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Vienna, 4. june 2005

Your Excellency,

On the occasion of the 85th anniversary of the Trianon Peace Dictate of 4 June 1920 following World War I, we would like to draw attention to the still unresolved problems of 5 million Hungarians who came under foreign rule as a result of this dictate.

Even to this date the promised rights have not been provided. Hungarians living in the historically Hungarian-inhabited Carpathian basin are increasingly forced to face intolerance, violence and discrimination and, furthermore, they are not able to exercise their right to self-determination -- not even in the form of autonomy. The fact that the governments of some of the countries in question do have Hungarian members does not help the situation, rather, it diverts attention away from the actual realities.

For this reason, the situation of Hungarians living beyond the border requires increased attention and assistance in solving the problems in the interest of preventing conflicts and maintaining stability.

Excellency
Dimitrij Rupel
OSCE Chairman-in-Office in 2005
Preservnova cesta 25
1000 Ljubljana
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Fax: 00386/1/478 21 70

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Some 30 years ago, on 1 August 1975, with the signing of the *Helsinki Final Act*, a process was started which led to a breakthrough in the area of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Europe and forged the signatory countries together in a community of values. Some 15 years ago (Copenhagen, 1990), the OSCE was the first to react to the minority problem and to draft standards in the field of minority protection.

The development trends of the past 15 years have shown that, being an indispensable and essential part (*ius cogens*) of international law, the peoples' right to self-determination has a growing significance. We hereby appeal to the OSCE's organization and member states to react to the challenge as a "*community of responsibility*" and take the first steps for the protection of Hungarian people living in the Carpathian basin who are in need of this in the interest of preserving their historical, national and cultural identity. The mechanisms that are to support the assertion of the notion of "the right of peoples to self-determination", which is defined in Article 1. of *International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights* and in the *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights*, would also be helpful throughout the world in preventing conflicts.

Therefore, for the Hungarian people living beyond the border, who have been separated from the mother country for 85 years by a state border whose dividing role cannot be eliminated even within the framework of the European Union, we the signatories of this letter demand:

Freedom and the right to self-determination and human dignity on the basis of democracy, rule of law and equality of peoples and nations.

Thanking you sincerely and respectfully for your attention,

Dr. Eva Maria Barki

*Copy:
European Union
Council of Europe
Media*

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The following organizations and political parties are in support of the above:

Bishop László Tökes, President of Erdélyi Magyar Nemzeti Tanács (Hungarian National Council from Transylvania), Nagyvárad/Oradea, Romania

Székely Nemzeti Tanács (Szekely National Council), represented by Dr. József Csapó, Sepsiszentgörgy/Santu Gheorghe, Romania

Erdély Magyar Ifjak, represented by Sándor Soós, Kolozsvár/Cluj, Romania

Egyesült Magyar Ifjúság, represented by Sandor Soós, Kolozsvár/Cluj, Romania

Vajdasági Magyar Demokrata Párt, represented by András Ágoston, Temerin, Serbia

Magyar Föderalista Párt, represented by József Mihajlovics, Slovakia

Jobbik Magyarországért Mozgalom, represented by Dávid Kovács, Budapest, Hungary

Hatvannégy Vármege Ifjúsági Mozgoló, represented by László Toroczka, Budapest, Hungary

Trianon Társaság, represented by Dénes Kiss, Budapest, Hungary

Magyar Nemzeti Front, represented by Loránt Schuster, Budapest, Hungary

Bocskai Szövetség, represented by Dr. István Kreczinger, Budapest, Hungary

Erdély Szövetség, represented by Ildikó Lipcsey, Budapest, Hungary

Horthy Miklós Társaság, represented by Miklós Dobai, Budapest, Hungary

56-os Magyarok Világtanácsa, represented by Ábrahám Dezső, Budapest, Hungary

December Ötedike Csömöri Polgári Liga, represented by Sándor Mátyás György, Csömör, Hungary

Nemzetközi Erdély Bizottság (International Committee for Transsylvania), represented by Dr. Eva Maria Barki, Vienna, Austria

Los Angeles Magyar Kör (Los Angeles Hungarian Civic Circle), represented by Dr. György Ösapaym, Los Angeles, USA

Magyarok Világszövetsége Országos Tanácsa, represented by Gyula Gönczöl, Leva, Slovakia

Alkotmányossági Műhely, represented by Árpád Fáy, Budapest, Hungary

Szabad Magyarorszáért, represented by András Takács, Budapest, Hungary

Magyarok Világszövetsége, represented by Miklós Patrubby, Budapest, Hungary