

Dear HE President Ader:

The New York University Chapter of the American Association of University Professors, an organization dedicated to upholding standards of academic freedom in universities world-wide, is writing to express solidarity with Central European University and express concern regarding Bill T/14686. This Bill amends the Hungarian Higher Education Act and was passed by the Hungarian Parliament on April 4, 2017. The Bill endangers the academic freedom that enables all universities in Hungary and elsewhere to flourish and it renders CEU's continued operations in Budapest virtually impossible. Over the past 25 years the CEU has built an international reputation for teaching and research in the social sciences and humanities and makes an important contribution to Hungarian academic life.

Because Bill T/14686 limits the right to education and freedom of research and academic life, because it targets foreign education institutions, and because it was adopted in an exceptional procedure and without consultation with the affected parties, the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, and the Hungarian Rectors' Conference, as entitled under law, we respectfully urge you to refrain from signing the Bill and to refer it to the Constitutional Court of Hungary.

Sincerely,

The Executive Board of the New York University Chapter of the American Association of University Professors

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