



Pekka Kallioniemi @P_Kallioniemi

May 6, 2024 · 26 tweets · [P_Kallioniemi/status/1787437158837399720](https://twitter.com/P_Kallioniemi/status/1787437158837399720)

In today's #vatniksoup REBREW, I'll introduce a Hungarian lawyer and politician, Viktor Orbán (@PM_ViktorOrban). He's best-known for turning Hungary into an authoritarian state, and for cooperating with other authoritarian regimes like the Kremlin, the CCP and Iran.

1/24



Orbán has been Hungary's Prime Minister since 2010, and under his leadership the country has basically become the first nondemocracy in the EU. Orbán himself has described Hungary as an "illiberal state", and he's used the Kremlin playbook to create it.

2/24



I watched Hungary's democracy dissolve into authoritarianism as a member of parliament – and I see troubling parallels in Trumpism and its appeal to workers

Published: March 7, 2024 2:31pm CET

President Donald Trump shakes hands with Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán during a meeting in the Oval Office on May 13, 2019, in Washington, D.C. Mark Wilson/G

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[Hungarian leader and strongman Viktor Orbán](#), who presided over the radical decline of democracy in his country, is scheduled to meet with former President Donald Trump, now the presumptive GOP presidential nominee, at Trump's Mar-a-Lago resort on March 8, 2024.

Orbán has been [Hungary's prime minister](#) since 2010. Under his leadership, the country became the first nondemocracy in the European Union – an “[illiberal state](#),” as Orbán proudly declared. Trump expressed his admiration for Orbán and

He created a nationwide right-wing media network and interfering with independent media has plummeted Hungary's Press Freedom Index into 67th place, one of the worst in the EU. The state has also spied on Hungarian journalists by using the infamous Pegasus spyware.

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February 13, 2024 5:59AM EST Available in

Hungary: Media Curbs Harm Rule of Law

EU Action Needed to Tackle Declining Press Freedom, Pluralism



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At the same time, the government has passed laws limiting freedom of speech and cracking down on independent media. Allies of Orban, meanwhile, have created a pervasive conservative media ecosystem that dominates the airwaves and generally echoes the positions of the Orban government.



EUROPE - CENTRAL ASIA

Hungary

Described as a predator of press freedom by RSF, Prime Minister Viktor Orban has built a true media empire subject to his party's orders. While independent media outlets hold significant market positions, they are subject to political, economic, and regulatory pressures.

[See country fact file](#)

INDEX 2024		INDEX 2023	
67	180	72	180
Score: 62.98		Score: 62.96	
POLITICAL INDICATOR	124	POLITICAL INDICATOR	130
ECONOMIC INDICATOR	68	ECONOMIC INDICATOR	112
LEGISLATIVE INDICATOR	67	LEGISLATIVE INDICATOR	55
SOCIAL INDICATOR	46	SOCIAL INDICATOR	70
SECURITY INDICATOR	58	SECURITY INDICATOR	62
	38.55		45.63
	48.23		43.94
	67.88		70.94
	74.50		22.62
	86.97		81.66

After taking over the media, Orbán started working on the court system, firing anyone he saw as a threat. Later he reshaped the voting system to favor his party Fidesz, a process that's often referred to as "gerrymandering", giving Fidesz supermajority in Parliament.



Prime Minister Viktor Orban of Hungary during the Fidesz party's congress in Budapest, in November. Bernadett Szabo/Reuters

In Hungary, Viktor Orban Remakes an Election to His Liking

The populist prime minister, a hero to many American conservatives, has changed voting rules and legalized 'voter tourism' as he stands for re-election

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By **Matt Apuzzo** and **Benjamin Novak**

Published March 31, 2022 Updated April 3, 2022

A Supermajority in Name Only

To understand one of the ways Mr. Orban has reshaped democracy, consider this: When his political party, Fidesz, won the last two national elections, it received less than half the votes, yet still secured a two-thirds supermajority in Parliament. The supermajority has allowed Mr. Orban to ram through changes to the Constitution as part of his illiberal agenda.

The explanation lies in Hungary's complex electoral system: The country is divided into 106 districts, each of which elects a member to Parliament, much like members of Congress are seated in the United States. But then another 93 seats are awarded to political parties based on a unique formula.

