In effect from 03 July 2015 -

**Act XXX of 2012**

**on Hungarian national values and hungarikums**¹

Pursuant to Article P) of the Fundamental Law of Hungary, and guided by the unity of the Hungarian nation, the National Assembly establishes the following:

a) the Hungarian national values (hereinafter: “national values”), including the hungarikums are unique values that should be preserved;

b) in order to reinforce the sense of togetherness, unity and national awareness we must collect and document our nation’s values, the documentation underlying the preservation of values must be safeguarded according to the rules of rigorous registry and searchability, and such values must be cultivated, protected and fostered;

c) our heritage, the millennium-old values of Hungarian culture, the intellectual and material works of the Hungarian people, the manmade and natural values shall be compiled in a comprehensive repository of values;

d) the safeguarding of our national values contributes to the formation and strengthening of our national self-awareness;

e) the portrayal and presentation of our national values on a wide Hungarian and foreign scale, as well as the achievement of recognition of our linguistic, intellectual, cultural, and economic performance and natural and manmade values, along with the reinforcement of our national image, are all of key importance.

The National Assembly declares that it considers the national values a part of the universal values which represent the dynamically growing repository of the past, present, and future of the Hungarian people and the bedrock of value-based national cooperation.

The repository of national values are enriched by the values of the peoples living together in Hungary, the ethnicities forming the Hungarian nation, as well as the individuals and communities living beyond the borders and throughout the world and considering themselves Hungarian.

For the purposes of the above, the National Assembly adopts the following law:²

**PART I**

**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

1. Interpretative provisions

**Section 1. (1)**³ For the purposes of this law

a) branch repository of values: a collection of the data of national values identified by the ministers in charge of each branch;

b) hungarikum: a blanket term indicating a value worthy of distinction and highlighting within a unified system of qualification, classification, and registry and which represents the high performance of the Hungarian people thanks to its typically Hungarian attribute, uniqueness, specialty and quality;

c) Collection of Hungarikums: the collection of national values declared by the Committee for Hungarikums (hereinafter: “HB”) to be hungarikums among the outstanding national values;

d) outstanding national value: a national value which is of key significance from a national

¹ Promulgated: 11 April 2012.
² Established by Act LXXX of 2015, Section 1. Effective as of 03 July 2015.
³ Established by Act LXXX of 2015, Section 2. Effective as of 03 July 2015.
perspective; substantially enhances our reputation and adds to our recognition in the European Union and throughout the world; and contributes to the formation and strengthening of the sense of national belonging and Hungarian awareness of new generations;


f) nation segment repository of values of Hungarians abroad: a collection containing the data of those national values typical of Hungarians living in a particular country which the given Committee for the Nation Segment Repository of Values has declared as values of Hungarians abroad;

g) Hungarian Repository of Values: a collection of values declared as outstanding national values by the HB among national values;

h) county repository of values: a collection containing the data of those national values located in the area of a particular county which the Committee for the County Repository of Values has declared as county values;

i) national value: all intellectual and material, natural and community values or products related to the activities, production culture and traditions of the Hungarian nation and of ethnicities forming the Hungarian nation and to the Hungarian landscape, flora and fauna, which have been accumulated and preserved during the history of our nation and the recent past; and regional values inclusive of tangible and intangible assets related to the landscape, flora and fauna, which testify to a human community’s historical relationship with the given area;

j) national values enjoying international recognition: national values that have been awarded international recognition based on an international agreement ratified by the National Assembly or promulgated in a government decree, or on the basis of reciprocity;

k) regional repository of values: a collection containing the data of those national values located in the area of neighbouring settlements, or in the area of a region constituting unity based on geographical, historical or ethnographical features, which the Committee for the Regional Repository of Values has declared as regional values;

l) local repository of values: a collection containing the data of national values located in the area of a local municipality;


(3) The scope of this act shall not affect products considered as hungarikums pursuant to Act

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4 Established by Act LXXX of 2015, Section 2. Effective as of 03 July 2015.
CXL of 1997 on museum institutes, public library and general culture.

