

## RESOLUTION

### **The Common Issues of Hungarian Communities in Europe**

In May 2010 the Hungarian Parliament declared the 4th of June, the date when the Trianon peace-treaty was signed, the Day of National Solidarity. The law adopted in unanimity by the Parliament testifies to the fact that "every member and community of Hungarians thrown under the sovereignty of several countries is part of the unified Hungarian nation whose solidarity beyond state borders is a reality and at the same time it constitutes a defining element of the Hungarians' individual and community identity." Starting from this the elected representatives of Hungary -- the present president of the European Union -- emphasized their commitment to "sustaining and maintaining the relationship among the members and communities of our nation, and supporting their natural demand for different forms of communal autonomy that are based on European practice."

For us, Hungarians integration into the Europe of unifying nations also represents an opportunity for the unification of our nation above the existent borders. The terms under public law of such a unification have been created by the legislation with reference to the facilitated naturalization of those Hungarians and their descendants who lost their Hungarian citizenship in the course of our stormy history.

Hungarian union within the European Union--this is the essence of the 21st century "**Hungarian model.**"

At the same time, we would like to draw attention to the fact that the traditional Hungarian communities who live as minorities in their countries are also citizens of the given country, their loyalty entitles them to the entire system of rights necessary for a fully valuable existence. As free choice of identity can be experienced only as the member of a given community, the commitment to identity of individuals belonging to traditional minorities who wish to remain and build a life in their homeland is also dependent on the situation of the given minority.

We regret to state that in the Europe of the new century settling the relationship among the ethnic communities inhabiting the Carpathian Basin has remained a priority

task exactly due to the unresolved minority issues. For us, the warning example is that Slovakian law that was adopted as a reply to the Hungarian re-naturalization law and that threatens Slovakia's own citizens: according to the "Slovakian model" all those citizens who become the citizens of any other country will lose their Slovakian citizenship. In our view this is totally unacceptable, and following the coming into force of the Lisbon treaty it is contrary to the European spirit. For this law--in its intention--does not serve the protection of national identity but limits the free choice of identity.

And even though equal opportunity, subsidiarity and self-governance are the fundamental principles of European integration, and every seventh European citizen is also a member of a minority, the treaties and documents regularizing the functioning of the European Union do not refer clearly to the special rights of minority ethnic communities and individuals belonging to them. For this reason, beyond the fundamental documents on individual freedom and European fundamental rights, we consider that drawing up a **European Charter of Minority-Protection** is indispensable.

A further important element of the "Hungarian model" deriving from the above-quoted Solidarity-Law is the fact that it does not limit the solution of the question to ensuring language and cultural rights but it widens it to different levels and forms of autonomy. Autonomy as a 21st century institution transfers state authority to the elected bodies of the communities.

The unity of our diverse Europe can be sustained on the long term only if founded on its communities' own decisions and not on politics of power. This is what differentiates the European Union from the former Soviet Union: nations should not be forced into a false homogeneous union by a certain ideology but should enter this union through their commitment to common values and their responsibility arising from their freedom. This can be achieved only if it is ourselves who decide about our destiny.

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The Member Organizations of the  
Hungarian Autonomy Council of the Carpathian Basin