifically grounded

Hardfacts — 9 measurable and scientifically verifiable techniques

1. EXPERT SELECTION

9/10

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10

Total score: 9/10

Definition: Who speaks as an expert?

Expert 1: Hortai Olivér — Head of Századvég Energy and Climate Policy Business Unit

Timestamp: 00:38

Statement: "My guest is Hortai Olivér, head of the energy and climate policy business unit of Századvég."

Classification: Századvég Gazdaságkutató Zrt. regularly produces analyses commissioned by the Fidesz-KDNP government; the decisive share of its funding comes from state and pro-government sources. Hortai Olivér heads the institute's energy division, whose analyses consistently reinforce the government's energy policy narrative.

Missing counter-opinion: An independent energy economist (e.g. REKK — Regional Centre for Energy Policy Research) who would have assessed the friendship pipeline situation using an impartial methodology.

Source deep-check:

(a) FUNDING: The determining share of Századvég Gazdaságkutató Zrt.'s revenue consists of state and pro-government commissions (based on public procurement data). Structural conflict of interest: the institute's survival and revenues depend on government commissions, which structurally impedes drawing conclusions contrary to the government narrative.

(b) MANDATE: The institute's mandate is incompatible with impartial, independent energy assessment on issues that directly concern government energy policy (friendship pipeline, Russian oil dependence, utility price caps).

D1 Conflict of interest: -2 — Structural government dependence, revenues from state commissions

D2 Personal risk: -1 — A government-critical stance would entail career risk

D3 Professional competence: +1 — Energy field of expertise, but the institute's political orientation distorts its application

D4 Opinion consistency: +1 — Consistently pro-government narrative, but this itself is a sign of bias

D5 Emotional vs. data-based: 0 — Mixed: also presents data, but evaluative parts are strongly normative ("outrageous development")

D6 Source level: 0 — Secondary source (cites own institute's analysis)

TOTAL: -1 → SOURCE TRAFFIC LIGHT: YELLOW

(c) PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE: The broadcast introduces him as "head of the energy and climate policy business unit"; the institute's pro-government character, funding and structural conflict of interest are not mentioned at all. → Technique 2 (source selection).

Expert 2: Siklósi Péter — Senior researcher at the Hungarian Institute of International Affairs

Timestamp: 25:25

Statement: "My guest is Siklósi Péter, senior researcher at the Hungarian Institute of International Affairs."



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Classification: The Hungarian Institute of International Affairs (MKI) is a state-funded research institute operating under the supervision of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Its researchers regularly reinforce the government's foreign policy narrative.

Missing counter-opinion: An independent geopolitical analyst (e.g. Political Capital, Republikon Intézet) or a foreign (e.g. ECFR, Chatham House) researcher.

Source deep-check:

(a) FUNDING: State funding, under the supervision of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Structural conflict of interest: drawing conclusions contrary to government foreign policy would entail institutional risk.

(b) MANDATE: Incompatible with impartial assessment on issues that directly concern government foreign policy (Ukraine, NATO, EU).

- D1 Conflict of interest: -2 — State funding, ministerial supervision
- D2 Personal risk: -1 — A government-critical stance would entail career risk
- D3 Professional competence: +2 — Geopolitical field of expertise, relevant knowledge
- D4 Opinion consistency: +1 — Consistent, but pro-government orientation
- D5 Emotional vs. data-based: +1 — Predominantly analytical, few emotional elements
- D6 Source level: 0 — Secondary source

TOTAL: +1 → SOURCE TRAFFIC LIGHT: YELLOW

(c) PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE: The broadcast introduces him as "senior researcher"; the institute's state funding and pro-government character are not mentioned.

Missing expert groups:

- Independent energy economist (REKK or similar)
- Opposition energy expert (e.g. Kapitány István, whom the host mentions by name but does not invite)
- Independent geopolitical analyst (not from a state institution)

Summary (matrix result):

- Hortai Olivér: YELLOW (-1) — structural government dependence, framed as neutral
- Siklósi Péter: YELLOW (+1) — state funding, but higher professional competence

Source credibility overview:

Source	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	Total	Signal
expert: Hortai Olivér — Head of Századvég Energy and Climate Policy Business Unit	-2	-1	+1	+1	0	0	-1	YELLOW
expert: Siklósi Péter — Senior researcher at the Hungarian Institute of International Affairs	-2	-1	+2	+1	+1	0	+1	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: Századvég's own analysis

Timestamp: 20:22 — Statement: "half a year ago we did an analysis with Századvég, the result of which was that if the friendship pipeline is not available..."

(a) Funding and operator: Századvég Gazdaságkutató Zrt. — predominantly state and pro-government commissions.

(b) Structural conflict of interest: The analysis supports the government narrative (one-thousand-forint petrol price); the institute's revenues depend on government commissions.

(c) Missing counter-source: An estimate using the same methodology from an independent energy institute (REKK, IEA, Eurostat).

Missing counter-source: At 19:22 the host mentions that "the TISZA people argue, as do experts, as does Kapitány István, that this is completely unrealistic, it is scaremongering" — but Kapitány István or any other independent expert is not invited, and the opposition argument appears in a single sentence, immediately refuted.

Source 2: Eurostat fuel price statistics

Timestamp: 19:47 — Statement: "Eurostat publishes fuel price statistics for all member states every week, and based on this, the tax content of petrol in Hungary is, for example, the third lowest."

(a) Funding: EU institutional source — reliable primary data.

(b) Structural conflict of interest: No direct conflict, but selective use (only the tax content, without the total price and the ratio to real wages) distorts the picture.

(c) Missing context: The tax content alone is insufficient for assessing fuel prices; the ratio relative to real wages, purchasing power parity and total price comparison are missing.