(4) In accordance with this law, no natural persons, legal entities or organisations without legal entity may be national values or hungarikum.

**PART 2**

**IDENTIFICATION AND SYSTEMISATION OF NATIONAL VALUES**

2. Identification of national values

**Section 2.** National values are values to be safeguarded. Local municipalities, county municipalities, local, county and national ethnic minority self-governments, competent state authorities, organisations of Hungarians abroad participating in the Hungarian Standing Conference (hereinafter: “MÁERT”) and natural and legal persons assigned thereby may be involved in the recording, regular updating and maintenance of their data. Any reference by this law to a county municipality or a county ethnic minority self-government shall respectively be understood to include the Budapest Municipality and Budapest ethnic minority self-governments.

3. Local and regional repositories of values

**Section 3.** A local municipality may set up a local repository of values.

(2) A local municipality may establish a Committee for the Local Repository of Values, which shall – in accordance with the provisions of the legislation issued for the enforcement of this law – organise the identification of national values located in the area of the local municipality, create a local repository of values and send the same to the relevant Committee for the County Repository of Values for registration.

(3) The local municipalities of several neighbouring settlements may also establish a Committee for the Regional Repository of Values, which shall compile the regional repository of values and shall forward its data to the relevant Committees for the County Repository of Values.

(4) For the purpose of identifying local and regional values, establishing and maintaining a local and regional repository of values and forwarding the data thereof to the competent Committee for County Repository of Values, a local municipality may appoint an institution, or an organisational unit thereof, operated by the state, local municipal, church or non-governmental organisation or a public foundation responsible for identifying and maintaining national values, or a third-party organisation operating in local development or rural development (hereinafter collectively referred to as “local organisations”).

(5) The local municipality in question shall inform the HB of creating the Committee for the Local or Regional Repository of Values and of assigning the same to fulfill the tasks referred to in Paragraph (4) within 30 days of the creation or appointment thereof.

4. County repository of values

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7 Established by Act CCL of 2013, Section 152. Effective as of 31 December 2013.
8 Established by Act LXXX of 2015, Section 4. Effective as of 03 July 2015.
9 Established by Act LXXX of 2015, Section 4. Effective as of 03 July 2015.
10 Established by Act LXXX of 2015, Section 4. Effective as of 03 July 2015.
Section 4. (1) A county municipality may set up a county repository of values.
(2) A county municipality may establish a Committee for the County Repository of Values, which shall – in accordance with the provisions of the legislation issued for the enforcement of this law – organise the identification of national values located in the area of the county, decides on the inclusion of national values in the county repository, create a county repository of values and send the same to the HB for registration.
(3) For the purpose of identifying county values, establishing and maintaining a county repository of values and forwarding the data thereof to the Hungarian Repository of Values, a county municipality may appoint an institution, or an organisational unit thereof, operated by the state, county municipal, church or non-governmental organisation or a public foundation responsible for identifying and maintaining national values (hereinafter collectively referred to as “county organisations”).
(4) The county municipality in question shall inform the HB of creating the Committee for the County Repository of Values and of assigning the same to fulfill the tasks referred to in Paragraph (4) within 30 days of the creation or appointment thereof.

5. Repository of values of Hungarians abroad

Section 5. (1) An organisation (or organisations) of Hungarians abroad participating in MÁÉRT may set up a nation segment repository of values of Hungarians abroad in relation to their respective countries. For each nation segment, the HB may only take into account the operation of one nation segment repository of values of Hungarians abroad.
(2) An organisation (or organisations) of Hungarians abroad participating in MÁÉRT may establish a Committee for the Nation Segment Repository of Values of Hungarians Abroad in relation to their respective countries which may organise the identification of national values located beyond the borders, decide on the inclusion of national values in the nation segment repository of values of Hungarians abroad, create a nation segment repository of values of Hungarians abroad and send the same to the HB for registration.
(3) Organisation participating in MÁÉRT shall inform the HB of establishing a Committee for Nation Segment Repository of Values of Hungarians Abroad.
(4) If no Committee for the Nation Segment Repository of Values of Hungarians Abroad has been set up in any of the nation segments, the HB may function as such.

