



February 19, 2019

Lovász László  
A Magyar Tudományos Akadémia elnöke

[REDACTED]  
Hungary

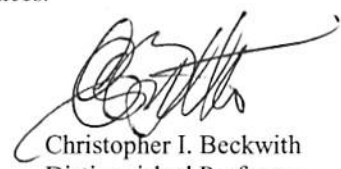
Dear Professor Lovász,


The Department of Central Eurasian Studies at Indiana University has a long relationship with the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. We have established a visiting professorship in 1980, at the height of the Cold War, signaling the significance of the free exchange of ideas even when international politics was on a collision course. The Hungarian Chair program was the first and only such program established in the Cold War. Since then, we have the privilege of hosting outstanding intellectuals from the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, including György Ránki, Mihály Szegedy-Maszák, Csaba Pléh and Ignác Romsics. Our current tenured Kadas Associate Professor of Hungarian Studies, László Borhi, first came to Bloomington as Hungarian Chair. Academician and renowned Indiana University Professor György Kara signifies the close relationship between our institutions.

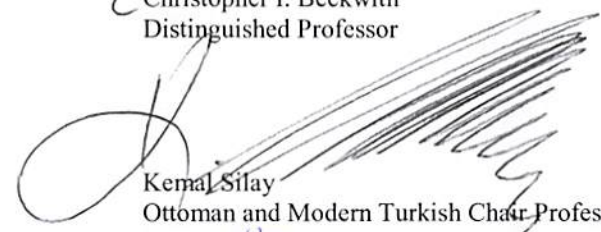
It has come to our attention that the current Hungarian Government is attempting to bring the Hungarian Academy of Sciences under direct state control. Institutions of the Academy, such as the highly prestigious institutes of the Center for Humanities, are experiencing existential crises. Scholars of national and international repute are facing an uncertain future. Aside from their high intellectual and social significance, the humanities and sciences function as watchdogs for democracy. The Hungarian Academy of Sciences is a bulwark of Hungarian democracy.

Therefore, we who are faculty in the Department of Central Eurasian Studies at the Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies, Indiana University, wish to express full support for the continued integrity and academic freedom of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.


  
Jamsheed Choksy  
Department Chair, Distinguished Professor


  
Christopher I. Beckwith  
Distinguished Professor

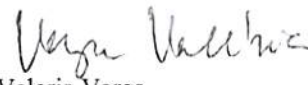
  
Toivo Raun  
Professor

  
Kemal Silay  
Ottoman and Modern Turkish Chair Professor

  
László Borhi  
Peter Kadas Chair Associate Professor

  
Marianne Kamp  
Associate Professor

  
Ron Sela  
Associate Professor

  
Valeria Varga  
Senior Lecturer



**Öner Özçelik**  
**Associate Professor**



**Gulnisa Nazarova**  
**Senior Lecturer**