Rumour check (penalty points):

Rumour 1:

Timestamp: 16:09

Claim: "a concerted play is unfolding before us in which the Hungarian TISZA party is also involved. At the Munich Security Forum, TISZA party leader Magyar Péter met personally with the Croatian Prime Minister, and then one week later the Croatian Prime Minister was in Kyiv, as stated in his own social media post, negotiating about the Adria pipeline"

Word signal: "concerted play" (conspiracy implication), "unfolding before us"

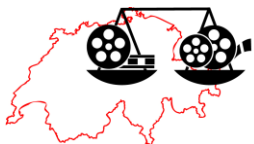
Primary source present: NO — The "concerted play" conclusion is not documented; linking the facts (meeting + Kyiv trip) is speculation without evidence. +1 penalty point.

Rumour 2:

Timestamp: 17:12

Claim: "both Ukraine, and the European Commission, and Croatia have an interest in there being a change of government in Hungary on 12 April"

Word signal: "have an interest" (attribution of intent without evidence)



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Primary source present: NO — Linking the intentions of three different actors without evidence. +1 penalty point.

Summary: The broadcast's sources consist exclusively of pro-government institutions (Századvég, MKI) and MTVA's own correspondents. Not a single independent, non-pro-government source speaks. Two documented rumours (+2 penalty points) raise the score.



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 viewpoints.

Estimated speaking time:

- Hortai Olivér (Századvég, pro-government): approx. 18 minutes (37.5%)
- Siklósi Péter (MKI, pro-government): approx. 14 minutes (29.2%)
- Törőcsik Zsolt (host): approx. 8 minutes (16.7%)
- Siri Zsuzsa (MTVA correspondent, Jerusalem): approx. 4 minutes (8.3%)
- Nárai Balázs (MTVA correspondent, Washington): approx. 3 minutes (6.3%)
- Mother living in Israel (civilian): approx. 1 minute (2.1%)
- Opposition/independent voice: 0 minutes (0%)

Summary: 100% of total speaking time is linked to pro-government or institutional sources; opposition, independent or alternative viewpoints receive not a single minute. This ratio is incompatible with the balance obligation prescribed by Mttv. §83.



4. SELECTIVE OMISSION

9/10

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Total score: 9/10

Definition: What is not presented, even though it would be relevant?

Omission 1:

Context: The methodology of the opposition's petrol price estimate

Relevant timestamp: 19:22 — "the TISZA people argue, as do experts, as does Kapitány István, that this is completely unrealistic, it is scaremongering"

Effect: The opposition's position appears in a single sentence, immediately refuted; Kapitány István or any other independent expert is not given the floor, and their methodology is not presented. The viewer gets the impression that the opposition argument is unfounded, even though this cannot be judged without a detailed exposition of it.

Omission 2:

Context: The actual content of TISZA's Munich meeting

Relevant timestamp: 12:43 — "President Zelenskyy acknowledged that this is a political step"

Effect: The Ukrainian position (Ukraine is a country at war, which has the right to set transit fees and political conditions) is not explained at all; the Ukrainian decision appears exclusively as "sabotage" and an "outrageous response".

Omission 3:

Kontextus: A TISZA müncheni találkozásjának valódi tartalma

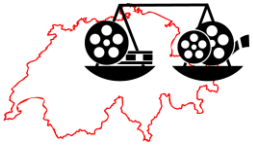
Relevant timestamp: 16:09 — "At the Munich Security Forum, TISZA party leader Magyar Péter met personally with the Croatian Prime Minister"

Effect: The content, context and Magyar Péter's statements regarding the meeting are not presented; the mere fact of the meeting appears sufficient to support the "concerted play" narrative, even though participation in the Munich Security Forum and meetings in themselves do not prove coordinated political action.

Summary: The broadcast systematically omits all information that would weaken the government narrative or nuance the opposition's position. The omissions are not random but form a consistent pattern.

Missing voices

- Independent energy economist: Would have provided a methodologically sound, impartial assessment of the one-thousand-forint petrol price estimate and the Adria pipeline capacity
- Ukrainian energy or foreign affairs representative: Direct Ukrainian position on the reasons for closing the friendship pipeline and the technical problems
- European Commission spokesperson: Direct presentation of the Russian oil embargo proposal and the exemptions
- TISZA or other opposition energy expert (e.g. Kapitány István): Direct exposition of the opposition's petrol price estimate methodology
- Croatian government representative: On the Adria pipeline transit fees and Croatian energy policy
- UNHCR representative: On the humanitarian dimension of the Middle Eastern refugee wave
- Hungarian consumer protection organisation: On the impact of rising fuel prices on households and small businesses



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- Iranian or Arab geopolitical analyst: On a non-Western perspective assessment of the conflict



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

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

Total score: 7/10

Definition: Selective or misleading use of statistics.

Finding 1:

Timestamp: 19:47

Number: "the tax content of petrol in Hungary is, for example, the third lowest"

Dimensions: (a) absolute value — not stated; (b) ratio — stated (third lowest in the EU); (c) trend — not stated

Missing context: The tax content alone is insufficient for assessing fuel prices. Missing: (1) comparison of total fuel prices (in which Hungary is not the third cheapest); (2) the ratio relative to real wages (in which Hungary is worse off than most Western European countries); (3) the trend (changes in tax content over recent years).

Effect: The viewer gets the impression that fuel in Hungary is cheap and tax burdens are low, even though the fuel cost relative to real wages in Hungary is above the EU average.

