



CARPATHIAN FOUNDATION-HUNGARY

The Carpathian Foundation-Hungary is an independent, non-profit, civic organization improving the quality of life of the communities living in the Carpathian region, preserving and utilizing the social, economic, ethnic, cultural and environmental values of the region.

As a unique cross-border organization the Foundation provides financial and professional assistance to NGOs, local-self-governments and communities for implementing their local development initiatives primarily in the Hungarian part of the Carpathian region (Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén, Hajdú-Bihar, Heves, Jász-Nagykun-Szolnok and Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg Counties) and all over Hungary.

The Carpathian Foundation-Hungary encourages co-operation among NGOs, governmental and profit-oriented organizations in the following main areas:

- Rural community development;
- Human resource development;
- Preservation of cultural and environmental values;
- Development of social integration.

Our goal is to strengthen social consciousness and regional identity by highlighting inherent values of the region.

The Carpathian Foundation-Hungary is the member of the Carpathian Foundation Network (consisting of foundations from Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Ukraine) that contributes to the development of the Carpathian region by providing grants and professional assistance to NGOs and local-self-governments operating in the bordering area of Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Ukraine.

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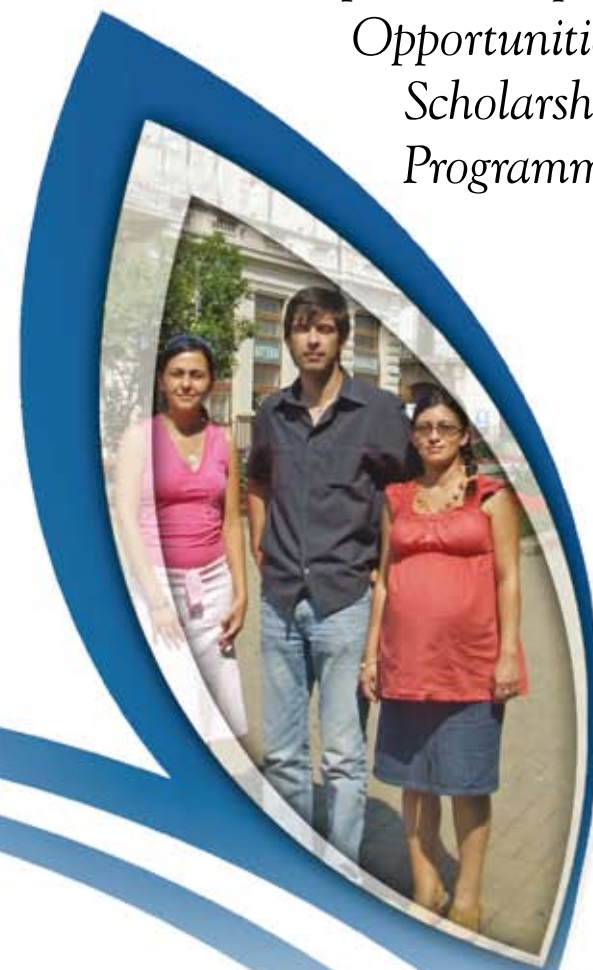
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THANKS TO OUR MAIN DONORS AND PARTNERS:

Autonómia Foundation, Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, Foundation for Development of Democratic Rights; EEA and Norwegian Financial Mechanism Office; Életfa Environmental Society; Labour Service of Heves County; Local Self Government of Heves County; Human resources Development Operational Program; Hungarian Telekom Otd. INNTEK Non-profit Ltd.; ITD Hungary Non-profit Corp.; Carpathian Foundation International; Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Hungary; University of Miskolc; National Civic Fund; Open Society Institute; National Employment Foundation (OFA); Hungarian Environmental Partnership Foundation; Robey Family Foundation; RomNet Media Foundation; Social Renewal Operational Program; Gender Studies and Equal Opportunities Center, University of Miskolc.

Carpathian Equal Opportunities Scholarship Programme



*Equal opportunities for
disadvantaged students*

SERVING THE REGION
FOR 15 YEARS



THE GOAL OF THE PROGRAMME

One of our main objective is to encourage talented but disadvantaged students to complete their university studies and stay in the region they live (Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén, Hajdú-Bihar, Heves, Jász-Nagykun-Szolnok, Nógrád, and Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg Counties).

For its fullfilment goal the Foundation has launched a scholarship Programme that aims to

- Improve the participating students' regional and social identities
- Develop skills that can help students to access the labour market



The three main elements of the Programme:

- **Financial support**

Every participant is granted 2000 USD / an academic year

- **Tutorial support**

The participants receive mentoring help from a personal tutor (university professor)

- **Participants' volunteer work**

Participants, based on their study profile and in co-operation with a local civil organization, agree to work out and manage a one year volunteer project called 'For the region in the region'

"As it was part of the scholarship agreement, I applied for a voluntary position at Roméro Association in Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén County. During my time there I gained a lot of experience. The Carpathian Foundation-Hungary's help proved to be invaluable not only in terms of finance but in professional support as well. I have managed to get to know people that helped me a lot later on to find a job which was a great advantage for a newcomer on the labour market."

(Lakatos Mónika, participant 2008/2009, University of Miskolc, Department of Sociology)

The Carpathian Equal Opportunities Scholarship Programme is implemented implemented in partnership with the Genders Studies & Equal Opportunities Centre of the University of Miskolc.

THE HISTORY OF THE PROGRAMME

The idea of the Carpathian Equal Opportunities Scholarship Programme came from Mr Fred Robey who is a committed donor of the Carpathian Foundation Network; in 2005 he donated 100,000 USD to launch the fund. It was the donator wish to start a 5-year education sponsorship programme in five countries of the Carpathian region.

ACHIEVEMENTS

2006/2007, the first year of the Programme was a pilot year, when, we chose one or two high talented students from each of the participating countries. In June 2007 the completion of this trial year was successful. In the second academic year, realizing the demand, the Foundation supported two students, three in 2008/2009 and again two in 2009/2010.

"The Carpathian Equal Opportunities Scholarship Programme proved to be a great motivation for me to improve professionally. The Programme made me possible to gain a lot of experience that I have been using in the civil sector and, as a member of the council, in the municipal sector as well."

(Roland Havril, participant 2006/2009, University of Miskolc, Political Studies)



Between 2006-2009 we sponsored the following students:

Roland Havril,
University of Miskolc,
Political Studies,
2006/2009

Marianna Szabó, University of Miskolc, Sociology & Cultural Anthropology, 2007/2008

Andrea Kis, University of Miskolc, Sociology & Pedagogy, 2007/2009

Mónika Lakatos, University of Miskolc, Sociology, 2008/2009

Rózsa Galyas, University of Miskolc, Geography, 2009/2010

Norbert Fekete, University of Miskolc, History and Hungarian Language & Literature, 2009/2010

FUTURE PLANS

Mr Fred Robey's 5-year term for the programme runs out in 2011. The Carpathian Foundation Hungary is committed to find other donors to continue the Programme and to extend it as follows:

- **Internship for students**

The students will be able to spend an internship period at local municipalities, civil organizations or companies. This will give them an insight to the problems of the region, will introduce them to professionals and will improve their chances on the local or regional labour market.

- **Student exchange programme**

We want to encourage student exchange programmes involving the participating institutions and organizations within and outside the Carpathian region.

- **Encouraging young mothers to continue their studies at university**

We will establish child care units at the participating universities which will enable young mothers to attend lectures and study (at the moment it is only the College of Gyöngyös that provides this facility).