Section 5/A. (1) A local municipality or legal entity (hereinafter: “organisation of Hungarians abroad”) supported by an organisation of Hungarians abroad participating in MÁÉRT may set up a local or regional repository of values of Hungarians abroad in relation to its own respective country. For each settlement and for each region, the HB may only take into account the operation of one local repository of values and one regional repository of values, respectively.
(2) An organisation of Hungarians abroad may establish Committees for Local and Regional Repositories of Values, respectively, which can identify and manage national values located in a given settlement or region and send data thereof to the HB or the relevant Committee for the Nation Segment Repository of Values Hungarians Abroad for registration.
(3) The relevant organisation of Hungarians may inform the HB and geographically competent Nation Segment Repository of Values of Hungarians Abroad of establishing a

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12 Established by Act LXXX of 2015, Section 5. Effective as of 03 July 2015.
14 Established by Act LXXX of 2015, Section 5. Effective as of 03 July 2015.
Local Repository of Values and a Regional Repository of Values.

6. Branch repository of values

Section 6.17 (1) The ministers responsible for the different branches shall determine the range of national values falling within their remit in their respective branches.

(2)18 A natural or legal person in charge of taking care of or maintaining national values may propose the inclusion of such national values falling within the remits of ministers in the branch repository of values.

(3) The ministers responsible for the different branches shall, in accordance with the provisions of the legislation issued for the enforcement of this law, forward a list containing the designations of national values included in the branch repository of values to the HB. If any new values are subsequently added to their respective branch repository of values, the data thereof shall be forwarded to the HB within 30 days of their entry into the repository of values.

7. Hungarian Repository of Values

Section 7.19 (1) Records of outstanding national values shall be kept in the Hungarian Repository Values.

(2) The Hungarian Repository of Values shall be established and operated by the HB.

Section 8.20 Recommendations for national values to be declared as outstanding national values and included in the Hungarian Repository of Values may be made by:

a) members of the HB;

b) Committees for the Local or Regional Repositories of Values, respectively, or local organisations;

c) Committees for the County Repository of Values or county organisations;

d) Committees for the Nation Segment Repository of Values of Hungarians Abroad;

e) the competent minister in charge of operating the branch repository of values;

f) a natural or legal person taking care of or maintaining national values registered in local, regional, county, nation segment of Hungarians abroad or branch repositories of values.

Section 9.21 The following may be included among outstanding national values and in the Hungarian Repository of Values, subject to special appraisal by the HB:

a) national values under European Union protection;

b) national values that have been awarded international recognition.

Section 10.22 Acting in accordance with the provisions of the legislation issued for the enforcement of this law and with its own statute, the HB shall – based on recommendations submitted to it in accordance with the provisions of the legislation issued for the enforcement of this law – decide on declaring the proposed national values as outstanding national values and on including the same in the Hungarian Repository of Values.

Section 11.23

PART 3

17 Established by Act CCL of 2013, Section 155. Effective as of 31 December 2013.

18 Established by Act LXXX of 2015, Section 8. Effective as of 03 July 2015.


8. Selection of hungarikums

Section 12. (1) Recommendations for outstanding national values recorded in the Hungarian Repository of Values to be declared as hungarikums may be made by:24
     a) members of the HB;
     b)25 Committees for the Local or Regional Repositories of Values, respectively, or local organisations;
     c)26 Committees for the County Repository of Values or county organisations;
     d)27 Committees for the Nation Segment Repository of Values of Hungarians Abroad;
     e)28 the competent minister in charge of operating the branch repository of values;
     f)29 a natural or legal person taking care of or maintaining outstanding national values registered in the Hungarian Repository of Values.