Mr. Orban changed that formula for handing out seats in dramatic fashion to benefit Fidesz. Parties that win big in the district elections can get extra seats — a move that is expected to pad Fidesz's winning margin in Parliament if it realizes big wins in gerrymandered districts.

Some have suggested that Orbán's closeness to Russia and Putin stems from his early days as a politician, when he allegedly received cash from Russian mafia boss Semyon Mogilevich. The incident was allegedly recorded and then passed over to Russian secret services.

Premier Orbán and Interior Minister Pintér accused of taking mob payouts in the 1990s

08/03/2017 7 min



ATLATZSO



Russian media has recently released reports that Hungary's reigning Prime Minister Viktor Orbán accepted bribes from the Russian mob back in the 1990s, as did his current police minister Sandor Pinter. The allegations are not new, but the story may be tied to Orbán's recently-found friendly relations with Vladimir Putin's government. If the accounts of the story are to be believed, not only did Orbán accept money, there is evidence of it leaving him exposed to blackmail

"In the 1990s I lived in Budapest, where I was doing consulting and owned a private security company SAS. There I met a well-known businessman Semion Mogilevich. We established relations of trust, partially because both of us were religious Jews. In the mid 1990s, actually between 1993 and 1996, he asked me to hand over cash to various people. One of them was Sándor Pintér (the current Hungarian Minister of Interior Affairs, The Insider.) At that time I only knew that he was a senior police officer and that he was working for Mr. Mogilevich. <> Once in the spring of 1994, on the eve of the parliamentary elections, Mogilevich's interpreter brought me a suitcase with almost one million Deutsche Marks. This money was supposed to be handed to a young man. However, the young man refused to enter my home. I've told him: "Listen, I have the suitcase with the damn money, and I am not going to step out to the street with this cash. If you refuse to enter, I'll give the suitcase with the million back to Mr. Mogilevich. I don't care." He went up to my place with another elderly looking gentleman, and I handed over the suitcase with cash. I didn't care who he was. Only after the parliamentary elections I realized that the young man was Viktor Orbán from the Fidesz. <>.

Orbán's fans in the West see him as a Christian conservative who's standing up to "woke" European bureaucrats. But when taking a closer look at his policies in the last 14 years, we quickly see that his government's most consistent policy direction has been embracing China.

6/24


abcNEWS VIDEO LIVE SHOWS ELECTIONS 538 SHOP

Hungary's Orbán urges European conservatives, and Trump, toward election victories at CPAC event

Hungary's nationalist prime minister has called for right-wing forces to take power in upcoming European and U.S. elections, and expressed support for former President Donald Trump in his ongoing criminal trial

By The Associated Press
April 25, 2024, 2:47 PM

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1:19

Editor of the U.S. conservative website Human Events Jack Posobiec speaks at the third Hungaria... [Show More](#)
The Associated Press

Opinion | Hungary's leader should be radioactive to the right. Why does CPAC love him?

Why would U.S. conservatives convene in the country of Xi Jinping's closest ally in Europe?



By Marc A. Thiessen
Columnist | + Follow

May 2, 2024 at 7:00 a.m. EDT



Prime Minister Viktor Orban delivers his address at the Hungarian edition of the Conservative Political Action Conference, CPAC Hungary, in Budapest on April 25. (Szilard Koszticsak/MTI/AP)

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If there is one thing that supposedly unites all branches of American conservatism, it is the recognition that China poses an existential threat to the United States and the free world. Well, Orban has turned Hungary into the Chinese Communist Party's closest ally in Europe.

Just before joining CPAC's gathering in Budapest, Orban hosted China's minister of public security, Wang Xiaohong, the government official responsible for counterintelligence, political repression and the political security of the Chinese Communist Party, and who signed agreements to deepen the two countries' cooperation on public security issues. The new pacts permit Chinese police to patrol within the country, allowing them to more easily hunt down Chinese dissidents in Europe. And Hungary recently announced that Xi will visit Budapest this month and presumably shower Orban's cash-strapped government with CCP largesse.

At a time when U.S. conservatives are pushing for economic decoupling from China, Orban has made Beijing his country's largest trading partner outside the European Union and one of its major investors. "We are proud that Hungary is now the No. 1 destination for Chinese business investment in Central Europe. We thank President Xi for this!" Orban enthused during a speech in Beijing in October.