Finding 2:

Timestamp: 21:33

Number: "In the case of petrol this came to 1026 forints per litre, and in the case of diesel to 1051 forints"

Dimensions: (a) absolute value — stated; (b) ratio — partly (two-thirds of the region's supply); (c) trend — not stated

Missing context: The estimate comes from Századvég's own model; the model's assumptions (11 million tonnes Adria capacity, 15% efficiency loss) are not independently verified. The opposition's estimate methodology is not presented.

Effect: The number appears with concrete, seemingly scientific precision (1026 HUF/litre), even though it is a model estimate whose assumptions are debatable.

Finding 3:

Timestamp: 01:00–01:10

Number: "it stood at 93 dollars" (host) vs. "It's just a little above 80 dollars" (Hortai)

Dimensions: (a) absolute value — both stated, but contradictory; (b) ratio — not stated; (c) trend — partly stated

Missing context: The contradiction between the two numbers (93 vs. 80 dollars) is not resolved; the difference between Brent and other oil grades is not explained. The viewer cannot tell which number is correct.

Effect: Despite the confusion of numbers, the "energy crisis" narrative is reinforced.

Summary: The broadcast's use of numbers is consistently selective in a direction that reinforces the government narrative: the tax content comparison is presented without context, the petrol price estimate without methodological criticism, and the oil prices contradictorily.



6. GUILT BY ASSOCIATION								8/10	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Total score: 8/10

Definition: Discrediting through association with negative groups/ideas.

Association 1:

Timestamp: 16:09

Quote: "a concerted play is unfolding before us in which the Hungarian TISZA party is also involved. At the Munich Security Forum, TISZA party leader Magyar Péter met personally with the Croatian Prime Minister, and then one week later the Croatian Prime Minister was in Kyiv negotiating..."

Technique: Magyar Péter → Croatian Prime Minister → Kyiv → Adria pipeline → endangering Hungary's energy supply. The chain of association links the meeting to a coordinated, anti-Hungarian action without evidence.

Effect: The viewer gets the impression that Magyar Péter is consciously participating in destabilising Hungary's energy supply.

Association 2:

Timestamp: 17:00

Quote: "Magyar Péter in this situation is saying the same thing as Zelensky."

Technique: Magyar Péter = Zelenskyy (who appears in the broadcast as the "saboteur" of energy supply). The equation is established without evidence.

Effect: Magyar Péter is identified with the Ukrainian president, who is endangering Hungary's energy supply.

Chain of association: Magyar Péter → Croatian Prime Minister → Kyiv → Adria pipeline → endangering Hungary's energy supply → "concerted play" of Ukraine/EC/Croatia → forcing a change of government

Summary: The broadcast portrays TISZA and Magyar Péter as participants in an undocumented, anti-Hungarian geopolitical conspiracy, through a chain of association without evidence. This is a typical example of the one-sided political content prohibited by Mttv. §83.



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: 00:09–00:30 (beginning of broadcast)

Content: "the price of 95-octane petrol increases by 5 forints, and diesel by 9 forints per litre from tomorrow at Hungarian petrol stations, which means that the effects of the Middle Eastern crisis are already being felt. Not to mention that oil is still not arriving via the friendship pipeline, about which Zelenskyy, the Ukrainian president, has now acknowledged that it is being kept closed for political reasons."

Timing effect: In the first 30 seconds of the broadcast, two crises are linked (Iranian conflict + friendship pipeline), and Zelenskyy's name immediately appears in the context of "political reasons". This framing determines the interpretive frame of the entire broadcast before any analysis is presented.

Finding 2:

Position: 16:09 (middle of broadcast, at the peak of the energy analysis)

Content: "a concerted play is unfolding before us in which the Hungarian TISZA party is also involved"

Timing effect: The anti-TISZA conspiracy narrative is delivered at the peak of the energy analysis, at the peak of most viewers' attention, ensuring maximum impact.

Finding 3:

Position: 48:42 (end of broadcast)

Content: "with a slight exaggeration, the entire Middle East, or we could say the entire world, is slowly going up in flames"

Timing effect: The broadcast ends with an apocalyptic image that remains in the viewer's memory and emphasises the severity of the crisis — indirectly reinforcing the government narrative (Hungary is in a dangerous situation, a strong government is needed).

Summary: The broadcast's timing is deliberate: the framing occurs in the first 30 seconds, the political peak is delivered at the peak of attention, and the apocalyptic closing remains in the viewer's memory.



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 another position did not produce an analogous reaction.

Finding 1:

Timestamp: 14:55

Triggering event: The European Commission sided with Ukraine in the friendship pipeline dispute

Reaction: "What I find an outrageous development is that even in this situation, when it has already become clear that Ukraine is endangering the energy security of two EU member states..."

Comparison: Analogous event — Hungary regularly blocks EU decisions (e.g. Ukraine aid, sanctions); the guest expresses no outrage about this.

Asymmetry: Confirmed — The outrage is directed exclusively at EU/Ukraine steps against Hungary; Hungary's behaviour of blocking EU decisions does not produce an analogous reaction.

Finding 2:

Timestamp: 15:28

Triggering event: Croatia is demanding higher transit fees on the Adria pipeline

Reaction: "I also find it outrageous that the Croatians are shamelessly using this situation for profiteering"

Comparison: Analogous event — MOL itself also profits from rising energy prices (at 11:24 in the broadcast, the rise in Shell's share price is mentioned in a neutral tone); the guest expresses no outrage about this.

Asymmetry: Confirmed — The concept of "profiteering" applies exclusively to the Croatians; the profit-making of Western oil companies and MOL appears in a neutral or positive frame.

Degree of outrage: 4/5 — Multiple, emphatic

Selectivity: 4/5 — Clearly one-sided

Summary: The guest's outrage is directed exclusively at actors against Hungary (EU, Ukraine, Croatia); analogous behaviour by the Hungarian government, MOL or Western oil companies does not produce an analogous reaction. This asymmetry indicates the absence of the balance required by Mttv. §83.



