



Prime Minister (2)  
 You may like to see  
 this before your meeting  
 with Kadar next week.

KÁDÁR'S HUNGARY: OR 29 YEARS IS A LONG TIME IN POLITICS

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Summary

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1. Kádár visits London as undisputed master of Hungary, having lived down a justified reputation for murder and treachery both before and after the 1956 uprising. (paras 1-3)
2. Although a dedicated communist, Kádár has never allowed ideology to obscure reality. He has tried to create a consensus in Hungary and has returned the country to something approaching normality. (paras 4-9)
3. Kádár's brand of pragmatic national communism begins with economic reform. The aim is to make the Hungarian economy work according to the realities of economic life, not dogma. The effects are beginning to spill over into political life. Kádár's high standing with the Hungarian people results from the limited success of this policy. (paras 10-14)
4. But Kádár's achievement may not be durable. Hungary is not as stable as it looks. The widening gap between Leninist theory and Hungarian practice is creating contradictions and tensions. Stability based on hypocrisy may not outlive Kádár. The West has a chance to influence developments. (paras 15-18)