

Hungary

Additional funding for Ukraine only possible through tax increases and austerity measures

from "Hungary today"

(CH-S) The EU Commission is acting dictatorially. It wants to incur debts for the war in Ukraine, which current and future generations of EU member states will have to pay off. Hungary is even receiving instructions from the EU Commission on which social benefits to cut and where further savings should be made. This report on the news portal "Hungary today" is documented by "Swiss Standpoint".

Together with Slovakia and Czechia, Hungary refuses to continue following the EU's course of war and debt. It doesn't take much imagination to figure out why Brussels is so eager to bind our country, Switzerland, to itself with a "package deal."

The Hungarian government has published the report on EU financing of Ukraine and the European Commission's demands for tax increases and austerity measures, the Hungarian Minister for EU Affairs announced on his Facebook page on Wednesday.

The Ministry of European Affairs has prepared a report on the European Union's financing of Ukraine and the related economic measures demanded by Hungary.¹

The report is intended to summarise the aid already provided by the European Union to Ukraine and to highlight the possible impact of the proposed financial demands on Hungary and Hungarian citizens, the document states.

It is reminded that since 22 February 2022, the EU has adopted 19 packages of sanctions against Russia. The leitmotif of the sanctions is support for Ukraine, which is considered a priority over European economic interests and competitiveness. The EU is currently planning the 20th package of sanctions against Russia.

The report points out that between 2022 and 2025, the EU applied temporary trade measures against Ukraine that included unprecedented preferential arrangements in favour of Ukraine and caused significant damage to member



The Parliament building in Budapest. (Picture Wikimedia)

states bordering Ukraine. To this end, Commission President [von der Leyen] made EU accession negotiations with Ukraine a priority of her second five-year term in September 2024.

"Since February 2022, the European Union and its member states have paid €193.3 billion to Ukraine, which is three times as much as Hungary has received in total since joining the EU," emphasised János Bóka [Hungary's Minister for European Affairs] in his contribution. Between 2004 and 2024, Hungary received €73 billion in net aid from the EU, taking all sources and legal bases into account.

The document goes on to state that, according to the European Council's decision of 18–19 December 2025, the EU will grant Ukraine further loans totalling €90 billion for the years 2026 to 2027. It is emphasised that the instrument will be created within the framework of enhanced co-operation, in which Hungary, the Czech Republic, and Slovakia are not participating.

The minister recalled that Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky published a 20-point plan last Christmas that envisages \$800 billion for the reconstruction and economic development of Ukraine over the next ten years, in addition to military and defence spending.

According to the report, the EU, which is struggling with a budget deficit, could only continue to finance Ukraine with additional funds from member states, which would mean significant tax increases and austerity measures for European economies.

To be able to provide the necessary funds, the European Commission has set expectations for Hungary as part of the “European Semester” (the EU’s annual framework for coordinating economic, budgetary, employment, and social policies),² which are listed in the document from the Ministry of European Affairs and read as follows:

- Abolition of housing subsidies, CSOK family subsidies, subsidised housing loans, and exemption from real estate transfer tax, as well as the introduction of higher property taxes;
- reduction or abolition of the 13th month’s pension; tax increases, introduction of a progressive income tax, which would mean a higher tax burden for employees;³
- review of tax relieves for families, young people, and mothers;
- abolition of the reduction in utility costs, abolition of subsidies for fossil fuels, and a complete ban on energy imports from Russia, which could lead to a three-and-a-half-fold increase in utility costs in Hungary;
- taxation of returns on government bonds;
- closing hospitals and reducing the number of beds;
- abolishing work loans for young people;
- cutting subsidies for domestic SMEs, while at the same time calling for the abolition of special taxes for large foreign companies, Minister János Bóka listed.

“That is the price of the policy of war that the Hungarian people would have to pay if we allowed that to happen,” the minister emphasised in conclusion.

“It’s there in black and white in the European Semester, in the country-specific recommendations, and in the infringement proceedings,” said Prime Minister *Viktor Orbán* in a post on X, adding: “Since it’s difficult to understand, the Ministry of European Affairs has summarised Brussels’ demands in a report. Precise, accurate, and with page references.”

X-Post: Orbán Viktor (@PM_ViktorOrban)
January 14, 2026

Unfortunately, money does not grow on trees, especially not \$800 billion. This is the amount the Ukrainians are demanding from Europeans for the next ten years. For Hungary, this would mean a financial burden of more than \$9 billion.



The modern House of Music offers training, organises concerts, exhibitions and much more. EU war loans for the senseless war in Ukraine are also drying up cultural offerings. (Picture af)

And where, according to Brussels, should all that money come from?

Without claiming to be exhaustive, they would abolish pension payments in the 13th and 14th months, housing subsidies, home purchase subsidies for families, reduced energy prices for households, the flat-rate income tax, the loan program for employees, and tax relieves for mothers, young people, and families. I could list many more.

This is not speculation. Brussels’ master plan is set out in black and white throughout the European Semester, in the country-specific recommendations and in the infringement procedures.

With the Hungarian elections approaching, a decision must be made. One thing is certain: we say NO to Brussels’ war plan!

Source: <https://ungarnheute.hu/news/weitere-finanzmittel-fuer-die-ukraine-nur-durch-steuererhoehungen-und-sparmassnahmen-beschaffbar-84077/>, 14 January 2026

(Translation Swiss Standpoint)

¹ https://cdn.kormany.hu/uploads/sheets/d/d4/d47/d47f2bc0efa57e25f49ff95fc25c93f.pdf?fbclid=IwY2xjaw-PU0edleHRuA2FlbQlxMABicmlkETBZWjZFd2xJbEVXQlIBcTVvc3J0YwZhchHBfaWQQMjlyMDM5MTc4ODIwMDg5MgABHmV2gGKCJa03JSbCHY1dKqxkYYx6cIny-BORqKNKiLhDm0TAuP5E9xN_3fQwZ_aem_jykXD-KEy9TEbTDfaL9dtRQ

² https://commission.europa.eu/business-economy-euro/european-semester/european-semester-your-country/european-semester-documents-hungary_en

³ <https://www.oecd.org/content/dam/oecd/en/topics/policy-sub-issues/structural-reforms/country-policy-support/Strengthening-the-Hungarian-Pension-System.pdf>