9. SELECTIVE OMISSION — OVERALL PICTURE									9/10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Total score: 9/10

Definition: How complete is the broadcast's representation of topics?

Finding 1:

Timestamp: 12:43–18:03

Missing perspective/fact: The Ukrainian and EU side of the friendship pipeline dispute

Relevance: The closure of the friendship pipeline is one of the broadcast's main topics; without direct presentation of the Ukrainian and EU positions, the viewer cannot form an informed opinion.

Effect: The viewer hears exclusively the Hungarian government narrative; the reasons for the Ukrainian decision (wartime situation, transit fee dispute, political conditions) are not explained.

Finding 2:

Timestamp: 19:22–22:14

Missing perspective/fact: The methodology of the opposition's petrol price estimate

Relevance: There is a methodological dispute between Századvég's 1026 HUF/litre estimate and the opposition's characterisation of it as "unrealistic scaremongering"; without presenting this, the viewer cannot judge which estimate is better founded.

Effect: The Századvég estimate appears as a scientific fact, and the opposition criticism as unfounded scaremongering.

Finding 3:

Timestamp: 16:09–18:03

Missing perspective/fact: The actual content and context of Magyar Péter's Munich meeting

Relevance: The "concerted play" narrative is built on Magyar Péter's meeting with the Croatian Prime Minister; without presenting the content of the meeting, Magyar Péter's statements and the context of the Munich Security Forum, the viewer cannot judge the validity of the claim.

Effect: The mere fact of the meeting appears sufficient to support the conspiracy narrative.

Summary: The broadcast systematically omits all information that would weaken the government narrative. The omissions are not random but form a consistent pattern that is incompatible with the completeness obligation prescribed by Mttv. §83.

End of hard facts — Beginning of soft facts

Soft facts — debatable, not merely countable

The Iranian–Israeli–American military confrontation in 2025 became the most significant armed conflict in the Middle East, with direct energy market consequences (closure of the Strait of Hormuz, rising oil and gas prices) felt globally. Hungary is particularly affected, as on the one hand the friendship pipeline carrying Russian oil has been suspended since 27 January, and on the other hand the country's strategic energy reserves are limited. The friendship pipeline dispute is also politically charged: the Hungarian government claims deliberate political sabotage by Ukraine, while the opposition and some experts dispute the exaggerated nature of the government's communication. With the 2026 elections approaching, the question of energy prices and supply security has become a domestic political fault line.



Proportion of perspectives covered

Inverted: the original value measures coverage (higher = better). Displayed as deviation (higher = greater gaps).

[A] OMITTED

Timestamp: — — Quote: — — Assessment: Only the Századvég (pro-government) analyst appears as an energy expert; no independent, non-pro-government energy expert speaks.

[B] OMITTED

Timestamp: 13:53 — Quote: "the Ukrainian energy minister has already backtracked and said that there is after all a technical problem with the pipeline" — Assessment: The Ukrainian position is heard exclusively from the guest's mouth, in a negative frame; no direct Ukrainian source or statement is featured.

[C] OMITTED

Timestamp: 15:08 — Quote: "the European Commission should represent this, the Commission demonstratively sided with Ukraine" — Assessment: The EC's position appears exclusively through the guest's assessment, in a negative frame; no direct Commission source is featured.

[D] OMITTED

Timestamp: 19:22 — Quote: "the TISZA people argue, as do experts, as does Kapitány István, that this is completely unrealistic, it is scaremongering" — Assessment: The opposition's position appears in a single sentence, immediately refuted by the guest; no opposition representative or expert cited by them speaks.

[E] OMITTED

Timestamp: 21:33 — Quote: "In the case of petrol this came to 1026 forints per litre" — Assessment: Századvég's own estimate is presented without methodological criticism; no independent economist or Kapitány István, cited by the opposition, is given the floor.

[F] OMITTED

Timestamp: 18:03 — Quote: "Croatia would like the Adria pipeline to gain in value from this whole situation" — Assessment: The Croatian position appears exclusively through the guest's assessment, in a negative frame; no Croatian source is featured.

[G] PARTIALLY COVERED

Timestamp: 25:50–48:46 — Quote: Siklósi Péter's analysis of the Iranian–Israeli–American conflict — Assessment: The geopolitical analysis is one-sided (Israeli–American perspective dominates); no Iranian, Arab or neutral source speaks.

[H] OMITTED

Timestamp: 44:29 — Quote: "the UN refugee agency has already announced that the number of internally displaced persons in Lebanon has increased by at least 30,000" — Assessment: The UN data is cited by the host, but no representative of a humanitarian organisation speaks.

[I] OMITTED

Timestamp: — — Quote: — — Assessment: The perspective of Hungarian consumers, civil organisations, and small and medium-sized enterprises regarding energy prices is entirely absent.

[J] PARTIALLY COVERED

Timestamp: 42:28 — Quote: "obviously, if the radars detect that Iran is attacking NATO territory, then these will be activated" — Assessment: The NATO perspective appears through the guest's assessment; no independent NATO or EU security analyst speaks.

Completeness score: 2/10

Justification: Of the ten relevant perspectives in the broadcast, only two appear partially (geopolitical analysis and NATO security), and these too exclusively from pro-government sources. The Ukrainian, Croatian, European Commission, opposition, independent energy and humanitarian perspectives are entirely absent. Thematic coverage is severely one-sided: the friendship pipeline dispute is discussed exclusively within the government narrative frame.



Softfacts — 6 qualitative techniques

10. DEFINITION OF INTERPRETIVE FRAME

9/10

1

2

3

4

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10

Total score: 9/10

Definition: How is the topic fundamentally framed?

