



April 30th, 2017

To:

Zoltán Balog, Minister of Human Capacities, Ministry of Human Capacities, Hungary  
László Palkovics, Minister of State for Education, Ministry of Human Capacities, Hungary

Cc:

Frans Timmermans, European Commission, Vice President

Dear Minister Balog and Minister Palkovics,

I am writing, on behalf of the European Human Behaviour and Evolution Association (EHBEA), to express my dismay at the recently passed legislation that effectively prohibits Central European University (CEU) from continuing its operations in Budapest.

As a continent-wide body of scientists, we would like to stress that our colleagues at CEU who are members of EHBEA are among the most respected in the world. They have had and are continuing to have a global impact on all of the disciplines in which we work. Indeed, CEU is one of the most important institutions in our community. Any European city would consider itself lucky to host an institution of this quality.

I am puzzled by these actions, as CEU has broken no laws. The legislation appears punitive, and gives the impression of a political intervention attacking the academic freedom of one institution. We therefore urge you to work towards achieving a secure future for CEU in Budapest.

Yours truly

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Ruth Mace'.

Ruth Mace  
President, EHBEA