His (alleged) Christian conservatism has also made him a rock star of US conservative politics & he was recently interviewed by the infamous pro-Kremlin conspiracy theorist, @tucker Carlson. Orbán also hosts the annual Conservative Political Action Committee (CPAC) conference.

7/24

WORLD NEWS

Viktor Orbán's anti-woke resistance has made him the 'splinter under the fingernail' of the EU



1 of 3 | Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán arrives for a lunch at the Elysee Palace after a ceremony for late European Commission president Jacques Delors, Friday, Jan. 5, 2024 in Paris. Jacques Delors, a Paris bank messenger's son who became the visionary and builder of a more unified Europe in his momentous decade as chief executive of the European Commission. Read More



BY JUSTIN SPIKE

Updated 8:30 PM GMT+3, February 3, 2024

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Viktor Orbán tells Tucker Carlson: Trump's the man to save the West

Hoping Ukraine will beat Russia 'is not just a misunderstanding. It is a lie. It's impossible,' Hungarian leader says in interview.

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Ukraine's admission to NATO "is not a realistic proposal at this moment, so forget about it," Viktor Orbán said | Sean Gallup/Getty Images

AUGUST 30, 2023 3:26 PM CET
BY LAURA HÜLSEMANN

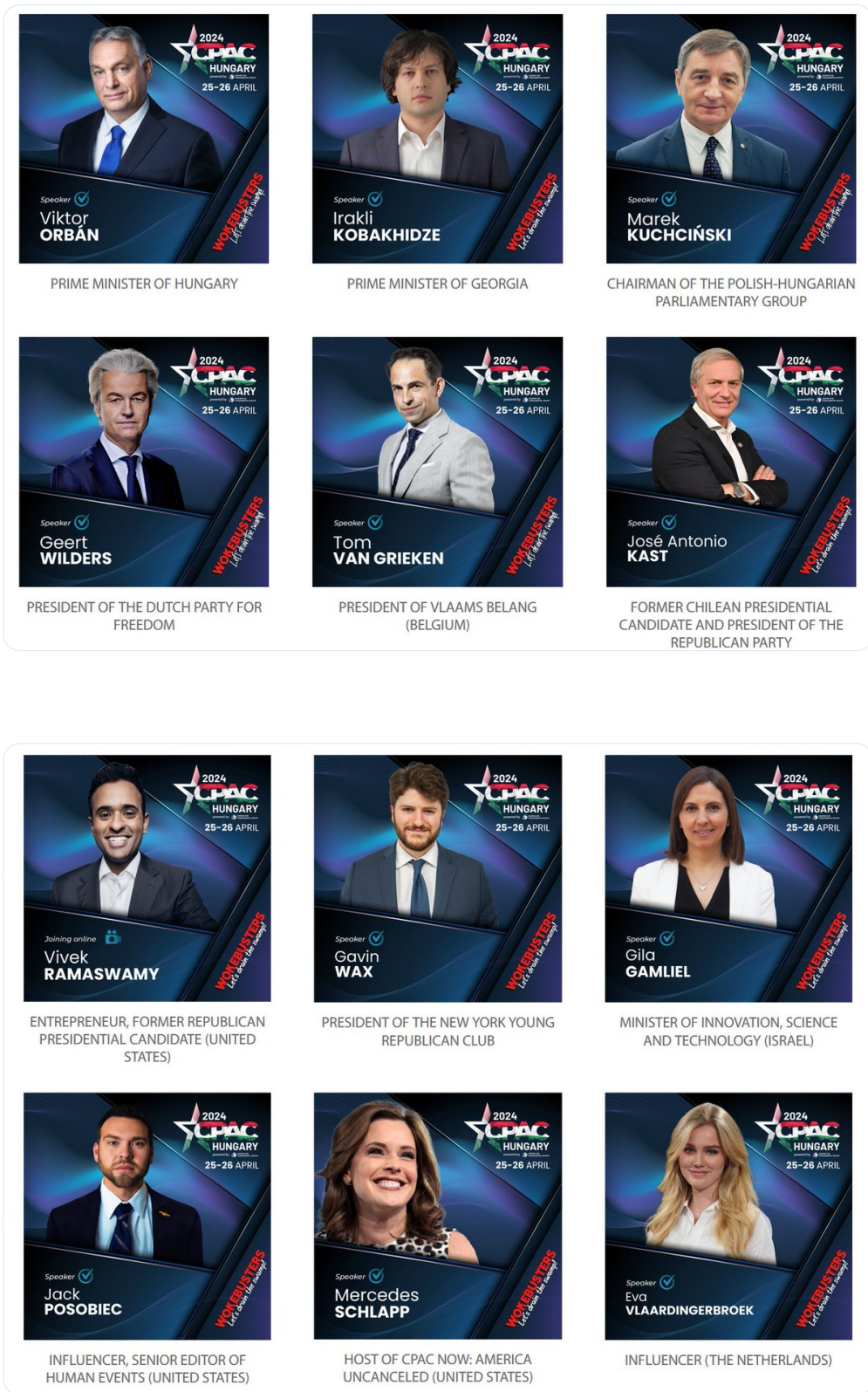
American conservatives embrace Hungary's authoritarian leader at Budapest conference



