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Dear President Ignatieff, dear colleague,

The German Rectors' Conference closely watches the changes within the Law on Higher Education in Hungary in general and their impact on the Central European University in particular. We are deeply concerned about the fact that this legal act could lead to the closure of the operation of Central European University, a globally recognized academic institution which has been operating successfully in Hungary for more than 25 years.

In our opinion, this action is more than the discrimination of a single institution – it is an attack on academic freedom. The German Rectors' Conference and its member institutions are determined to defend the values of free research and teaching and learning within the European Union and beyond.

Be assured of our solidarity and support of all your efforts to keep the Central European University a free and autonomous institution and a member of the Hungarian and European academic community.

Yours sincerely


Professor Dr Horst Hippler