



19 May 2017

Re: LETTER OF SOLIDARITY

To the President, faculty and staff, student body, and the Board of Directors of Central European University:

We here at Bratislava International School of Liberal Arts (BISLA) in Slovakia would like to express our solidarity with and full support for Central European University in the light of the current challenges it is facing as posed by the new amendments to the Higher Education Law passed in in Hungary April 2017 by the government of Prime Minister Viktor Orban.

Since one of BISLA's aims is to advance liberal arts education, we perceive the case of Central European University as an important one, signaling the need to firmly and wholeheartedly stand up for the values – democracy, academic freedom, freedom of speech and human rights – in which liberal arts education is grounded. The liberal arts are predominantly concerned with liberty, since the pursuit of them makes one not only free in thinking but also free to demonstrate the best of humanity. For this reason, the institutional attack on CEU is not only an attack on the University as such but also on all the values in which liberal arts education believes and endeavors to emphasize.

BISLA thus officially acknowledges Central European University and it is full legal and moral right to operate in Budapest, Hungary. At the same time, BISLA would like to offer CEU further cooperation and any support we might be able to provide. You are always welcome at BISLA.

Kind Regards,

Barbara Kelemenova and Linda M. Steyne, PhD

On behalf of the student body, and the faculty and staff of BISLA

**Správna rada**  
**Board of Directors**

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(Predseda/Chairperson)

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