Finding 1:

Timestamp: 00:09–00:30

Quote: "the price of 95-octane petrol increases by 5 forints... which means that the effects of the Middle Eastern crisis are already being felt. Not to mention that oil is still not arriving via the friendship pipeline, about which Zelenskyy, the Ukrainian president, has now acknowledged that it is being kept closed for political reasons."

Manipulation: The Iranian conflict and the friendship pipeline dispute are linked in the first 30 seconds; Zelenskyy's name immediately appears in the context of "political reasons".

Why problematic: Linking the two crises suggests that Hungary faces a dual external threat (Iran + Ukraine), reinforcing the government's "besieged fortress" narrative before any analysis is presented.

Finding 2:

Timestamp: 06:01–06:11

Quote: "it really does seem as if two crises are now converging in Hungary, obviously one that is beyond our control, and the other which appears to be a political crisis"

Manipulation: The host himself adopts the "two crises" frame that the guest had previously established.

Why problematic: The "political crisis" framing predetermines that the friendship pipeline dispute is a political (not technical) problem, and that Ukraine is responsible — this conclusion appears as a frame, before the analysis.

Finding 3:

Timestamp: 17:07–17:24

Quote: "I see it very clearly, what is happening here. Well, both Ukraine, and the European Commission, and Croatia have an interest in there being a change of government in Hungary on 12 April"

Manipulation: The frame of geopolitical analysis suddenly becomes a domestic electoral narrative; the guest links the intentions of three different actors in a single sentence, without evidence.

Why problematic: This framing places the energy crisis in the context of the 2026 elections and suggests that endangering Hungary's energy supply is a deliberate electoral intervention — an extremely serious claim supported by no evidence whatsoever.

Summary: The broadcast's framing consistently reinforces the government's "besieged fortress" narrative: Hungary faces a dual external threat (Iran + Ukraine/EU/Croatia), the aim of which is to force a change of government. This frame is consistently present from the first 30 seconds to the last minute of the broadcast.



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 established?

Finding 1:

Timestamp: 06:19–06:26

Quote: "the Ukrainian leadership is sabotaging the restart of the pipeline"

Manipulation: The word "sabotage" implies deliberate, conscious destruction; "closure" or "withholding" would be more neutral alternatives.

Why problematic: Neutral alternative: "the Ukrainian side is not authorising the restart of deliveries". The word "sabotage" carries criminal connotations and predetermines the assessment of Ukrainian conduct.

Finding 2:

Timestamp: 14:38

Quote: "they are making a fool of the European Union"

Manipulation: An informal, dismissive expression to describe Ukrainian negotiating behaviour; portrays the EU as a passive, deceived party.

Why problematic: Neutral alternative: "the Ukrainian side regularly modifies deadlines". The expression "making a fool of" portrays Ukrainian conduct as deliberate deception and makes the EU appear weak.

Finding 3:

Timestamp: 15:28

Quote: "the Croatians are shamelessly using this situation for profiteering"

Manipulation: The words "shamelessly" and "profiteering" carry a strong moral judgement; Croatian conduct could also be described as economic interest assertion.

Why problematic: Neutral alternative: "Croatia is demanding higher transit fees on the Adria pipeline". The expression "shameless profiteering" implies moral condemnation, portraying Croatian conduct as culpable.

Summary: The broadcast's language consistently assigns negative connotations to actors against Hungary (Ukraine: "sabotage", "making a fool of"; Croatia: "shameless profiteering"; EU: "demonstratively sided with Ukraine"), while Hungarian government conduct is presented in a neutral or positive frame.



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

Total score: 7/10

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 another guest did not produce an analogous intervention.

Finding 1:

Timestamp: 16:28–16:43

Triggering event: Hortai Olivér links TISZA's Munich meeting and the Croatian Prime Minister's Kyiv trip

Quote (host): "That is very interesting what you say, as MOL announced today... And what you say about TISZA's role is interesting. What could TISZA's role be in this concerted play?"

Comparison: Analogous event — the guest had previously made claims without evidence (e.g. the EU sided with Ukraine); the host did not challenge these but confirmed them.

Asymmetry: Confirmed — The host actively reinforces the anti-TISZA conspiracy narrative with a follow-up question, while not challenging the guest's other claims made without evidence.

Finding 2:

Timestamp: 19:10–19:22

Triggering event: The host presents the opposition's petrol price criticism

Quote (host): "By the way, the other perspective is that the government says there would be a one-thousand-forint petrol price if the friendship pipeline were to drop out. How realistic do you consider this, especially in the current situation... because the TISZA people argue, as do experts, as does Kapitány István, that this is completely unrealistic, it is scaremongering"

Comparison: The host presents the opposition's position in a single sentence, offering it up for the guest to refute; he does not invite the opposition expert, and does not give space for the opposition argument to be elaborated.

Asymmetry: Confirmed — The government narrative receives detailed elaboration, while the opposition criticism appears in a single sentence, immediately refuted.

Finding 3:

Timestamp: 12:50–13:04

Triggering event: Zelenskyy acknowledged the political closure of the friendship pipeline

Quote (host): "Orbán Viktor reacted to this by saying it was an outrageous response. This is interesting because the official Ukrainian position until now was that the pipeline was damaged... What is it that caused this to change?"

Comparison: The host cites Orbán Viktor's assessment ("outrageous response") without criticism, and frames the question so that the change in the Ukrainian position requires explanation — not whether the Hungarian government's claim is correct.

Asymmetry: Confirmed — The government's assessment is conveyed without criticism; the explanation for the change in the Ukrainian position is sought from the guest, not from a Ukrainian source.