By Casey Tolan, Kyung Lah, Anna-Maja Rappard and Curt Devine, CNN
7 minute read · Updated 8:44 PM EDT, Thu May 2, 2024



This year's CPAC featured many prominent conservative speakers, including Orbán himself, Prime Minister of Georgia, PVV leader Geert Wilders, Jack "Agent Poso" Posobiec and Trump lackey @VivekGRamaswamy, who has incidentally named China as the biggest adversary of the US.



Usually, authoritarian states tend to become allies and do business together. Since 2009, Orbán has been very close with the Kremlin and Putin, but what people often forget is that he's been doing close cooperation with the Chinese leadership at least since 2010.

In 1998, when the leader of the Fidesz (Hungarian Civic Alliance) Viktor Orbán was first elected Prime Minister, unlike his predecessors, he skipped visiting Moscow and had often chastised Russia, particularly after Vladimir Putin came to power. For example, in 2007, Orbán [harshly lambasted](#) the Government for being “blind” to the “growing influence” Russia wields via its vast energy giants, and suggested that Hungary should play it European. “Those young people following us should not allow Hungary to become Gazprom’s most cheerful barracks,” [said](#) Orbán, alluding to Hungary’s pre-1989 status as “Moscow’s most cheerful barracks.” In 2008, he continued to criticize the Kremlin, [calling](#) other European governments “Moscow’s puppets,” and deeming the endorsement of the “South Stream” project by the previous government as high treason.

“It was a general trend in Central Europe that leftist governments held close relations with Moscow and conservatives were rather critical. But this trend broke after 2010,” Andras Deak, an energy expert at the Institute for Strategic and Defense Studies (ISDS) of the National University for Public Service in Budapest, tells BIRN.

In the case of Orbán, the seamless shift from Russophobe to Russophile was so abrupt that many even in his Fidesz party found it hard to explain. Analysts date it back to November 2009, when Orbán, as opposition leader, was invited to St Petersburg to meet Putin at the congress of the Kremlin-backed United Russia party. They argue Orbán clearly went on a mission to put bilateral relations on a new footing, and while it is unknown what exactly happened behind closed doors, Orbán heard enough to drastically change his attitude towards Russia and Putin himself.

“Since then, Orbán has not made any critical statement of Putin whatsoever,” Andras Racz, an expert at the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP), tells BIRN.

Already back in 2011, Orbán was praising the CCP regime because it “was not dominated by that Western, liberal idea that fiddling with the books is the way to get the best economic indicators.” After this, Chinese investments started pouring into Hungary.

Do as the Chinese do

The Hungarian government is putting its idle to work

Jun 30th 2011

By T.E. | BUDAPEST

HUNGARY has a post-industrial economy. Two thirds of GDP comes from services, a third from industry, and just 4% from agriculture. Such numbers are close to the proportions of the richer countries of western Europe.

What, then, to make of a recent comment by the country's prime minister? “China has lifted tens of millions of people out of poverty,” said Viktor Orbán to parliament the other day. “[That] country was not dominated by that western, liberal idea that fiddling with the books is the way to get the best economic indicators. There, work is the foundation.”

Mr Orbán was speaking just after [Wen Jiabao](#), the Chinese prime minister, had left Hungary, the first stop on his European tour. Mr Wen had come bearing an armful of gifts, including a €1 billion credit line and the promise of large-scale investments. (Hungary's handful of Tibetans were summoned to have their papers inspected in a police station on the day Mr Wen spent in Hungary).

