## The Weekly Newsletter

## of the Mikó Imre Minority Rights Legal Services Assistance

The Mikó Imre Minority Rights Legal Services Assistance was founded by the Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania with the purpose of monitoring, signaling and thus preventing discrimination of all sorts against the Hungarian community in Romania. In order to signal the problems that our community is facing, we would like to start a newsletter campaign with the goal of informing the international community about the abuse that our community is confronted with. We would kindly like to ask you to take a few minutes and read about the discrimination and violation of rights that take place in the Hungarian inhabited Covasna County in Szeklerland, Romania.

## The infamous Mikó case





After 25 years of the fall of the communism in Romania, the building of the Mikó High School, a restituted property owned by the Reformed Church was re-nationalized. The Bishop of the Transylvanian Reformed Church, Béla Kató has expressed his deep disappointment with the final decision of the court that deemed the restitution of the property illegal. "Almost one million reformed people in Transylvania was slapped on the face by this move" - declared the Bishop, who also stated that the "reformed church needs to re-evaluate its relationship towards the Romanian state" after this decision.

During the proceedings of the Mikó case, ethnic discrimination was blatantly obvious. The accused defendants of the case were both of Hungarian and Romanian ethnicity. The decision of the Buzau Court was to sentence the Hungarian defendants to three years of prison, while the Romanian defendant was sentenced to suspended prison sentence only in first instance, in spite of the fact that they were all accused of the very same crime.



## Neo-fascist groups harass the Hungarian community in Sfantu-Gheorghe



For a few years now, neo-fascist groups have been harrassing the Hungarian community on Romania's national day For a fews years now, aided by the office of the prefect and the Orthodox Church, neo-fascist anti-Semitic and anti-Hungarian groups have been manifesting at the streets of Sfantu Gheorghe at Romania's National Holiday, December the 1st. These manifestations are highly aggressive in tone, being hateful and threatening to the members of the peaceful Hungarian community, who have to put up every year with the manifestations of extremist groups brought in from other counties of Romania to state the supremacy of the Romanian language and culture over Hungarian, yelling slogans like "Out with the Hungarians from the country".