National Tax and Customs Administration

PRESS RELEASE

Budapest, 6 March 2026

The National Tax and Customs Administration is conducting criminal proceedings on suspicion of money laundering

The National Tax and Customs Administration (NTCA) is conducting criminal proceedings on suspicion of money laundering. On 5 March 2026, seven Ukrainian citizens - including a former Ukrainian intelligence service general - and two armoured cash-transport vehicles were detained. The vehicles had been transporting a total of 40 million US dollars, 35 million euros, and 9 kilograms of gold from Austria, with Ukraine as the intended destination. This year alone, more than 900 million US dollars, 420 million euros, and 146 kilograms of gold bars have been transported through the territory of Hungary to Ukraine. The NTCA is conducting the investigation in compliance with the law on criminal procedure, with the cooperation of the Counter Terrorism Centre. At the commencement of the procedure, the National Tax and Customs Administration immediately notified the Ukrainian consular service; however, no response has been received from the consular service to this moment. A former Ukrainian intelligence service general was responsible for overseeing the transport operation.

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