What did Mr Orbán mean by work? Two recent announcements hint at an answer. In the spring, the government revealed plans to lower the school-leaving age from 18 to 16, or even 15, in a bid to push more young people into the labour force and away from the heavily subsidised universities.

By 2022, China had become the largest foreign investor in Hungary. For example, Huawei's largest logistics center in Europe is located in Hungary, and China is financing the Hungary-Serbia railway, the Kaposvár solar power station, and the Debrecen battery factory.

Chinese Investment Contributes to Hungary's Growth

Mariann Óry 2022.09.23.



Hungarian Foreign Minister Péter Szijjártó met his Chinese counterpart in New York. Bilateral relations are mutually beneficial and Chinese investment is key to growth, he said.

Viktor Orbán Courts Closer Cooperation with Huawei During Visit to China

MTI-Hungary Today 2023.10.20.



Prime Minister Viktor Orbán visited Huawei as part of his multi-day visit to China for the Belt and Road Forum. Following the meetings, Minister of Economic Development Márton Nagy and Gao Weijie, CEO of Huawei Technologies Hungary and Western Balkans Region, signed a Memorandum of Understanding,




Railway line between Serbia and Hungary opens for passenger trains after 8 years of closure

Published on 30-11-2023 at 09:40

First trip of the train between Hungary and Serbia on 28 November 2023 © MÁV

A Hungarian Town Seethes Over a Giant Chinese Battery Plant

A \$7.8 billion factory planned by a Chinese company in eastern Hungary has become divisive even within the party of Prime Minister Viktor Orban, who championed it.

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The site of the future CATL battery factory near Debrecen, Hungary, this month. The project has angered even members of the ruling Fidesz party. Akos Stiller for The New York Times



By Andrew Higgins

Andrew Higgins traveled to Mikepercs, Hungary, to speak with residents and on the Chinese battery factory being built there.

March 15, 2023


Interestingly, the Trump administration banned Huawei & many of its subsidiaries from the US due to a trade war, espionage and other national security threats. Canadian authorities even arrested Huawei's chief financial officer Meng Wanzhou at the request of the US in 2018.

12/24

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Donald Trump extends Huawei ban through May 2021



/ Huawei is still in trouble with the White House

By Chaim Gartenberg
May 13, 2020, 10:52 PM GMT-3

Illustration by Alex Castro / The Verge

President Donald Trump has extended his executive order banning US companies from working with or buying telecommunications equipment from companies deemed a national security risk until May 2021, via Reuters.

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The US got Canada to arrest a top Chinese tech executive

The arrest of Huawei's Sabrina Meng is a "warning shot" in US-China relations.

By Emily Stewart and Alex Ward | Dec 6, 2018, 11:05am EST

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Huawei executive Sabrina Meng's arrest is a big deal when put in context. | Alexander Koerner/Getty Images

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While meeting Trump in the US in Mar 2024, Orbán also met with Heritage Foundation leadership and @VivekGRamaswamy. Ironically, Heritage (and Ramaswamy) calls Orbán's closest ally, the CCP, "the most persistent and consequential threat facing the American people today".


How Viktor Orbán Conquered the Heritage Foundation

Mar 15, 2024

**THE NEW
REPUBLIC**

**By Casey Michel, Director Combatting Kleptocracy
Program**

heritage.org China Resources Experts



China

Counter the threat of Communist China

Heritage's Take

The Chinese Communist Party is the most persistent and consequential threat facing the American people today. Vladimir Putin deserves the world's condemnation for Russia's invasion of Ukraine, but China's ongoing military expansion and theft of American jobs and technology are direct threats to our security and prosperity. [Learn More.](#)

Getty Images

For Hungary, the CCP is a great source of funding without any string, like advocating human rights, attached. But like with Russian energy imports, it also increases Hungary's dependency on China. This cooperation and money flow can also create a "debt trap" for Hungary.

14/24

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How Chinese Investment Props Up Orbán and Erodes Democracy

Clientelist Corruption Is the Name of the Game

10 November 2022

 **Edit Zgut-Przybylska**
Visegrad Insight Fellow



Ten years into the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), 80% of China's government loans to developing countries have gone to nations in debt distress. The Chinese Communist Party has now made BRI an official part of its constitution.