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

Summary: The host consistently reinforces the government narrative with his follow-up questions, does not challenge the guest's claims made without evidence, and presents the opposition's position in a single sentence, immediately refuted. This asymmetry is incompatible with the impartial moderation required by Mttv. §83.



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

Total score: 7/10

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

Asymmetry 1:

To Hortai Olivér, 19:10: "How realistic do you consider this, especially in the current situation, with the Iranian conflict also present, because the TISZA people argue, as do experts, as does Kapitány István, that this is completely unrealistic, it is scaremongering, that it is actually the tax content of petrol in Hungary that is high" — soft question (offers the opposition criticism up for refutation, not independent examination)

To Kapitány István or another opposition expert: receives no question (not featured in the broadcast)

Comparison: The opposition's position appears in a single sentence, offered up for the guest to refute; the opposition expert is not given the opportunity to present their position.

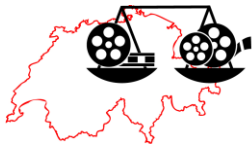
Asymmetry 2:

To Hortai Olivér, 16:41: "What could TISZA's role be in this concerted play?" — leading question (accepts the concept of "concerted play" in advance; the question is only about TISZA's role)

To Magyar Péter or a TISZA representative: receives no question (not featured in the broadcast)

Comparison: The anti-TISZA conspiracy narrative is reinforced with a leading question; TISZA is not given the opportunity to present its position.

Summary: The questions consistently reinforce the government narrative: the guest is asked soft, confirmatory questions, the opposition's position appears in a single sentence, immediately refuted, and opposition representatives are not given the floor.



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

Total score: 6/10

Definition: Artificial balance despite actual inequality.

Finding 1:

Timestamp: 19:10–22:14

Construction: The host presents the opposition's petrol price criticism ("the TISZA people argue... that this is completely unrealistic, it is scaremongering"), then the guest refutes it in detail. This seemingly presents "both sides".

Analysis: The false balance consists in the fact that the opposition's position appears in a single sentence, offered up for the guest to refute, while the government narrative receives detailed elaboration. The opposition expert does not speak; behind the appearance of "balance" lies 18 minutes of government narrative and 1 sentence of opposition criticism.

Summary: The broadcast seemingly presents the opposition's position, but does so in a single sentence, immediately refuted. This false balance creates the impression that both sides were heard, even though the actual ratio is 18:1 in favour of the government narrative.



15. AGENDA SETTING								8/10	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Total score: 8/10

Definition: What counts as normal/self-evident? What does not make it onto the agenda?

Finding 1:

Item placed on agenda: The energy crisis = Ukraine's and the EU's anti-Hungarian action

Timestamp: 17:07 — Evidence: "both Ukraine, and the European Commission, and Croatia have an interest in there being a change of government in Hungary on 12 April"

Alternative agenda: The energy crisis = consequence of Hungary's Russian energy dependence, for which EU-level diversification would be the solution

Finding 2:

Item placed on agenda: Maintaining utility price caps = a matter of political will (in a positive frame)

Timestamp: 23:54 — Evidence: "Maintaining the utility price caps also requires political will... as long as the government is committed to maintaining regulated prices for residential consumers, there will be utility price caps"

Alternative agenda: The sustainability of utility price caps, their long-term energy policy consequences, their compatibility with EU energy market integration

Summary: The broadcast's agenda consistently reinforces the government narrative: the energy crisis appears as an external threat, utility price caps as a government benefit, and the opposition as servants of foreign interests. The alternative agenda (Russian energy dependence, diversification, EU integration) is entirely absent.



CHAPTER 4 — AGGREGATE ASSESSMENT

Overview of individual scores

No.	Criterion	Type	Score	Main finding (1 sentence)
1	Expert selection	H	9	Exclusively two pro-government think-tank staff members speak as experts, without disclosure of their structural conflict of interest
2	Source selection	H	9	All sources are pro-government or institutional; two documented rumours build a conspiracy narrative without evidence
3	Time allocation	H	8	100% of total speaking time is linked to pro-government sources; opposition voices receive not a single minute
4	Omission	H	9	The Ukrainian, EU, Croatian and opposition positions are systematically absent or appear in a single sentence, immediately refuted
5	Number manipulation	H	7	The tax content comparison is presented without context, the petrol price estimate without methodological criticism
6	Guilt by association	H	8	Magyar Péter and TISZA appear as endangerers of Hungary's energy supply through a chain of association without evidence
7	Timing	H	7	The framing occurs in the first 30 seconds; the anti-TISZA peak is delivered at the peak of attention
8	Selective outrage	H	8	Outrage is directed exclusively at actors against Hungary; analogous conduct by the Hungarian government and MOL does not produce an analogous reaction
9	Completeness	H	9	Of the ten relevant perspectives in the broadcast, only two appear partially, both from pro-government sources
10	Framing	S	9	The "besieged fortress" narrative is consistently present from the first 30 seconds to the last minute
11	Language and concepts	S	8	Consistently negative connotations for actors against Hungary; neutral or positive framing for government conduct
12	Moderator conduct	S	7	The host reinforces the government narrative with follow-up questions; presents the opposition's position in a single sentence, immediately refuted
13	Question asymmetry	S	7	Leading and soft questions to the guest; the opposition's position is not given independent opportunity for elaboration
14	False balance	S	6	The opposition's position appears in a single sentence, immediately refuted; behind the apparent balance lies an 18:1 ratio
15	Agenda setting	S	8	The energy crisis appears as an external threat, utility price caps as a government benefit, and the opposition as servants of foreign interests

H = Hard fact | S = Soft fact



Results

- HARD FACTS SCORE (average of criteria 1–9): 8.2 / 10
- SOFT FACTS SCORE (average of criteria 10–15): 7.5 / 10
- TOTAL SCORE (average of all 15 criteria): 7.9 / 10

