



Mr. Viktor Orban,
Prime Minister of Hungary
Office of the Prime Minister
1357 Budapest, Pf. 6.
Hungary

Copenhagen, May 30, 2017

Dear Prime Minister Orban,

As members of the Royal Danish Academy of Science and Letters, we are writing to express our solidarity with Central European University (CEU) and express concern at the recent legislative changes to higher education law in Hungary, which are very restrictive to CEU. These changes threaten the academic freedom, which is vital for CEU's continued operation in Budapest and would strongly limit working conditions for all employees at the CEU.

CEU is a valued member of the international academic community, and its presence in Hungary has added to the reputation of Hungarian academic life on the international stage. The mentioned legislation has altered its statute of operation in Hungary, and this would set a worrisome precedence for the working conditions at universities in other countries.

On behalf of the Royal Danish Academy of Science and Letters we urge the government to withdraw the legislation and enter into consultations with the CEU. We fear that the legislation endangers the well-established relations between Hungarian universities and a long list of other academic institutions in Europe.

Yours sincerely,

Mogens Høgh Jensen
President

Lars Arge
Secretary General

CC: Mr. László Lovász, President of the Hungarian Academy of Science.
Prof. Michael Ignatieff, President of CEU.