



## LETTER OF SOLIDARITY

Essen, March 31<sup>st</sup> 2017

### **The Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities (KWI) stands with the Central European University Budapest (CEU)**

On March 28<sup>th</sup> 2017, the Hungarian Parliament proposed amendments to the National Higher Education Law that would make it impossible for Central European University (CEU) – and possibly other international institutions – to continue operations within Hungary. The Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities (KWI) shares the concerns of the CEU that these changes would not only endanger the academic freedom for CEU's studies in Budapest but also threatens the academic freedom of all universities dedicated to different and critical perspectives that exceed national horizons.

The CEU is known for its diverse and international faculty offering an open academic debate, integrating Central and Eastern with Western Europe while providing a bridge between Institutes for Advanced Study all over the world. To nationalize the Hungarian academic landscape, as it is likely planned by the proposed amendments, harms the country's international reputation as well as academic freedom itself. The KWI expresses its solidarity with CEU in protecting the freedom of academic research and teaching. In response to the amendments, CEU calls on the Hungarian government to find a solution that allows CEU to continue in Budapest as a free and independent international graduate university. The KWI fully supports this call and stands with CEU and all Advanced Study Institutes dedicated to free academic research.



INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED  
STUDY IN THE HUMANITIES  
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UNIVERSITY ALLIANCE  
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### **About the Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities (KWI):**

The Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities (KWI) in Essen belongs to the three universities of Bochum, Dortmund and Duisburg-Essen, which form the University Alliance Ruhr (UAR). The KWI promotes excellent interdisciplinary research in the humanities, social and cultural sciences and maintains close cooperations with regional, national and international partners. It conducts basic research on the principles of modern culture with regard to relevant questions of contemporary societies. At present the Institute focuses on the thematic fields of cultures of the European in historical perspective (Europe), cultural diversity of global citizenship (Interculturality), cultural aspects of climate change (Climate and Culture), communicative practices used by members of different cultures of communication (Culture of Communication) and civic participation (Culture of Participation). The KWI engages in civic education and outreach programmes by organizing public events and cooperations with cultural institutions as well as the media.

[www.kulturwissenschaften.de](http://www.kulturwissenschaften.de)