

**Proposals to settle the issue of the Hungarian teaching language section of
the University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Târgu-Mureş / Marosvásárhely**

1. The creation at the University of Hungarian language departments of general medicine, pharmacy and dentistry with independent financial and decision-making powers.
2. The creation of Hungarian teaching language groups that are allowed to study in the Hungarian language during their laboratory and clinical training. In addition, the students should be provided with the opportunity to learn the Romanian technical terms.
3. Signage should be placed in 3 languages (Romanian, Hungarian, and English) on the premises of the university.
4. The extension of the Hungarian language training to the 3-year undergraduate programs. Presently, training in the Hungarian language is only available at the midwifery program out of the 5 undergraduate programs.
5. Having regard to the fact that the students taking their university admission exam in the Hungarian language are usually rejected with higher average marks than their Romanian colleagues, we demand that the number of tuition-free places available at the Hungarian section be significantly increased, i.e. to eliminate the 'numerus clausus' (limited number) policy. The negative discrimination of Hungarian students is clearly shown also by the aggregated results of the admission exam that took place on July 25, 2006: while Hungarian students had to reach an average of 8.09 to be admitted to tuition-free places of the most important and biggest department, which is the General Medicine Department, their Romanian peers were admitted with an average of only 5.95. This step would also be justified by the fact that only 100 tuition-free places per year are ensured for training doctors in the Hungarian language in Romania. However, the General Medicine Departments of public universities in Romania train approx. 3,500 students per year, while the 6.6% share of the Hungarian community in the general population would require an approximate number of 210-220 tuition-free places for the ethnic Hungarian medical students, as there is no training for doctors in the Hungarian language in any other Medical University in Romania.
6. The announcement of dedicated positions for the Hungarian language teaching staff. Their share in the academic staff is only 29%, whereas the share of the Hungarian students is around 45%. Currently, the candidates for the vacant teaching positions have to sit a test held in the Romanian language, which checks the English or French language skills of the candidates, however, the Hungarian language skills are not checked. There is no system in place to ensure that young Hungarian teachers are hired.
7. The share of the Hungarian teaching staff in the university Senate and management positions should be set at a 50% level. At present, none of the deans of the university is ethnic Hungarian; only 3 out of 14 heads of departments are ethnic Hungarian, moreover only one of the 7 members of the Committee of the University Senate is ethnic Hungarian. It should be ensured that the Hungarian officials and managers of the University are elected directly by the Hungarian teaching staff. The current practice should be stopped, according

to which Hungarian staff officials are elected by bodies with Romanian majority (Department Councils and Senate), as experience shows that officials elected by such bodies hardly ever represent the interests of the Hungarian community.

8. The use of the Hungarian language should be allowed in the administration of the institution, and Hungarian clerks should be hired, especially where staff comes in contact with the Hungarian students on a permanent basis, e.g. secretariats. Only a few percent of the administrative staff are ethnic Hungarian. Data concerning the ethnic shares of the university should be made public and available also over the Internet.

9. The General Assembly of the Hungarian Teaching Staff should be convoked regularly, at least twice a year. The representatives of the Hungarian Students' Association of Târgu - Mureş / Marosvásárhely should be invited to these meetings. The decisions of the General Assembly, which relate specifically to the Hungarian language training programs, should be made obligatory for the management of the University.

10. Hungarian students should be provided with the opportunity to take their finals, elaborate and defend their thesis in the Hungarian language. Similarly, the taking of the resident exams should also be made available in the Hungarian language (the Hungarian teaching staff of the University will translate the tests into Hungarian).

Bolyai Initiative Committee
Târgu-Mureş / Marosvásárhely Section
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