To developing nations that feel shunned or ignored by Western governments and financial institutions, China's BRI is seen as their best—if not only—hope for assistance with high priority infrastructure projects. To some Western nations, BRI is viewed as "debt trap diplomacy"—a [development finance scheme](#) that aims to burden countries with unaffordable loans, and makes them vulnerable to Chinese coercion. What most everyone agrees upon is that BRI has become an effective tool deployed as part of Chinese leader Xi Jinping's plan to expand his country's global reach and influence.

When BRI was first launched a decade ago, President Xi pledged that it would bring Chinese financial resources and construction know-how to important infrastructure projects connecting East Asia to European economies. Much as the old [Silk Road](#)—the ancient network of trade routes—increased commerce and cultural exchange between East and West many centuries ago, BRI would bolster economic growth across Eurasia.

As they've done in many other countries, the CCP is also attempting to promote the Chinese culture within Hungary. Hungary hosts five CCP-funded language and cultural centers, known as "Confucius Institutes," and they've also attempted to build a...

15/24

It can be said that the Hungarian-Chinese Bilingual School is a witness of the profound friendship between the two countries and an epitome of the increasingly close cultural exchanges between China and Hungary. There are also five Confucius Institutes in Hungary, among which the Confucius Institute at Eötvös Loránd University is the first "Model Confucius Institutes" in the world.

The Chinese Department of Eötvös Loránd University has trained many well-known sinologists, and this year will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the department. Many Hungarian translators and publishers, including the famous Hungarian sinologist Józsa Sándor, won the Special Book Award of China.

..Shanghai Fudan University campus in Budapest. This sparked large protests, & the Budapest mayor even announced that the streets around the university would be renamed to commemorate human rights abuses by the CCP. The university was labeled as a "CCP influence operation."

16/24

June 08, 2022 09:45
GMT
By Akos Keller-Alant and
Reid Standish

What's Next For China's Fudan University Campus In Hungary?

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A demonstrator holds a placard depicting Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban as Mao Tse-tung during a protest against the planned Chinese Fudan University campus in Budapest in June 2021.



China

Budapest names streets at planned Chinese university after Uyghurs, Hong Kong

By Anita Komuves

June 3, 2021 11:51 AM GMT+3 · Updated 3 years ago

🔖 Aa 🔄



[1/2] Activists hold a Tibetan flag next to a sign in a street renamed 'Dalai Lama', near the planned site of Chinese Fudan University campus, in Budapest, Hungary, June 2, 2021. REUTERS/Bernadett Szabo [Purchase Licensing Rights](#)

Chinese university plan causes security concerns in Hungary



Orbán has also invited the Chinese police to patrol in Hungary. Setting up Chinese police stations in the EU is of course alarming, not only because the CCP has a "well-documented history of harassing and intimidating overseas Chinese citizens and diaspora members".

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CHINESE POLICE ACTIVITY IN HUNGARY 'A SIGNIFICANT RISK TO EU SECURITY'



Caroline Rhawi
April 10, 2024

SHARE:



China conducts the most sophisticated, global, and comprehensive campaign of transnational repression in the world. Efforts by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) to pressure and control the overseas population of Chinese and members of minority communities are marked by three distinctive characteristics. First, the campaign targets many groups, including multiple ethnic and religious minorities, political dissidents, human rights activists, journalists, and former insiders accused of corruption. Second, it spans the full spectrum of tactics: from direct attacks like renditions, to co-opting other countries to detain and render exiles, to mobility controls, to threats from a distance like digital threats, spyware, and coercion by proxy. Third, the sheer breadth and global scale of the campaign is unparalleled. Freedom House's conservative catalogue of direct, physical attacks since 2014 covers 214 cases originating from China, far more than any other country.

Exclusive: China operating over 100 police stations across the world with the help of some host nations, report claims

By Nina dos Santos, CNN

8 minute read · Published 12:03 AM EST, Sun December 4, 2022



This picture taken on March 22, 2021, shows the entrance of the China embassy in the The Hague. The Netherlands, along with Ireland, has shut down the Chinese police station found on its territory. Bart Maat/ANP/AFP/Getty Images

And it appears that the CCP already has leverage on Hungary - In 2016, Hungary blocked an EU statement on China's maritime claims in the South China Sea, and vetoed an EU statement condemning CCP's security law in Hong Kong.

