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Viktor Orbán Prime Minister of Hungary receives highest FINA Award

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Viktor Orbán Prime Minister received FINA Order, the highest award of the International Swimming Federation (FINA) from FINA President Julio Cesar Maglione in the Parliament on Monday.

This award is granted to those individuals, including heads of states, ministers, high-level leaders, heads of states hosting the FINA World Championships, heads of companies and networks, persons of high dignity and FINA sponsors who represent the federation's objectives, policies in favour of sport and morality.

When awarding the Prime Minister Maglione said "As I have told the journalists already, the World Championships hosted by Hungary are also to your credit personally, concerning the fact that you arranged for providing all that was necessary for Hungary to organise the entire event in only two years. Your country is beautiful, this city is awesome, people are nice and they manage to solve just about anything. You represent these people and you are a friend to us."

Upon receiving the award and expressing his gratitude Viktor Orbán told he was aware this highly prestigious award was granted to the Hungarian nation and he was honoured to receive it on behalf of Hungarians especially because the world record of organising the World Championships in two years was achieved by a nation rather than the Government of Hungary.

"It helps if a nation has a good government, it helps if a nation's government is dedicated to sport yet this achievement is the result of combined efforts by the entire country. Preparations for the World Championships were commenced by passing a dedicated bill with the support of all political parties in the Parliament. It implies that everyone, all members of the entire population, national community supported and favoured embarking on a great adventure and organising the event in such a short period" - the Prime Minister told.

He added: sport is one of the keys in the modern world. "Being a father I can tell you it is impossible for mothers and fathers to bring up their children appropriately and ensure their competitiveness in the future. You all, as leading officials of one of the major sports

federations worldwide contribute to the proper upbringing of children in families across the world. Your activity therefore is an integral part of our lives. Hungarians are highly family-oriented and we are grateful for your work to provide for the operation of this important organisation. Thank you for this award, I strive to deserve it. I need to continue working hard to do so it in the future, as well, but I promise to do my best to make sure it is well-deserved" - said Viktor Orbán.