     (2)30 Values registered by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization as having outstanding universal value and fulfilling the requirements determined in Section 1 (1) b) may be declared as hungarikums subject to special appraisal by the HB.

     (3)31

Section 13. (1)32 Acting in accordance with the provisions of the legislation issued for the enforcement of this law and with its own constitution, the HB shall – based on recommendations submitted to it in accordance with the provisions of the legislation issued for the enforcement of this law – decide on the inclusion of the proposed outstanding national values in the Collection of Hungarikums. The HB shall publish the data of hungarikums entered in the Collection of Hungarikums on its own website.

     (2) With respect to the hungarikums, the Collection of Hungarikums shall record in particular the designation and location of the hungarikum, its brief and concise description, its special and unique attributes that distinguish it among the list of national values, any variants that may appear in other areas, as well as a list of bibliography available.

9. Committee for Hungarikums

Section 14. (1)33 When selecting the members of the HB, care must be taken to ensure that the highest level of professional expertise, wide-ranging experience, and the highest possible number of disciplines affected by the national values are represented.

     (2)34 The HB shall consist of:
     a) 4 members delegated by the National Assembly;
     b) 3 members delegated by organisations of Hungarians abroad participating in MÁÉRT;
     c) 1 member delegated by the minister in charge of nation policy;
     d) 1 member delegated by the minister in charge of justice,
     e) 1 member delegated by the minister in charge of local governments,
     f) 1 member jointly delegated by the ministers in charge of culture and education,

24 Amended by Act CCL of 2013, Section 162 b).
25 Established by Act LXXX of 2015, Section 10 (1). Effective as of 03 July 2015.
26 Established by Act LXXX of 2015, Section 10 (1). Effective as of 03 July 2015.
27 Established by Act LXXX of 2015, Section 10 (1). Effective as of 03 July 2015.
28 Established by Act LXXX of 2015, Section 10 (1). Effective as of 03 July 2015.
29 Established by Act LXXX of 2015, Section 10 (1). Effective as of 03 July 2015.
30 Established by Act LXXX of 2015, Section 10 (2). Effective as of 03 July 2015.
33 Established by Act LXXX of 2015, Section 12 (1). Effective as of 03 July 2015.
34 Established by Act LXXX of 2015, Section 12 (2). Effective as of 03 July 2015.
g) 1 member jointly delegated by the ministers in charge of agricultural policy and nature conservation,
h) 1 member delegated by the minister in charge of tourism,
i) 1 member jointly delegated by the ministers in charge of the use of EU funds and the protection of the cultural heritage,
j) 1 member jointly delegated by the ministers in charge of external economic relations and foreign policy,
k) 1 member delegated by the minister in charge of information technology,
l) 1 member delegated by the minister in charge of national defence,
m) 1 member delegated by the President of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences,
n) 1 member delegated by the President of the Hungarian Academy of Arts,
o) 1 member delegated by the President of the Hungarian Intellectual Property Office

(3) Any member may be recalled from their membership in the HB by the delegating person or organisation with no cause and new members may be delegated.

(3a) The National Assembly shall decide on delegating three members – including two from the Government side and one from the opposition side –, as proposed by the committee in charge of agricultural affairs, and on delegating an additional member, as proposed by the committee representing minorities.

(4) No persons may be members of the HB whose products created through intellectual or production activities qualify as national values or who are involved in commercial sale activities concerning any national values.

(5) The president of the HB shall be the minister in charge of agricultural policy.

Section 15. (1) The ministry headed by the minister in charge of agricultural policy shall perform the secretarial duties of the HB, whose secretary shall be appointed by the minister for an indefinite period.

(2) The President of the HB shall convene HB meetings as necessary but at least once a semester and, furthermore, it shall convene a meeting at the written request of at least two-thirds of the members.

