



AUSTRALIA AND HUNGARY

Key engagement

Diplomatic ties between Hungary and Australia were established in 1972. 2022 marks the 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations.

Australia and Hungary have had several high-level visits in recent years, including at Head of State, Foreign Minister and Trade Minister level.

Outlook

Total goods and services trade between Australia and Hungary has been growing over the past five years.

The Fidesz-KDNP government has been in power since 2010 and was re-elected for a fourth consecutive term during the National Assembly elections held on 3 April 2022.

Bilateral relations

Hungary and Australia enjoy friendly, cooperative relations with strong people-to-people links as a result of the large number of Hungarians who emigrated to Australia in the twentieth century, especially following the 1956 Uprising against the Soviet occupation of Hungary.

High-level visits between Australia and Hungary have served to develop bilateral relations.

Foreign policy

Hungary is a member of the United Nations (1955), one of the founding members of the World Trade Organization (1995), the International Monetary Fund (1982), the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (1973), the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (1996), North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (1999) and the European Union (2004). Hungary is a member of the EU's visa-free zone – the Schengen Area (2007) but is not a member of the Eurozone.

FAST FACTS



Hungarian visitors to Australia (2021) 835



Australian resident returns from Hungary (2021) 194



Resident Australian population born in Hungary (2021 census) 16,655



Australian residents of Hungarian descent (2021 census) 81,029



Hungarian working holidaymakers (June 2022) 30



Hungarian student enrolments arrivals in Australia (June 2022) 60

High level engagement

2021 Former Honourable Sussan Ley MP, then-Minister for the Environment, met with the Minister of the Prime Minister's Office, Gergely Gulyás, in Budapest in July 2021.

2018 Former Foreign Minister, the Hon Julie Bishop MP, travelled to Hungary and met Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Péter Szijjártó, in February 2018.

Former Trade Minister the Hon Steven Ciobo travelled to Hungary in January 2018 to meet with Hungarian counterparts and business leaders.





Agreements with Hungary

Bilateral agreements between Australia and Hungary include, a treaty on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters and Extradition (1997), an agreement on Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy and the Transfer of Nuclear Material (2002), a bilateral Social Security Agreement (2011), an Air Services Agreement (2016) and a treaty on Oil Stock Contracts (2018).

Texts of bilateral agreements are available at the [Australian Treaties Database](#).

Public diplomacy

The Australian Embassy in Vienna hosts a number of community events and participates in several commemorative events in Hungary. The Association of Australian and Békés Citizens (a Australian-Hungarian friendship group) hosts an annual charity ball.

The Hungarian community actively promotes Hungarian culture in Australia through Hungarian cultural centres, clubs, associations and festivals. The Australian Hungarian Cultural Festival is held every three years in different cities/states around Australia.

Hungarians celebrate their national or State Day on 20 August each year, known as the Day of the Foundation of the State of Hungary and St Stephen's Day (after Hungary's first king). Hungary also celebrates national days on 23 October (commemorating the outbreak of the 1956 Uprising and the proclamation of the Hungarian Republic in 1989) and 15 March (commemorating the 1848-49 Revolution and War of Independence).

Hungary has an Embassy in Canberra, a Trade and Consular Office in Sydney, and a Consular Office in Melbourne. Hungary also has Honorary Consulates in Adelaide, Brisbane, Darwin and Perth.

Australian Embassy in Vienna

The Australian Embassy in Vienna is accredited to Hungary.

The Canadian Embassy in Budapest provides consular assistance to Australians in Hungary.

[Home \(embassy.gov.au\)](#)

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Economic diplomacy

Total two-way goods and services trade in 2021 was valued at \$883.7 million, with imports from Hungary totaling \$831.1 million.

In 2021, Australia's goods imports from Hungary were predominantly passenger motor vehicles; trailers, semi-trailers & containers; pharm products (excl medicaments); office machines; electrical circuits equipment; medical instruments (incl veterinary). Australia's major goods exports to Hungary were telecom equipment & parts; medicaments (incl veterinary); electronic integrated circuits.

Australian total investment in Hungary in 2021 was \$483 million compared to Hungarian investment in Australia of \$69 million.

More economic and trade information can be found in the [Hungary economy fact sheet \[PDF\]](#)

Australia continues to seek opportunities to promote Australian business and raise awareness of the potential benefits of increased trade between Australia and Europe, including Hungary. This work has intensified following the launch of Australia-EU FTA negotiations in June 2018.

More information about the [Australia-EU FTA](#).

Travel

See [Smartraveller](#) for information on travelling to Hungary.

