

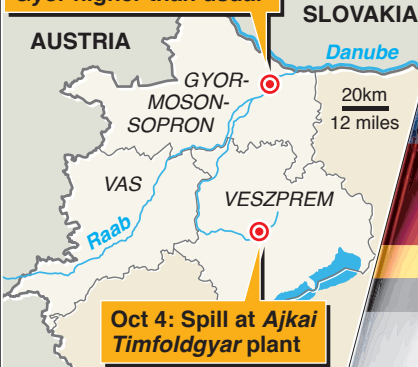
# Hungary's toxic mud spill reaches Danube

A toxic red sludge spill from a metals plant reservoir in western Hungary has reached a branch of the Danube, according to the country's disaster agency, threatening contamination along Europe's second longest river

— River Danube — Main tributaries — Danube basin



**Oct 7: Alkaline levels at Győr higher than usual**



**Oct 4: Spill at Ajkai Timföldgyár plant**

## COMPOSITION OF SLUDGE

Strong alkali, causes burns to skin and is poisonous if ingested

**40-45%:** Iron oxide, which gives mud its characteristic red colour

**10-15%:** Aluminium oxide

**10-15%:** Silicon oxide

**Remainder:** Small amounts of other metal oxides