Section 16. (1) The work of the HB shall be aided by HB Secretariat and professional expert committees for each branch.

(2) The expert committees of each branch shall be assisted, in particular, by the representatives of state administration organs, authorities, scientific bodies, educational institutions, economic and professional chambers and certain professional organisations of the respective field.

(3) Recommendations on the establishment of expert committees of each branch, as well as their members, shall be submitted to the President of the HB by the ministers of the respective domains with the involvement of the institutions or organisations concerned in delegation.

(4) A member may be recalled from his/her membership in the expert committee by the delegating minister acting within his/her own competence with no cause and a new member may be delegated.

(5) The rules of procedure of the HB and the expert committees of each branch shall be defined in their statute, which shall be passed through a vote of two-thirds of the HB members.

Section 17. (1) For the purpose of preservation, sustainability, wide-scale awareness and utilisation of national values and of outstanding national values, the HB shall, in particular:

a) compile the Hungarian Repository of Values;

35 Enacted by Act LXXX of 2015, Section 12 (3). Effective as of 03 July 2015.
36 Amended by Act XXXV of 2014, Section 96.
37 Amended by Act XXXV of 2014, Section 96.
39 Established by Act CCL of 2013, Section 159 (1). Effective as of 31 December 2013.
b) fulfill the task of the same, if no Committee for the County Repository of Values has been established in a given county or if no county organisation has been assigned by the county municipality to identify county values, establish and maintain the county repository of values and forward the data thereof to the Hungarian Repository of Values;

c) provide annually an account before the National Assembly on the state of identification and systemisation of national values and their sustainability and utilisation, as well as the operation of the HB;

d) operate a Hungarian and English language website presenting the Hungarian Repository of Values,

e) ensure that the Hungarian Repository of Values form an integral part of the national image strategy;

f) see to it that national values are widely presented to the general public;

g) publish tenders for the identification, preservation, maintenance, development, presentation and protection of outstanding national values, as well as the utilisation of products both domestically and in external economic relations and cultural diplomacy; and

h) review the contents of the Hungarian Repository of Values from the aspect of compliance with the provisions of this law.

(2) For the purpose of preservation, sustainability, wide-scale awareness and utilisation of the outstanding values represented by hungarikums, the HB shall, in particular:

a) review the contents of the Collection of Hungarikums from the aspect of compliance with the provisions of this law, if appropriate;

b) compile the Collection of Hungarikums;

c) evaluate the draft legislation concerning hungarikums;

d) publish the Collection of Hungarikums on its a website;

e) submit, through its President, a recommendation to the Government on the sustainability and utilisation of the hungarikums;

f) publish tenders for the identification, preservation, maintenance, development, presentation and protection of hungarikums, as well as the utilisation of products both domestically and in external economic relations and cultural diplomacy;

 g) see to it that hungarikums are widely presented to the general public; and

h) with respect to the hungarikums located beyond the national borders, be entitled to liaise through its President with the public bodies of the foreign state concerned;

i) operate a Hungarian and English language website presenting the Collection of Hungarikums.

10. Hungarikum certification mark

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40 Established by Act CCL of 2013, Section 159 (2). Effective as of 31 December 2013.
41 Established by Act LXXX of 2015, Section 14 (1). Effective as of 03 July 2015.
42 Established by Act LXXX of 2015, Section 14 (1). Effective as of 03 July 2015.
43 Established by Act LXXX of 2015, Section 14 (1). Effective as of 03 July 2015.
44 Established by Act LXXX of 2015, Section 14 (1). Effective as of 03 July 2015.
45 Established by Act LXXX of 2015, Section 14 (2). Effective as of 03 July 2015.
46 Established by Act LXXX of 2015, Section 14 (2). Effective as of 03 July 2015.
47 Established by Act LXXX of 2015, Section 14 (3). Effective as of 03 July 2015.
49 Established by Act LXXX of 2015, Section 14 (5). Effective as of 03 July 2015.
50 Established by Act LXXX of 2015, Section 14 (6). Effective as of 03 July 2015.
51 Established by Act LXXX of 2015, Section 14 (7). Effective as of 03 July 2015.
52 Established by Act LXXX of 2015, Section 14 (7). Effective as of 03 July 2015.
53 Established by Act LXXX of 2015, Section 14 (8). Effective as of 03 July 2015.
54 Established by Act CCL of 2013, Section 160. Effective as of 31 December 2013.
Section 18. The hungarikum certificate mark shall be a trademark serving to present the activities of the HB and to help raise awareness of, and enable the continuous maintenance of the quality standards and levels of, outstanding national values listed in the Collection of Hungarikums.

