



College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
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April 3, 2017

Michael Ignatieff, Ph.D.
President and Rector
Central European University
Budapest, Hungary

Dr. Ignatieff,

I am writing to extend our support for you, your faculty, and your university as you confront the efforts of the Hungarian government to pass a higher education act that threatens its future.

The Bob Graham Center for Public Service at the University of Florida has a past student who is studying at your university. He is pursuing a master's in public administration. With the guidance of your faculty the students is receiving a superb education.

Along with many of our colleagues, we are deeply concerned about the proposed legislation, which would not allow Central European University to continue to operate. Students like Corrado would not be able to complete their studies at the university, and the academic world would lose a respected institutional partner.

Princeton University President Christopher L. Eisgruber, Ph.D., wrote recently, "The Central European University has rapidly established itself as one of the world's important centers for scholarship and learning." We share President Eisgruber's views and hope that the university, its faculty and its students are able to continue their academic work.

The Bob Graham Center for Public Service at the University of Florida stands with you at this precarious time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David R. Colburn', with a stylized, flowing script.

Dr. David R. Colburn
Director, The Bob Graham Center for Public Policy