Dominant techniques

- 1. Expert selection (9/10):** The broadcast exclusively features two pro-government think-tank staff members as experts (Századvég, MKI), without disclosing their structural conflict of interest. This technique determines the interpretive frame of the entire broadcast: the viewer gets the impression that the government narrative is being confirmed by independent experts.
- 2. Framing (9/10):** The "besieged fortress" narrative is consistently present from the first 30 seconds to the last minute of the broadcast: Hungary faces a dual external threat (Iran + Ukraine/EU/Croatia), the aim of which is to force a change of government. This frame frames and reinforces all other manipulation techniques.
- 3. Omission (9/10):** The broadcast systematically omits all information that would weaken the government narrative: the Ukrainian, EU, Croatian and opposition positions are either entirely absent or appear in a single sentence, immediately refuted. This technique, together with framing, is the most effective manipulation tool.

The broadcast's messages

MESSAGE 1 (SUBSTANTIVE): "Hungary faces a dual energy crisis, one cause of which is the Iranian conflict, and the other is Ukraine's and the EU's deliberate, anti-Hungarian action."

Technique: Framing + omission — Evidence: 00:09, 17:07

MESSAGE 2 (PERSONAL): "Magyar Péter and TISZA are servants of foreign interests who are consciously participating in destabilising Hungary's energy supply."

Technique: Guilt by association + association without evidence — Evidence: 16:09, 17:00

MESSAGE 3 (SOCIAL): "Utility price caps and energy supply security are to the credit of the current government; these will only be maintained if the government remains in power."

Technique: Agenda setting + framing — Evidence: 23:54, 17:12

Classification of manipulation level

Justification: The broadcast's total score is 7.9/10, which is on the boundary between "systematic one-sidedness" and "extreme one-sidedness". The balance obligation prescribed by Mttv. §83 is violated in every examined dimension: not a single independent or opposition voice speaks, the opposition's position appears in a single sentence, immediately refuted, and the guests' structural conflict of interest remains undisclosed. The embedding of TISZA and Magyar Péter in a conspiracy narrative without evidence is a particularly serious violation, as it has a direct political impact ahead of the 2026 elections.

SUMMARY

The examined 48-minute broadcast systematically violates the balance and objectivity obligations prescribed by Mttv. §83. The broadcast exclusively features two pro-government think-tank staff members as experts (Századvég, MKI), without disclosing their structural conflict of interest; opposition, independent or alternative viewpoints receive not a single minute. The framing of the friendship pipeline dispute consistently reinforces the government narrative: the Ukrainian decision appears as "sabotage", the EU as "demonstratively siding with Ukraine", Croatia as "shamelessly profiteering", while Hungarian government conduct is presented in a neutral or positive frame. A particularly serious violation is the embedding of TISZA and Magyar Péter in a conspiracy narrative without evidence (16:09–18:03), which has a direct political impact ahead of the 2026 elections and manifestly violates the Meinungsvielfalt obligation under Mttv. §83 (2). The broadcast's total score (7.9/10) falls in the category of systematic one-sidedness and establishes the finding of a violation under Mttv. §83.



AGGREGATE 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	7/10	Pronounced imbalance
6	GUILT BY ASSOCIATION	8/10	Pronounced 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	7/10	Pronounced imbalance
13	QUESTION ASYMMETRY	7/10	Pronounced imbalance
14	FALSE BALANCE	6/10	Significant imbalance
15	AGENDA SETTING	8/10	Pronounced imbalance

HARDFACTS SCORE (1-8)

8.0/10

Serious deviation from the balance requirement. High degree of deviation

SOFTFACTS SCORE (9-14)

7.5/10

Serious deviation from the balance requirement. High degree of deviation

TOTAL SCORE

7.8/10

Serious deviation from the balance requirement. High degree of deviation

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 impact 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.

Aggregate deviation index — Interpretation ranges

0.0 – 2.5	Imperceptible	No material patterns detectable; the programme 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 violation of viewpoint diversity.
6.1 – 8.0	Serious deviation from the balance requirement. High degree of deviation	Pronounced, cross-programme 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 CLASSIFICATION (Mttv. §83)

Assessment under Mttv. §83

Mttv. §83 requires that news programmes and information programmes provide current, objective and balanced information, and reflect diversity of opinion.

Violation 1:

Norm: Mttv. §83 (2) — balance and diversity of opinion

Facts: The broadcast's total speaking time (approx. 48 minutes) is exclusively linked to pro-government sources; opposition, independent or alternative viewpoints receive not a single minute. The opposition's position (TISZA, Kapitány István) appears in a single sentence, immediately refuted.

Evidence: Timestamp 19:22 — Quote: "the TISZA people argue, as do experts, as does Kapitány István, that this is completely unrealistic, it is scaremongering" — after which the guest refutes it in detail, and Kapitány István or any other opposition expert is not given the floor.

Assessment: The diversity of opinion obligation under Mttv. §83 (2) is manifestly violated: ahead of the 2026 elections, one of the strongest opposition parties (TISZA) appears exclusively in a negative, conspiracy-tinged context, without any presentation of its programme positions.

Violation 2:

Norm: Mttv. §83 (1) — objectivity and factuality

Facts: The broadcast presents claims without evidence as facts: (1) Magyar Péter's Munich meeting and the Croatian Prime Minister's Kyiv trip are presented as a "concerted play"; (2) Ukraine, the EU and Croatia "have an interest in there being a change of government in Hungary on 12 April".

