

His Excellency
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Lucerne, 13. April 2017 / erm

RE: Recent changes to Hungary's National Higher Education Act

Dear Ambassador Mr. Nagy

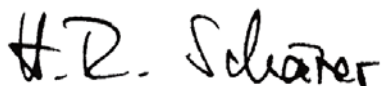
As the rector of the Pädagogische Hochschule Luzern (University of Teacher Education Lucerne), Switzerland, I would like to join the appeal voiced by the European University Association (EUA), the network Scholars at Risk (SAR), and many other institutions and individuals in support of academic freedom in Hungary. Our institution shares the concern that recent changes to Hungarian laws will affect the functioning and most likely even the existence of Central European University (CEU) in Budapest, one of Hungary's fine universities.

Pädagogische Hochschule Luzern is an institution tasked with training and preparing future teachers. As such we are convinced that academic freedom, as well as the independent generation and the transmission of knowledge, are fundamental cornerstones of modern and democratic societies.

We strongly hope that the Government of Hungary will critically assess the country's current National Higher Education laws and eliminate all aspects that could have dilatory effects on academic freedom and academic activities in Hungary in general, and particularly in respect to the world-renown CEU.

Thank you very much for conveying this appeal to all relevant branches of your government.

Yours sincerely,



Prof. Dr. Hans-Rudolf Schärer
Rector

CC:

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