**Search for Twinning**

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| Municipality: | **BÁTONYTERENYE** |
| Location and geographical characteristics: | Bátonyterenye is located in the Northern part of Hungary in North Hungarian Region, in Nograd County 100 km from the Hungarian capital Budapest and 22 km to the Slovakian borderline. It lies at the foot of Mátra, the highest mountain in our country surrounded by many natural beauties. |
| Population: | 13.292 inhabitants based on statistics in January 2012. |
| Significant characteristics of the municipality: | Holds town rank since 1989, consists of 4 villages, centre of the micro-region, its development thanks to coal-mining, coal-mining heritages, Palóc folk traditions and religious heritage carefully preserved by locals, cultural institutions and civil organisations, our town and its surroundings are real paradise for lovers of nature |
| Principal economic activities in the municipality: | Investment promotion, economic recovery, creating jobs, tourism development, providing social services (welfare, health, social assistance), local development, local public transport, maintenance of roads, public areas, cemeteries, sewage, water, local cultural infrastruction |
| Educational facilities: | 5 nurseries, 3 primary schools, a grammar school, a technical school, a music and art school. At schools our students study English or German as foreign languages. We can use them as common languages or we can provide an interpreter speaking Czech language |
| Leisure facilities and activities: | Indoor and outdoor sport facilities: trekking, running, swimming pool facilities, sport centres with judo, squash, aerobics, zumba, winter sports: skating, sledging and skiing (Hungary’s highest peak Kékestető is only 55 km from our town)  Maconka reservoir: worldwide famous and one of the most beautiful lakes in Hungary for angling with international championships |
| Cultural events and facilities: | Programmes and cultural events are organized by cultural institutions, schools or civil organizations for 0-99 throughout the years. Our main festivals: festivals at labor’s day, children’s day (both in May), Castle and Music in the Forest Festival in July, miners’ day, harvest festival (both in September) advent celebrations in December |
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| Fields of Twinning Cooperation you prefer : | One of our major goals refers to establishing regional cooperation between countries of European Union and Visegrad Group through the realization common projects. We wish to accomplish a lot of projects, share expriences, ideas and practice in different fields such as:   * local governmental work, experiences of self-governmental institutions, public services * among enterpreneurs, local economic developement * environment protection, sustainable developement, use of green energy * among youth, schools, education with international youth exchange, civil organizations, language skills improvement * on the fields of culture, art, heritage, traditions, sport, leisure and tourism   To reach these goals we would like to acquire subsidies from European Comission and International Visegrad Fund, and the latter one prefers the projects that incorporates all the countries of Visegrad Group as coorganizer. |
| Preferred countries you are looking partner town in: | Czech Republic, Ukraine, Serbia – Vojvodina, |
| Twinnings already established in your municipality: | Our twin towns: Filakovo (Slovakia), Kobylnica (Poland Pomeranian Province near the Baltic Sea) Szászrégen – Reghin (Romania – Transylvania)  Existing partnership between secondary schools: Italy, Germany |
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| Contact person: | For preparing cooperation: **Violetta Mátyus-Lengyel**  (For official initiation: József Nagy-Majdon Mayor of Bátonyterenye) |
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