

## **Investigation closed**

The Budapest Metropolitan Police has closed the investigation initiated in the case of the Danube cruise accident.

As we reported earlier the Police was noted that a cruise fell off on the Danube on the 29<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at 09:15 p.m. near the Kossuth Square. The police officers of the Budapest Metropolitan Police, the officers of the Disaster Management and the staff of the ambulance started immediately the rescue procedure and the needed measures on the premises. After the accident 7 persons were saved by the rescue teams from the Danube and the search continued for the 21 missing persons.

In order to clarify the circumstances of the incident the Budapest Metropolitan Police ordered an investigation with the help of experts, based on endangerment of water transport system that resulted in a fatal mass catastrophe. Based on the evidence obtained, the investigators heard the Ukrainian captain of the cruise as suspect and took him into custody, then made a motion to arrest him. Later the pre-trial detention of the captain was ordered by the court.

Based on the expert opinions and the recent evidence obtained during the investigation the captain was heard again as suspect on the 29<sup>th</sup> July 2019 due to the well-founded suspicion of failure to offer aid or assistance and he was taken into custody again. Then the investigating authority made a motion to arrest him, which was ordered by the court, on the prosecutor's proposal.

The investigation by the Budapest Metropolitan Police was closed on the 10<sup>th</sup> October 2019, the documents were forwarded to the Budapest VI. and VII. district Prosecutor's Office.

The Budapest Metropolitan Police investigates separate from the closed case, in another criminal proceeding, whether the staff of the Viking Idun is liable for failing to offer aid or assistance.