(2) Applications for the registration of hungarikum certification marks on a national level and the filing for community trademarks shall be made by the minister in charge of agricultural policy.

(3) Right of use of the hungarikum certification mark shall be granted by the trademark holder at the request of the natural or legal person taking care of or maintaining the given hungarikum.

(4) The minister in charge of agricultural policy shall be responsible for the market launch and promotion of the hungarikum certification mark.

11. The use of the term “hungarikum”

Section 18/A. Upon the HB’s approval, the term “hungarikum” may be used in the names of legal persons and commercial and catering facilities.

PART 4
CLOSING PROVISIONS

Section 19. The Government is hereby authorised to establish in a decree:

a) the categories of the national values with respect to each professional domain,

b) the range of data to be recorded concerning the national values and hungarikums, as well as the unified system of qualification, classification and registry of data;

c) the rules pertaining to the establishment and management of the local, regional and county repositories of values, as well as to the establishment and operation of Committees for the Local, Regional and County Repositories of Values and the branch repositories of values;

d) the basis of determining national values to be included in branch repositories of values falling within the remits of ministers in charge of particular branches;

e) the formal requirements of the request for classification as a national value, outstanding national value or hungarikum;

f) rules pertaining to the registry of the contents of national values, outstanding national values and hungarikums presented in a digital format and to ensuring public access to the same;

g) rules pertaining to the procedure of inclusion of national values in repositories of values; and

h) the detailed rules of the procedure of classification as an outstanding national value and hungarikum.

56 Enacted by Act LXX of 2015, Section 15 (1). Effective as of 03 July 2015.
57 Amended by Act XXXV of 2014, Section 96.
58 Enacted by Act LXX of 2015, Section 15 (2). Effective as of 03 July 2015.
59 Amended by Act XXXV of 2014, Section 96.
62 See Government Decree 114/2013 (16 April)
63 Enacted by Act LXX of 2015, Section 17 (1). Effective as of 03 July 2015.
64 Established by Act CCL of 2013, Section 161. Effective as of 31 December 2013.
65 Enacted by Act LXX of 2015, Section 17 (2). Effective as of 03 July 2015.
Section 20. This law shall enter into effect on the first day of the third month following its promulgation.

Section 21. (1) The HB shall be established within no more than 90 days of the entry into effect of this law.

(2) The Collection of Hungarikums shall, for the first time, be published within one year of the entry into effect of this law.

Section 22. (1) Upon entry into effect of Act LXXX of 2015 on the amendment of Act XXX of 2012 on Hungarian national values and hungarikums (hereinafter: “Amendment Act”), the person or organisation obtaining the right of delegation to the HB shall designate a member within 30 days following the entry into effect of the Amendment Act.

(2) The national values included by virtue of law in the Hungarian Repository of Values and the Collection of Hungarikums prior to entry into effect of the Amendment Act shall continue to belong to the Hungarian Repository of Values and the Collection of Hungarikums.

(3) The national values included in the repository of values of Hungarians abroad prior to entry into effect of the Amendment Act shall, following the entry into effect of the Amendment Act, belong to the nation segment repository of values of Hungarians abroad according to the location of the given national value.

\footnote{Enacted by Act LXXX of 2015, Section 18. Effective as of 03 July 2015.}