

10 September 2018

Dear Member of the European Parliament,

On behalf of the institutional philanthropy sector in Europe we would like to encourage you to vote in favour of **this Wednesday's resolution on Hungary calling for the Council to trigger the procedure foreseen in Article 7** for not complying with EU treaty obligations and values on human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights.

A number of laws and decrees have undermined civil society in Hungary by imposing restrictions on funding, or taxes as well as limiting freedom of expression and assembly. As two key organisations representing institutional philanthropy we are particularly concerned about the fact that Hungary has introduced restrictions to cross-border philanthropy, which are considered a breach of the EU freedom of capital. Several international philanthropic organisations are moving out of the country and national and local civil society organisations are facing increasing difficulties to operate.

Since the EU's actions so far have not led to a correction of Hungarian breaches of fundamental freedoms and values, we call on EU policymakers to take a strong stance on the situation in Hungary and to trigger the Article 7 procedure. The European Union's values are common to all Member States and are embedded in a society in which pluralism, non-discrimination, tolerance, justice, solidarity and equality between women and men prevail. Ahead of the European elections, it is critical that the European Parliament votes with a strong majority in favour of this EP resolution.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Gerry Salole
Chief Executive
EFC



Max von Abendroth
Executive Director
DAFNE



About the European Foundation Centre (EFC)

The European Foundation Centre is the platform of institutional philanthropy with a focus on Europe, but also with an eye to the global philanthropic landscape. It is a network of foundations and philanthropic institutions committed to the development and promotion of institutional philanthropy in Europe and globally. With the aim of being the voice of institutional philanthropy in Europe, the EFC promotes and communicates the value of institutional philanthropy to society thus contributing to an environment in which philanthropy can flourish. It serves as a hub of sector exchange and intelligence, to help its members increase the impact of their added value in society. EU Transparency Register ID: 78855711571-12 www.efc.be

About Donors and Foundations Networks in Europe (DAFNE)

DAFNE is Europe's largest network of donors and foundations associations. With 26 member associations with a collective membership of more than 10,000 foundations and grant-makers, DAFNE is a leading voice of European foundations. It underpins individual activities of its members by encouraging dialogue and collaboration between the national associations. DAFNE is currently chaired by Felix Oldenburg, General Secretary of the Association of German Foundations. EU Transparency Register ID: 060243428664-85 www.dafne-online.eu