



Government Questionnaire to Hungarian Voters about New Constitution¹

1.) According to some, Hungary's new constitution should only declare citizens' rights and not duties. According to others, citizen's duties towards the community (work, education, homeland security, environmental protection) should also be part of the document. What do you think?

- 1- Hungary's new constitution should only declare citizens' rights.
- 2- Hungary's new constitution should declare citizen's duties besides rights.
- 3- I cannot decide this question.

2.) Some suggest that Hungary's new constitution should control the scale of public debt as a guarantee for future generations. According to others, such requirements should not be included in the document. What do you think?

- 1- Hungary's new constitution should set a maximum level for public debt and every government in power should keep that in consideration under all circumstances.
- 2- Hungary's new constitution should set a maximum level for public debt but it should also include exceptions for times of economic crises.
- 3- Hungary's new constitution should not set a public debt cap.
- 4- I cannot decide this question.

3.) Some suggest that Hungary's new constitution should protect collectively shared values such as family, public order, work and health. Some consider this unnecessary. What do you think?

- 1- Hungary's new constitution should strive to protect collectively shared social values besides basic human rights such as work, home, family, order and health.

¹ This questionnaire regarding the proposed draft constitution was sent out by the Hungarian government to every Hungarian of voting age in February 2011. Respondents were asked to return the form to the government as a means of having input into the process. The original questions in Hungarian may be found here: <http://www.fidesz.hu/index.php?Cikk=158885>

This English translation is provided by Common Sense Society (Budapest, Hungary: March 10, 2011) and is available at: <http://www.common sensebudapest.com>

2- Hungary's new constitution should not mention the above values separately. Protection of human rights will be sufficient to include.

3- I cannot decide this question.

4.) Some suggest that parents with underage children should in some way be entitled to vote in the name of their children. What do you think?

1- Hungary's new constitution should grant an additional vote for parents raising underage children based on the number of children they have.

2- Hungary's new constitution should grant an additional vote for parents raising small children regardless of the number of children they have.

3- Hungary's new constitution should not grant an additional vote for parents with underage children.

4- I cannot decide this question.

5.) Some suggest that Hungary's new constitution should not allow for the government to impose tax on children's educational expenses, e.g. these expenses should be tax-exempt. Some deem this unnecessary and think the government should have the right to tax education-related expenses. What do you think?

1- Hungary's new constitution should ban the taxation of children's educational expenses.

2- Hungary's new constitution should only formulate guidelines regarding the education of children and should not ban the taxation of children's educational expenses.

3- Hungary's new constitution should not mention the taxation of children's educational expenses.

4- I cannot decide this question.

6.) Some suggest that Hungary's new constitution should include a pledge of responsibility for future generations. Others think such commitment is unnecessary. What do you think?

1- Hungary's new constitution should include a pledge of responsibility for future generations.

2- I do not think such pledge is necessary.

3- I cannot decide this question.

7.) Some suggest that Hungary's new constitution should allow the participation in public procurement procedures and grant eligibility to apply for state grants only for economic associations with transparent ownership structures. What do you think?

1- Hungary's new constitution should only grant state support or public procurement participation for economic associations with transparent ownership structures and identifiable owners.

2- Hungary's new constitution should not set such criteria.

3- I cannot decide this question.

8.) Some suggest that Hungary's new constitution should express Hungary's commitment to Hungarian communities beyond the borders, others deem this unnecessary. What do you think?

1- Hungary's new constitution should express Hungary's commitment towards Hungarian communities beyond the borders and should urge governments in power to respect this commitment.

2- Hungary's new constitution should express commitment towards Hungarian communities beyond the borders but it is not necessary to enforce such commitments.

3- There is no need to express such commitments.

4- I cannot decide this question.

9.) Some suggest that Hungary's new constitution should protect the biodiversity of the Carpathian basin and species specific to this region. What do you think?

1- Hungary's new constitution should protect species both in their natural habitat and traditionally cultivated animals and plants.

2- Hungary's new constitution should protect only traditionally cultivated animals and plants specific to Hungary.

3- Hungary's new constitution should not protect biodiversity.

4- I cannot decide this question.

10.) Some think that Hungary's new constitution should protect national assets, especially land and water supplies. Some do not think it is important. What do you think?

1- Hungary's new constitution should protect national assets.

2- Hungary's new constitution should not protect national assets.

3- I cannot decide this question.

11.) Some suggest that Hungary's new constitution should enable courts to impose life sentence without parole in felony cases. What do you think?

1- Hungary's new constitution should enable courts the right to impose life sentence without parole in felony cases.

2- Hungary's new constitution should not enable courts the right to impose life sentence without parole in felony cases.

3- I cannot decide this question.

12.) Some suggest that Hungary's new constitution should make the participation at Parliamentary hearings mandatory and impose fines if the obligation is not fulfilled. What do you think?

1- Hungary's new constitution should make the participation at hearings ordered by the Parliament mandatory and impose fines if the obligation is not fulfilled.

2- Hungary's new constitution should make the participation at committee hearings mandatory without imposing fines.

3- Hungary's new constitution should not make the participation at such hearings mandatory.

4- I cannot decide this question.