



Also known as **the Parliament of Budapest** for being located in that city, is the seat of the National Assembly of Hungary. It lies in Lajos Kossuth Square, on the bank of the Danube.

History

The building was planned to face the river. Construction was started in 1885 completed in 1904.

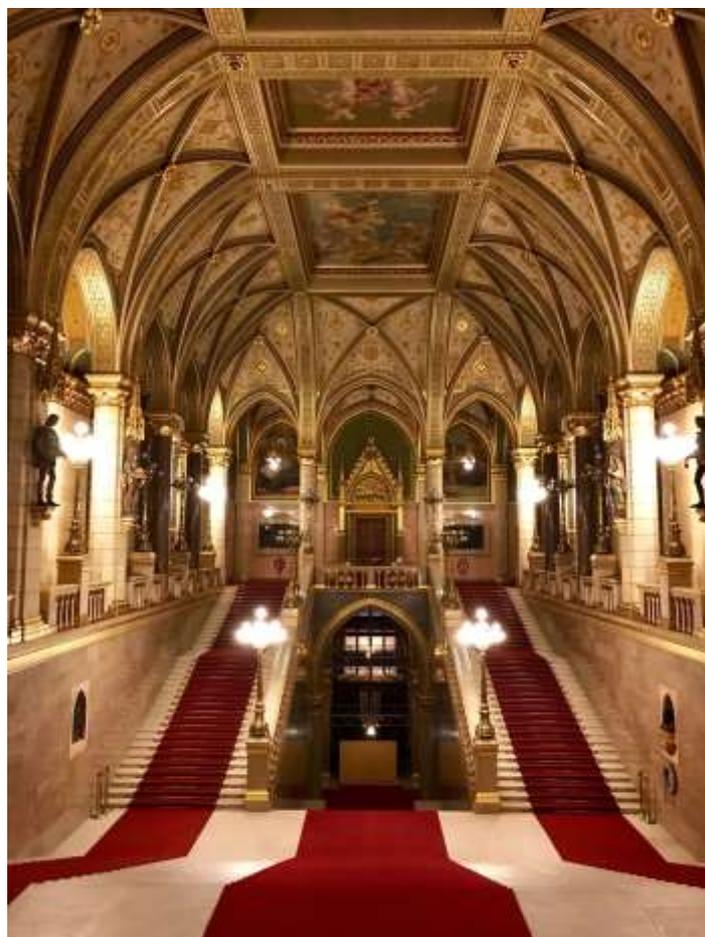
About 100,000 people were involved in construction, during which 40 million bricks, half a million precious stones and 40 kilograms of gold were used. Mátyás Szűrös declared the Hungarian Republic from the balcony facing Kossuth Lajos Square on 23 October 1989.

Features

The Parliament Building is in the Gothic Revival style. It has a symmetrical façade and a central dome. The dome is Renaissance Revival architecture. Also from inside the parliament is symmetrical and thus has two absolutely identical parliament halls out of which one is used for the politics, the other one is used for guided tours. It is 268 m long and 123 m wide.



Inside and outside, there are altogether 242 sculptures on the walls.



The façade displays statues of Hungarian rulers, Transylvanian leaders and famous military figures. The coats of arms of kings and dukes are depicted over the windows. The east stairs is flanked by two lions.

When entering the Parliament, visitors can walk up great ornamental stairs, see frescoes on the ceiling and pass by the bust of the creator, Imre Steindl, in a wall niche. Other statues include those of Árpád, Stephen I and John Hunyadi.

The **Holy Crown of Hungary**, which is also depicted in the coat of arms of Hungary, has been displayed in the central hall since 2000.



Further features include the stained glass and glass mosaics by Miksa Róth.

Due to its extensive surface and its detailed handiwork, the building is almost always under renovation.

Accessibility and neighbourhood

At the east front of the building is a memorial to the 1956 Hungarian Revolution, as well as the imposing Kossuth Memorial and the equestrian statue of Francis II Rákóczi.

