

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **The winners of the Startupper of The Year and the Startup Investor of The Year Awards have been announced**

At New Year's Eve, for the very first time, the awards of the Best Startupper of The Year and the Startup Investor of The Year was created by leading startup ecosystem service providers such as the [Founder Institute](#), [Startup Hungary](#), [Startup Campus](#), [Startup Maffia](#), [Rocket Shepherd](#), [Tokeportal.hu](#). The winners were announced at the special edition of Tokeportal.hu's series of online pitches, at the [Startups' New Years' Eve](#) onboard of the fantastic Trip Ship right across the spectacular Hungarian Parliament.

The Best Investor of The Year honour was awarded to [Peter Balogh](#), aka Petya, whom we all know well from the popular tv show [Cápák közt](#) (like Shark Tank or the British version Dragons' Den). Peter was one of the investors Nav'n Go, and after exiting successfully, he became an angel with his [Baconsult Kft](#), which is known to have invested in 30 startups already and spent more than a thousand hours of mentoring services and contributed to approximately 850 million HUF worth of investment in those 30 startups. As startups are considered to be very agile, innovate and scalable, Peter said on the 29th of December that 2020 was the year of the startups, that implemented digitalisation successfully both in their operation and in their business model. The elemental need for digitalisation was the perfect opportunity for startups to scale their operation. But of course, it was indeed an unforeseen risk for investors as well. 2021 shall bring even more changes, he said, and it will turn out which startups can keep on growing and maturing.

The Startupper of The Year was awarded to [Gergely Romhányi](#), who has been shaping the Hungarian startup ecosystem for a long time now. His business, [Trustchain](#) was founded in 2016 with the purpose of ensuring and providing legal safety in the digital world. Gergely shares Peter's views, and unites in the perspective, that 2020 not only was the year of startups and but it was the year of changes and the survival of startups based on the ability how quickly they are able implement and incorporate the new changes into their strategies. 2020 presented numerous unexpected circumstances within the economy, to which business were forced to react agilely and carefully, in some cases even with a complete change in their overall business strategy. For Trustchain 2020 was definitely a year of success, as they extended their client base to 2500 both international and local partners. The contracts that were signed through Trustchain was 300 in February, however by the end of the year, this number reached 11000. Their clients include the Hungarian investment funds and businesses specialised in clinical research. Gergely shared, that he is particularly proud of the increase in their cliental and in the number of transactions made

through their platform. Trustchain helped 100 startups improve and incorporate a new business models Gergely outlined that Trustchain's customer service department had a vital role in Trustchain's success, as their professional competence, skills and overall customer- oriented view resulted in the utmost satisfaction of their clientele.

Besides of winning the famous [Tokeportal INVEST T-shirt](#), both Winners will be preserved in eternity: the NASA Award winner Puli Space Technologies will engrave their names and messages on the Space Plaquette to be delivered to the Moon in cooperation with [Astobotics](#), USA, in 2021. For further info on Puli's campaign, please visit and donate @ <https://tokeportal.hu/puli>.



## Tokeportal.hu

The purpose of crowdfunding is to enhance small and medium enterprises raise capital and increase the participation of the local society in investing. In order to complete our vision, our mission is to build a well functioning startup ecosystem. Taking the advantage of the new Regulation of European Crowdfunding Service Providers, Tokeportal, as the first equity crowd funding service provider in Hungary aims at reaching a growth that is measurable at a European level as well.

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