18/24

A prime example includes Hungary's blockage of an EU statement on the South China Sea ruling in 2016, together with Croatia and Greece, until it was substantially [watered down](#). It signaled that the EU is not only divided on such issues but that certain member states may prioritize relations with Beijing over standing up for EU values and supporting common positions.



Asia Pacific

Hungary blocks EU statement criticising China over Hong Kong, diplomats say

By John Chalmers and Robin Emmott

April 16, 2021 2:20 PM GMT+3 · Updated 3 years ago



BRUSSELS, April 16 (Reuters) - Hungary has blocked a European Union statement criticising China's new security law in Hong Kong, two diplomats said, in a move likely to undermine efforts to confront Beijing's curbing of freedoms in the former British colony.

The EU, which aims to support Britain and the United States in upholding human rights in Hong Kong, was due to make its statement on Monday at a meeting of EU foreign ministers, but failed to win the necessary agreement from all 27 EU states.

"Hungary's argument was that the EU already has too many issues with China," a senior EU diplomat told Reuters. A second senior diplomat confirmed the blockage and Hungary's position. An EU official said the statement had been withdrawn from the EU's approval process.

In Feb 2024, Hungary again blocked EU's sanctions package against Russia. But according to diplomatic sources, the package wasn't blocked because of Orbán's friendship with Russia, but because the sanctions also targeted four Chinese companies.

19/24

🕒 13:31 15 Feb, 2024

Hungary is again blocking the latest round of Russia sanctions, FT

It was déjà vu for EU diplomats yesterday as Hungary once again blocked progress on measures aimed at assisting Ukraine's defence against Russia, Financial Times reports. The EU is aiming to get its 13th package of sanctions against the Kremlin. It would complement a €50bn financial support package for Kyiv, and a move to set aside profits from Russia's immobilised sovereign assets.

Hungary was the sole naysayer at a meeting of EU ambassadors yesterday that otherwise would have signed off on the sanctions package, which targets almost 200 people and entities from Russia, China and other countries who are deemed to be helping Moscow's war effort.

"The Hungarians did not agree due to Chinese companies," said one of the officials. Hungary, and its Prime Minister Viktor Orbán, have on multiple occasions slowed down or diluted EU measures aimed at punishing Russia or assisting Ukraine.

Another official briefed on the discussions diplomatically described it as "a very fruitful exchange", delicately detailing Hungary's blockage as Budapest's ambassador "request[ing] a bit more time to analyse the content of the proposals".

For Orbán, all this seems to be a straightforward transaction: a source of money and influence as China's leading partner in Europe. In the meantime, Chinese companies can build factories in the heart of Europe with little apparent oversight.

20/24



This story is partly based on VSquare's Goulash newsletter, updated with new information – [read the full issue here](#) with fresh scoops and a round-up of our latest investigations from Central Europe.

Szabolcs Panyi (VSquare)

2024-04-29

Chinese President Xi Jinping visits Hungary between May 8-10, the Hungarian government confirmed after weeks of speculation. Xi will arrive in the Central European country after official visits to France and Serbia.

This deal has led to Hungary becoming the CCP's most valuable ally in Europe, with economic ties evolving into common security interests. As Hungary is also a NATO member, this has raised concerns on issues such as intelligence sharing.

21/24

Interview: Hungary looks forward to further cooperation with China, official says

Source: Xinhua Editor: huaxia 2024-05-04 18:48:16



Hungarian Minister for National Economy Marton Nagy speaks during an interview with Xinhua in Budapest, Hungary, April 18, 2024. (Photo by Attila Volgyi/Xinhua)



NATO EXPANDS ITS DEFENCE INNOVATION NETWORK IN HUNGARY

Text: Ministry of Defence | Photo: Gábor Nagy (archive), Gábor Kormány (archive) | 12:19 March 19, 2024

NATO's Defence Innovation Accelerator for the North Atlantic (DIANA) has announced that it expands and doubles its presence in Hungary by connecting accelerator sites and test centers for technological development into its research and development network.



This is also the reason why the CCP leader Xi Jinping will be meeting Orbán during his Eurotrip. Due to dire economic conditions, Hungary is desperately seeking for a economic support, which the CCP can of course offer. Xi's other official visits will be to France & Serbia.

