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Budapest to host Genfest 2012 youth festival

By: [All Hungary News](#)

2012-06-20 09:53

Twelve thousand young people from around the world will meet in Budapest between Aug. 31 and Sept. 2 at the 10th Genfest international youth festival, the first time the event takes place in a central and eastern European country.

Organised by the Focolare Movement, a mainly Catholic international organisation founded in 1943 in Trento, northern Italy, to promote unity and universal brotherhood, it aims to promote unity between peoples, cultures and different layers of society, as well as between the generations, families, Christians of various denominations and the faithful of other religions.

The three-day event carrying the motto "Let's Bridge" will be sponsored by the European Union and its chief patron is Cardinal Peter Erdő, Archbishop of Esztergom-Budapest, the event's organiser Agoston Gobel told a press conference in Budapest on Tuesday.

The two other patrons will be Reformed Bishop József Steinbach, president of the Ecumenical Council of Churches in Hungary, and Budapest Mayor István Tarlós.

Young people aged 17 to 30 will flock to Hungary's capital from 75 countries, including China, Jordan and Vietnam. Many Buddhists, Muslims and Hindus are also expected to turn up.

Participants will propose that the United Nations should set up a body to monitor global events from the aspect of universal fraternity.



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