**Name:**

István Jakab

**Position:**

Vice president of the Parliament of Hungary, president of *MAGOSZ* [National Federation of Hungarian Peasants Association and Cooperatives]

Agricultural engineer, politician and MP István Jakab was born on September 17, 1949, in *Hajdúbagos*. He graduated from high school in Debrecen and then earned his degree in Animal Husbandry Engineering in 1972 at *Szegedi Élelmiszeripari Főiskola Állattenyésztési Kar* [Faculty of Livestock Engineering of Food Science College, Szeged].

He has acquired professional experience as an expert of *Hajdú-Bihar Megyei Takarmányozási és Állattenyésztési Felügyelőség* [*Hajdú-Bihar* County Supervisory Board of Livestock Feed and Animal Husbandry], a chief branch head of animal breeding in his home village, as deputy director for breeding of *ISV Rt.* and as the president of the board of *Csákvár Rt*.
Following the change of the political regime in Hungary, he also benefitted from his knowledge and expertise acquired in the field of production as a representative association leader and as a member of public administration. As of 1991, he has acted as the vice president of the largest representative organization of Hungarian farmers, *Magyar Gazdakörök és Gazdaszövetkezetek Szövetségnek (MAGOSZ)* and as co-president of the same since 1994. From 1999 to the present, he has been the president of *MAGOSZ*, while he also served the interests of agriculture between 1994 and 2001 as the vice president of *Magyar Agrárkamara* [Hungarian Chamber of Agriculture]. His life has been devoted to supporting the farmers and people in the provinces as well as the cooperation of agricultural entrepreneurs within and outside the borders of Hungary. He is currently active in several organizations at home and abroad, maintaining connections with the heads of European farming associations. His top-priority field of interest and research is the application of 21st-century technologies in agriculture. He played an important part in building new foundations for the operation of the Hungarian Chamber of Agriculture.

Since 2006, he has worked in a number of legislative bodies, including the National Assembly of Hungary, where he has been a party whip, the vice chair of the committee on agriculture, the chair of the committee on forestry and a member of the *Törvényalkotási Bizottság* [Committee on Legislation]. Currently, he is also a member of *Nemzeti Összetartozás Bizottság* [Committee on National Cohesion]. For three terms, he has been the deputy speaker of the National Assembly of Hungary (Parliament). Since 2014, he has acted as an honorary associate professor of *Szent István Egyetem* [*Szent István* University]. From 2015 on, he has served as the chair of *Nemzeti Agrártanácsadási Bizottság* [National Agricultural Advisory Committee] and he has also been the founding president of *Afrika Üzleti Tanulmányok Közép-Európai Tudásközpont* [Central European Knowledge Center for Africa Business Studies], established in August 2019. He is also responsible for directing the program named *Magyarok Kenyere* [Bread of Hungarians].
Since 2021, he has been a member of the supervisory board of *Jövő Nemzedék Földje Alapítvány* [Land of the Next Generation Foundation].
**Awards:**
- Golden Cross of Merit of the Republic of Hungary (civil grade), 2000
- *Béla Kovács* Award, 2001
- Pro Universitate Debreceniensi, 2019
- *Magyarország Digitális Agrárgazdaság Fejlesztéséért Díj* [Award for the Development of the Digital Agricultural Sector in Hungary], 2021
- *Pál Rimler* Award, 2021 (forestry)
István Jakab is married and has three children.