

## SLOVAK ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

**PRESIDENT** 

Bratislava, 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019 Ref. 00785 / 2019

Dear Prof. Lovász.

With regard to the long-term and fruitful cooperation between the Slovak Academy of Sciences and the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and the important role of our countries as key partners in the European Union and the Cooperation of V4 Countries I would like to emphasize that it is very important for us to maintain the current status of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences gained over nearly 200 years of existence in a constant struggle for freedom and independence of scientific research.

Therefore we follow with great concern the latest development in Hungary towards threatening and jeopardizing the overall status of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. Based on our own experience we realize how important is to have real friends standing on your side and giving you hope that you are not alone in your effort to defend the truth. The Slovak Academy of Sciences has therefore formulated an opinion on the current situation of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, to which the Board of Assembly of the Slovak Academy of Sciences has joined. The complete English text of this document is attached.

I strongly believe and hope that thanks to joint effort of both Hungarian and international scientific community, the Hungarian Academy of Science will successfully defend its status as a modern, independent institution, where excellent basic and applied research responding to the needs of the 21<sup>st</sup> century will continue to take place in the next decades in favor of European and world science.

Sincerely Yours,

Prof. Pavol Šajgalík

Prof. László Lovász President Hungarian Academy of Sciences H-1051 Budapest, Roosevelt tér 9

**HUNGARY**