

Máster Oficial Erasmus Mundus en Estudios de las Mujeres y de Género
Erasmus Mundus Master's Degree in Women's and Gender Studies

Mr. Zoltán Balog
Minister of Human Capacities
1054 Budapest, Akadémia utca 3.
Hungary
April 3, 2017

Dear Minister Balog,

I am writing to you in the capacity of the main coordinator of the GEMMA consortium which includes seven European universities (University of Granada, University of Oviedo, Bologna University, University of Hull, Utrecht University, University of Lodz and CEU), and several academic partners in the so called 'third countries', South and North America in the first place.

All members of GEMMA consortium are deeply concerned with the proposed legislative changes to CEU's status in Hungary which threatens to discontinue its operation in the country.

CEU is an important member of European academic community whose contribution to social sciences and humanities is well known and recognized in academic circles. Our joined projects in the field of gender studies benefit strongly from academic strength of CEU's Department of Gender Studies as well as the strength of the whole university.

We are addressing you with this letter not only because we are concerned with a possibility that unobstructed operation of CEU might be in danger, thus affecting the whole GEMMA consortium, but also because this whole case is obviously threatening the basic principles of academic freedom, which are crucial for all of us.

For GEMMA consortium, which has built a recognized European master's degree, CEU is a Hungarian university which adds a particular Hungarian and Central European perspective to the project. Hence we respectfully call the government, and we do ask you to use your power and influence to support the withdrawal of the proposed legislation. We are convinced that such a legislation might only damage Hungary's well-founded international academic reputation, so we sincerely hope that a consultations with CEU can be initiated instead, leading to a solution to the current situation.



Adelina Sánchez Espinosa
GEMMA Consortium Coordinator