



KAUNO TECHNOLOGIJOS UNIVERSITETAS
KAUNAS UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

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His Excellency, Dr. Janos Ader, President of the Republic of
Hungary
Office of the President of the Republic of Hungary
1536 Budapest, Pf. 227
Hungary

06/04/2017

Copy to:
Central European University

Dear HE President Ader,

We, the undersigned representatives of the governing bodies of Kaunas University of Technology, would like to declare our support and solidarity with Central European University and express our deep concern regarding Bill T/14686 amending Act CCIV of 2011 on national higher education accepted by the Hungarian Parliament on April 4, 2017. These changes not only endanger and complicate CEU's continued operation in Budapest but also strike a blow against the academic freedom, unrestricted and open intellectual exchange that enables all universities to flourish.

In twenty-five years, CEU has established its global reputation as one of the most important higher education institutions not only in Hungary, but also in the European higher education system. With students and faculty members from more than 100 countries, this university has become a distinctive international academic and intellectual hub for teaching and research, making a valuable contribution to the development of new knowledge in a wide variety of fields. Its international, interdisciplinary activity has helped create a wide network of partnership and cooperation, Kaunas University of Technology being one among many partners of CEU.

CEU is a valued member of the international academic community and its presence have greatly enriched the intellectual and cultural life in Hungary and Europe. We strongly believe that the government's adopted legislation to alter its statute of operation in Hungary would compromise its academic freedom and set a dangerous precedent for academic life in other countries.

We respectfully urge you to act on your Presidential prerogative and send the Bill to the Constitutional Court of Hungary where all possible concerns regarding its legality and

constitutionality can be appropriately reviewed to protect the proud tradition of Hungarian academic life and preserve its autonomy and freedom.

Yours sincerely,

Rector

Petras Baršauskas

Head of the Senate

Rytis Krušinskas

President of Students' Representation

Lukas Kijauskas