

To the President of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences

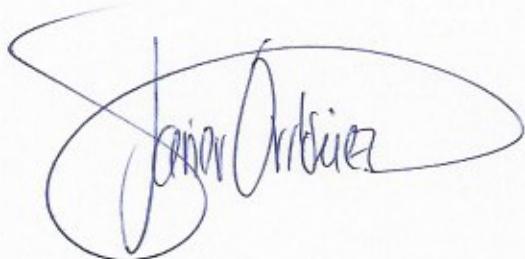
Dear Prof. László Lovász,

As director of the Institute of International Economics of the Universitat Jaume I of Castellón, Spain, I am writing to express our grave concern regarding the Hungarian government's plans to take control of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. We view this as a clear attempt to curtail the independence and investigative freedom of the members of the prestigious institution over which you preside.

Over the years, the Institute of International Economics has enjoyed a fruitful collaboration with our colleagues from the Institute of World Economics; we hope this collaboration can continue within the same atmosphere of academic freedom that has marked our relations to date.

As members of the European academic community, we express our utter rejection of the Hungarian government's unacceptable interference in your institution. We observe with deep concern as Hungary, a country that has been our partner and our friend, drifts towards a situation reminiscent of dark times in recent European history, times we believed had been left in the past.

Yours sincerely,



Assoc. Prof. Javier Ordóñez
Head of the Institute of International Economics