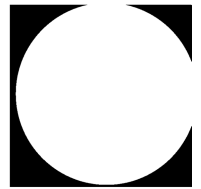


D**V****P****W**

- Der Vorsitzende -

DVPW c/o Universität Osnabrück FB 1 D-49069 Osnabrück

Mr. Zoltán Balog
 Minister of Human Capacities
 1054 Budapest, Akadémia utca 3.
 Hungary

Osnabrück, April 3, 2017

Dear Minister Balog,

Three days ago, the German Political Science Association (DVPW) became aware of the legislative changes in your country that would affect the status of the Central European University in Hungary and that might have negative consequences for all Hungarian international universities. The DVPW is profoundly concerned about these developments because the proposed legislative changes might undermine academic freedom, research, and exchange.

Over the past years, the Central European University has established itself as an international university with a global reputation for teaching and research in the social sciences and humanities. It attracts students and faculty members from all over the world, but especially students from Eastern European countries. With its internationally recognised double degree, CEU has provided students with job opportunities all over the world. In international rankings, some of CEU's departments are rated among the top 50 in the world. CEU also makes Hungary a regional leader in winning highly competitive European Research Council grants. Moreover, 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 international level.

We respectfully urge the government of Hungary to withdraw the proposed legislation and enter consultations with CEU for whatever administrative issues there may be, and to guarantee the academic freedom that allows the CEU to pursue its work in Hungary.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Dr. Ferdinand Müller-Rommel
 (President of the German Political Science Association)

**Deutsche Vereinigung für
 Politikwissenschaft**

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