

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Ref: the Measures of the Democrat Magyar Union in Romania (DMUR) Regarding the Babes-Bolyai University**

Having in view the non-legitimate interventions of the **DMUR** Members of the European Parliament (MEPs), Konya Hamar Sandor, Szabo Karoly and Kelemen Attila, regarding the future of the Babes-Bolyai University, NIP has prepared real informing report regarding the subject that the above mentioned MEPs target.

Through this information report, **NIP (National Initiative Party)** wants to counter - act and to make all the MEPs to take notice of the obvious disinformation action that is being set up by the DMUR leadership.

The major credibility crisis that DMUR is being confronted with and that has been mainly started by the administrative corruption accusations of the important leaders of the organization, as well as by the vote of the Magyar ethnic minority at the referendum for the suspension of the President of Romania, opposing this way to the political decision of the Union's leadership, has determined a reactivation of the extremist topics inside the DMUR.

We can perfectly place in this framework the recent event that took place in the European Parliament in which three DMUR MEPs have asked to the European Parliament the scission of the Babes-Bolyai University according to ethnical criteria.

The new pragmatic-extremist approach of the DMUR leadership is very obvious and does not have as a main target to reveal the Truth or to apply the law, but to tension the interethnic relations between Romanians and Magyars, with the specific purpose of collecting votes for a political entity like DMUR, that normally cannot justify its existence. In this respect, the DMUR leaders are going to be put in the situation in which they will not be able to negotiate their advantages and personal benefits (that can be proved by the profitable businesses that they have) as they have done it during the last 10 years.

NIP has recently showed how complex the financial relations with the political environment in Budapest of DMUR leaders are and implicitly, how important is for DMUR to be able to influence the political game in Bucharest. Having in view all these aspects, it is very obvious that once the political influence of DMUR is going to be diminished at the level of the decision factors in Bucharest, the Union's political sponsors in Budapest will not be that generous anymore.

The DMUR leaders are being confronted, in parallel, with a severe image crisis in the eyes of their own electorate that is caused by the several criminal investigations in which most of the important leaders of DMUR are being involved.

Politically, DMUR is being seriously threatened by the increasing sympathy of the Magyar ethnics of **CMU (Civic Magyar Union)** of the **National Council of the Magyars in Transylvania (NCMT)** and by the increasing political evolution of the pastor Laszlo Tokes, a candidate for the European Parliament elections that are about to take place in autumn, this year and that has already gathered 100 thousands signatures for the support of his candidature.

CMU, NCMT and Laszlo Tokes are practicing an explicit extremist vocabulary and they are attracting more and more votes. In this respect, DMUR has understood that it needs to do the same thing.

DMUR is being caught between the political negotiations in Bucharest and the personal businesses and penal investigations of its leaders. DMUR has understood that it can maintain the political survival only by negotiating with CMU, NCMT and Tokes but as well by changing the political discourse in the sense of an explicit extremism.

In this context, DMUR has guaranteed the action of its MEPs in Brussels – Konya Hamar Sandor, Szabo Karoly and Kelemen Attila.

The three have made an intervention request in the European Parliament that is meant to attract a recommendation of the European parliament to the Government of Romania in order to split up the **Babes-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca (BBU)** into two distinguished State universities! (the Babes University having the Romanian as a teaching language and the Bolyai University having the Magyar as the teaching language).

Marko Bela, the DMUR leader, has recently tangentially confessed that the pastor Laszlo Tokes accepted to restart the dialogue with the DMUR and that he had several discussions with him. Tokes is being supported in the future elections for the European Parliament by the CMU and now DMUR is replying to Tokes's kindness by supporting the division of the BBU, an older project of CMU.

The unprecedented gesture of the MEPs Kpona Hamar, Szabo and Kelemen took place few days after the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Budapest issued a press release in which it was blaming the Romanian State because initiated criminal investigation (political!) against the DMUR leaders, especially against the former minister Nagy Zsolt.

The development of the conflict in Cluj-Napoca that is taking place for almost 2 years and a half inside the BBU clearly proves the fact that DMUR has embraced the extremist discourse because of political opportunism and that is using any opportunity to politically exacerbate it.

Some time ago, DMUR officially proclaimed a moderate political line and at the same time, stigmatized the actions of the CMU leaders. Now, DMUR supports the suppression of one of the most representative high education institution in Europe, Babes-Bolyai University in Cluj that is officially recognized for its Multilanguage environment that it is assumed in the University Charter.

Initially, three teachers from different faculties of BBU, that used to teach for the Magyar teaching line of the University, set up the so called Bolyai Initiative Committee (BIC).

The university teachers Hantz Peter, university lector at the Physics Faculty, Kovacs Lehel, university lector at the Mathematics and Informatics Faculty and Bodo Barna in the Political Sciences Faculty, initially asked, in 2005 for three universities, distinct from the Magyar language and that were supposed to be split up from the big University (the Natural Sciences, Humanistic and Medicine Universities).

After this, by the means of a well structured program, the BIC leaders have gradually spread up opinions in the European universities environments, according to which, BBU does not respect its own University Charter, that the University's Multilanguage environment is a fake one and as a consequence, BBU must be abolished.

In its disparagement campaign against BBU, BIC has been supported as well by the radical, extremist faction of DMUR (that is represented in Cluj by the former DMUR deputy Vekov Karoly and by the current deputy Konya Hamar Sandor, a subscriber to the suppression motion of BBU, in the European Parliament.

BIC measures culminated with a public scandal in November 2006 when bilingual direction indicators were illegally installed inside the University.

Following this extremist gesture and after his exclusion from the University, the lector Hantz Peter made a press conference inside the Parliament in Budapest (that was supported by the Magyar parliamentarians) in which he accused the BBU leadership of discrimination and asked for the suppression of the University, according to ethnical criteria.

Besides the acknowledgment of the Babes - Bolyai University as a State institution with the Magyar as teaching language, subventioned by public funds, is the “fifty-fifty” sharing of the BBU goods (buildings, grounds, facilities).

It is the worrying the fact that neither BIC, nor CMU partners, the extremist factions of DMUR, the NGOs or other Magyar organizations like the Magyar Youngsters in Transylvania Association, do not make a secret out of their extremist demands.

For example, BIC has started, at the beginning of the year, a lawsuit in order to rehabilitate the writer Wass Albert, who was convicted by a Romanian instance, for war crimes and murder instigation to kill some Romanians in the Sucutard and Muresenii de Campie villages, in 1946.

The meeting held last week by the NIP vicepresident with the rector of the University Babes – Bolyai highlighted the fact that the university is a multicultural model and even intercultural, that many other learning institutions can follow from the European Union.

Regarding the multiethnic learning model promoted by the university, probably it is a single model at European level, its blocking means an offence to the European principle regarding the diversity, multilinguism and ongoing dialogue between cultural values of the Member States.

The conclusion of discussions between the vice-president NIP and the rector of the University Babes-Bolyai was that the problems invoked by the leaders of Democratic Union of Hungarians in Romania are false and are discrediting one of the most important universities in Europe and their solving is a big issue connected with the lack of credibility they confront with within the Hungarian community, they ceased to represent a long time ago.

The press release office,  
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