

## **CAPTAIN OF THE CRUISE SHIP IN CUSTODY**

### **Investigators of the Budapest Police Headquarters interrogated the Ukrainian captain of the hotel ship as a suspect**

A passenger boat and a hotel ship collided in Budapest, on the Danube section at the Margit Bridge, at 21:05 on 29 May 2019 and the passenger boat sunk dramatically fast. According to the passenger list available to the authorities, altogether 35 persons were on board of the passenger boat: 2 Hungarian citizens (being the crew of the boat) and 33 South Korean citizens. Following the accident, 7 persons were rescued from the river and 7 persons were found dead by the rescue forces, all being citizens of the Republic of Korea.

In order to examine the circumstances of the accident, the Budapest Police Headquarters ordered an investigation to involve judicial nautical shipping experts. The investigators carried out scene investigation and seized material evidence. Based on personal and material evidence gathered in the course of the investigation, a reasonable personal suspicion arises therefore the Ukrainian captain of the hotel ship was interrogated by the investigators as suspect of having committed the crime of endangering water traffic causing a fatal mass disaster. Following his interrogation, Yuriy C. (64) of Odessa was taken into custody and a suggestion was made to initiate his pre-trial detention.

The professionals participating in the search continuously do their best to locate all missing persons in the river flowing at a speed of 9-11 km/h and at the foreshore of the whole Hungarian section of the Danube south to the Chain Bridge.