22/24

WORLD NEWS

Hungary and Serbia's autocratic leaders to roll out red carpet for China's Xi during Europe tour



1 of 11 | Chinese and Serbian flags fly on lampposts, days before the visit of Chinese President Xi Jinping in Belgrade, Serbia, Wednesday, May 1, 2024. Xi will visit France, Serbia and Hungary this week as Beijing appears to seek a larger role in the conflict between Russia and Ukraine that has upended global political and economic security. (AP Photo/Dan) [Read More](#)



BY JUSTIN SPIKE AND JOVANA GEC

Updated 8:21 AM GMT+3, May 6, 2024


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To conclude, Orbán is a typical politician whose words & actions hardly meet. He's good friends with the most anti-CCP organizations in the US, while at the same time he's doing massive deals with China, making himself rich & his country more dependent on this foreign power.

23/24

Kevin Roberts  
@KevinRobertsTX

It was an honor, @PM_ViktorOrban, to meet with you. One thing is clear from visiting Hungary and from being involved in current policy and cultural debates in America: the world needs a movement that fights for Truth, for tradition, for families, and for the average person.

Orbán Viktor  @PM_ViktorOrban · Nov 29, 2022
We must not shy away from fighting for our culture. We must not give up on our core values: #family, #sovereignty, #liberty and #faith. This was at the heart of our discussion with @Heritage president @KevinRobertsTX today.



11:18 PM · Nov 29, 2022

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We're in a New Cold War. It's Time Our Politicians Acted Like It

Oct 20, 2023 4 min read

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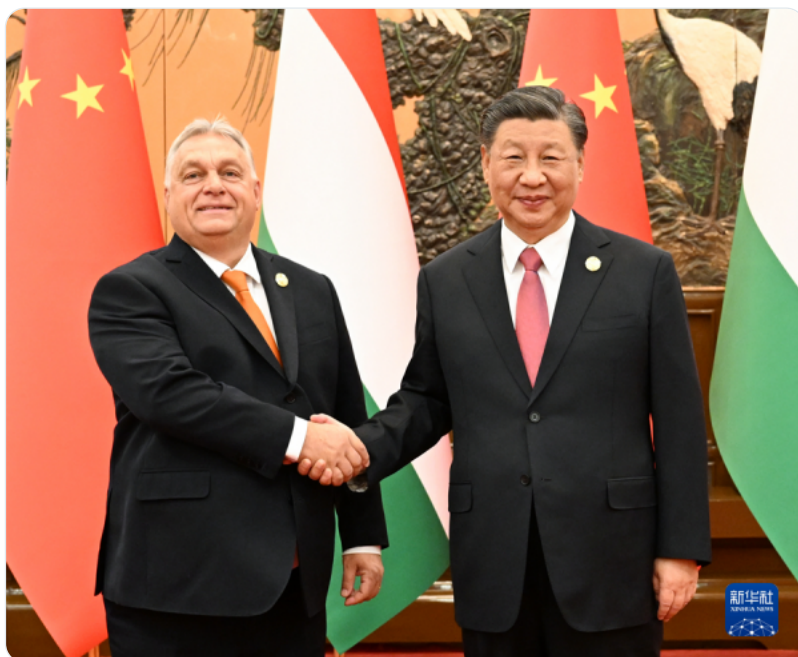


Kevin D. Roberts, PhD
@KevinRobertsTX



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Chinese President Xi Jinping heads to a group photo session with other leaders at the Third Belt and Road Forum on October 18, 2023 in Beijing, China.
Suo Takekuma-Pool / Getty Images



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  **Hungarian Policy Increasingly Linked to China**

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26.10.2023

Although most Central European countries' relations with China have deteriorated in recent years and joint initiatives have weakened, Hungary still regards China as a desirable political and economic partner. Prime Minister Viktor Orbán's presence at the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) forum in Beijing on 18 October, which he attended as the only leader from the EU, further strengthened these relations. Such gestures and new high-value Chinese investments in Hungary mean that the two states will continue to oppose reducing the EU's economic dependence on China.

Veronika Józwiak

This has led to a absurd situation, in which Orbán is considered a rock star in the US even though his political decisions and EU voting is undermining the American interests in the geopolitical arena.

But hey, at least he's "anti-woke"!

Ping: @marcthiessen

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Hungarian PM Viktor Orbán, center, during a summit in Brussels | Nicolas Maeterlinck/Belga via AFP/Getty Images

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Many of the CPAC speakers have their own soups, too!

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