



12 February 2019

Letter of Solidarity to the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in Support of Academic Freedom

To the President of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Prof. László Lovász,

Dear Prof. Lovász,

We are a group of international scholars who respect and admire the excellence of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (HAS), as well as the great contributions that the HAS made to science as well as Hungarian, European and global scholarship.

We, the undersigned academic scholars, express our concerns for the future of academic and scientific freedom in Hungary and express our solidarity with your efforts for upholding the autonomy of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences as well as Hungarian universities and research institutions in general.

We call on the Hungarian government to withdraw its new system of research financing, which would imply that the annual financial support for the academic research centre network would be centralized, by being transferred from the Hungarian Academy of Sciences to the Ministry for Innovation and Technology. This step threatens the autonomy of scientific freedom and could have a detrimental impact on the quality of research output of the HAS as well as the international reputation of its scholars.

We also learned that the Hungarian Government aims to prioritise corporate innovation and applied research to the detriment of basic research, especially in the Humanities and Social Sciences. We support your claim that basic research needs stable sources of funding and the directors of research institutes need to continue to have full autonomy to decide which research groups receive funding.

We stand in solidarity with you, the Presidium of HAS as well as all the 5000 employees, scientists, and scholars, who fight for their future and face uncertainty. We provide our support in your struggle for scientific autonomy and the freedom of scholarship and research in Hungary.

Sincerely Yours,

Dr Gerhard Schnyder, Reader, Loughborough University London, UK

Dr Dorottya Sallai, Senior Lecturer, University of Greenwich, UK

Professor Ruth V. Aguilera, Northeastern University, USA

Dr Mary-Paz Arrieta Paredes, University of Greenwich, London, UK

Professor Sarah Ashwin, Department of Management, London School of Economics

Dr Ruth Ballardie, Senior Lecturer, The University of Greenwich, UK

Dr Chiara Benassi, King's College London, UK  
Elizabeth Booth, Senior Lecturer, University of Greenwich, UK  
Dr Joel Bothello, Assistant Professor, Concordia University, Canada  
Dr Olivier Butzbach, University of Campania "Luigi Vanvitelli", IT  
Dr Paul Caussat, Lecturer, University of Greenwich, UK  
Dr Nicola Chelotti, Loughborough University London, UK  
Dr Fabio Clementi, Researcher, University of Macerata, IT  
Professor Elisabetta Croci Angelini, Macerata University, IT  
Dr Varuna De Silva, Lecturer, Loughborough University London, UK  
Professor Virginia Doellgast, Cornell University, USA  
Professor Helen Drake, Director of the Institute for Diplomacy and International Governance,  
Loughborough University London, UK  
Professor Tony Edwards, Director Institute for International Management, Loughborough  
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Catherine Farrant, Lecturer, University of Greenwich, UK  
Mahmoud Wardeh, Lecturer, Loughborough University London, UK  
Dr Sara Gorgoni, Senior Lecturer, University of Greenwich, UK  
Dr Alexander Guschanski, University of Greenwich, UK  
Professor Ian Greer, Cornell University, USA  
Professor Francesco Farina, Luiss Guido Carli, Rome, IT  
Professor Gregory Jackson, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany  
Dr Menna Jones, Senior Lecturer, University of Greenwich, UK  
Dr Philipp Kern, Loughborough University London, UK  
Dr Daniel Kinderman Associate Professor, University of Delaware, USA  
Dr Ewa Krolikowska-Adamczyk, Senior Lecturer, University of Greenwich, UK  
Professor Martha Lampland, University of California, San Diego, USA  
Dr Jane Lethbridge, University of Greenwich, London, UK  
Irina Liubertė, Associate Professor, ISM University of Management and Economics, Lithuania  
Dr Emanuele Lobina, University of Greenwich, UK  
Dr Angela Martinez Dy, Lecturer, Loughborough University London, UK  
Dr Robert Nason, Assistant Professor, Concordia University, Canada  
Professor Ozlem Onaran, University of Greenwich, UK  
Dr Fanny Paschek, Lecturer, University of Greenwich, UK  
Dr Anita Pelle, Associate Professor, University of Szeged, HU  
Mr Mark Phillimore, Senior Lecturer, University of Greenwich, UK  
Mr Raymond, Powell, Principal Lecturer University of Greenwich, UK  
Dr Jeff Powell, Senior Lecturer, University of Greenwich, UK  
Dr Sharon Prendeville, Lecturer, Loughborough University London, UK  
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Dr Jukka Rintamäki, Loughborough University London, UK  
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Dr Nataliya Rummyantseva, University of Greenwich, UK  
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