

I write on behalf of University College, one of the oldest colleges in the ancient University of Oxford, to express our deep concern about the recent legislative action taken by the Government of Hungary which is evidently designed to close down the CEU.

The CEU is internationally recognised as an outstanding centre for independent and rigorous scholarship and research in the humanities and social sciences. It is a beacon of free thought, a plurality of intellectual traditions and the creation of new knowledge and ideas, an adornment, not a threat, to Hungary's standing as a democratic nation that has emerged from the shadow of fascist and Communist suppression.

Acts of politically-motivated suppression not only destroy the university in question but do immense damage to the standing of the country's university system as a whole, isolating it from the global network of free and independent academic institutions. I urge the government of Hungary to think again.

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