Evidence: Timestamp 16:09 — Quote: "a concerted play is unfolding before us in which the Hungarian TISZA party is also involved"; timestamp 17:07 — Quote: "both Ukraine, and the European Commission, and Croatia have an interest in there being a change of government in Hungary on 12 April"

Assessment: The objectivity obligation under Mttv. §83 (1) is violated: attribution of intent without evidence to three different actors, which the host does not challenge but reinforces with a confirmatory follow-up question.

Violation 3:

Norm: Mttv. §83 (2) — source selection and expert independence

Facts: The broadcast features two pro-government think-tank staff members (Századvég, MKI) as experts, without disclosing their structural conflict of interest, and frames them as neutral experts.

Evidence: Timestamp 00:38 — Quote: "My guest is Hortai Olivér, head of the energy and climate policy business unit of Századvég" — the institute's pro-government character, funding and structural conflict of interest are not mentioned at all.

Assessment: The objectivity obligation under Mttv. §83 (2) is violated: the viewer does not receive sufficient information to assess the experts' independence, which fundamentally violates the objectivity of the information.

Aggregate assessment under Mttv. §83

The examined 48-minute broadcast violates both Mttv. §83 (1) and (2). The objectivity obligation under paragraph (1) is violated by presenting the conspiracy narrative without evidence (the "concerted play" of Magyar Péter, TISZA, Ukraine, EU, Croatia) as fact. The balance and diversity of opinion obligation under paragraph (2) is violated by the fact that the broadcast's total speaking time is exclusively linked to pro-government sources, the opposition's position appears in a single sentence, immediately refuted, and the guests' structural conflict of interest remains undisclosed. The violations are not random but form a consistent pattern that permeates the entire broadcast and has a direct political impact ahead of the 2026 elections.



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

1. Századvég Gazdaságkutató Zrt. (Hortai Olivér)

- 1. FUNDING:** Predominantly state and pro-government commissions (based on public procurement data); the determining share of the Századvég group's revenues comes from public funds or pro-government sources. Structural conflict of interest: the institute's survival and revenues depend on government commissions.
- 2. MANDATE:** Incompatible with impartial, independent energy assessment on issues that directly concern government energy policy (friendship pipeline, Russian oil dependence, utility price caps).
- 3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** The institute's institutional interest lies in drawing conclusions that support the government narrative; government-critical analyses would risk loss of revenue and withdrawal of commissions.
- 4. CREDIBILITY MATRIX:**
 - D1 Conflict of interest: -2 — Structural government dependence
 - D2 Personal risk: -1 — Career risk in the event of a government-critical stance
 - D3 Professional competence: +1 — Energy field of expertise
 - D4 Opinion consistency: +1 — Consistent, but pro-government orientation
 - D5 Emotional vs. data-based: 0 — Mixed
 - D6 Source level: 0 — Secondary (own institute's analysis)**TOTAL: -1 → SOURCE TRAFFIC LIGHT: YELLOW**
- 5. COUNTER-OPINION:** An estimate using the same methodology from REKK (Regional Centre for Energy Policy Research) or the IEA (International Energy Agency) is not cited.

2. Hungarian Institute of International Affairs (Siklósi Péter)

- 1. FUNDING:** State funding, under the supervision of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Structural conflict of interest: drawing conclusions contrary to government foreign policy would entail institutional risk.
- 2. MANDATE:** Incompatible with impartial assessment on issues that directly concern government foreign policy (Ukraine, NATO, EU, Iran).
- 3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** The institute's institutional interest lies in producing analyses that support the government's foreign policy narrative; ministerial supervision provides direct influence over research directions.
- 4. CREDIBILITY MATRIX:**
 - D1 Conflict of interest: -2 — State funding, ministerial supervision
 - D2 Personal risk: -1 — Career risk in the event of a government-critical stance
 - D3 Professional competence: +2 — Geopolitical field of expertise, relevant knowledge
 - D4 Opinion consistency: +1 — Consistent, but pro-government orientation
 - D5 Emotional vs. data-based: +1 — Predominantly analytical
 - D6 Source level: 0 — Secondary**TOTAL: +1 → SOURCE TRAFFIC LIGHT: YELLOW**
- 5. COUNTER-OPINION:** An independent geopolitical analyst (e.g. Political Capital, ECFR, Chatham House) is not cited.

IMPORTANT: The label "recognised" is not a professional qualification. It is a social attribution that must itself be examined. In both institutes' cases, the "recognised expert" framing conceals the structural conflict of interest and suggests false neutrality to the viewer.

Source credibility overview:

Source	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	Total	Signal
Századvég Gazdaságkutató Zrt. (Hortai Olivér)	-2	-1	+1	+1	0	0	-1	YELLOW
Hungarian Institute of International Affairs (Siklósi Péter)	-2	-1	+2	+1	+1	0	+1	YELLOW



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 programmes. They are the results of standardised operationalisation, not a determination of individual responsibility.
Not a legal judgement	The aggregate deviation index does not replace the legal assessment under Mttv. §83. Determining whether a given programme violates 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 programmes. A score of 7 means that significant imbalance has been found — not that the editorial office did this intentionally. The methodology makes no statements about motives.
Heuristic comparative tool	The index serves for comparative pattern recognition across thousands of programmes, not for precise metric measurement of individual contributions. The threshold values serve as heuristic orientation, not as precise legal classification.



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 the Freedom of the Press (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 information programmes.
- §83 (2): Information must reflect diversity of opinion.
- §12: Protection of pluralism 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 at the text of the law, but at the structural non-enforcement by the pro-government NMHH. MTVA is a broadcaster under de facto state-aligned management.

Supervisory authority

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

Complaint procedure

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



ANNEX 2: ACADEMIC REFERENCES

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Unbalanced reporting as a response to the Swiss halving initiative: This book describes 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.

Those who do not understand this provide 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.

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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 that consciously and fairly.

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