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Free Market Foundation
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Dear Sir/Madam,

As I write this Hungary is in a state of crisis. Although the present government was democratically elected two years ago, it has used its two-thirds majority to assail democratic values. It has confiscated private pension funds, passed a media law that is unprecedented in the European Union, taken over independent institutions, restricted the power and independence of the courts, and encroached on the independence of the central bank.

Hungary is also suffering from growing strains of anti-Semitism, attacks on minorities, and extreme nationalism.

The Hungarian Free Market Foundation is launching an educational project in order to spread the ideas of economic freedom, individual liberty, and societal freedom. I invite you to join us in saving Hungary from the forces of the toxic combination of big government, nationalism, and authoritarianism.

I'm an educator by profession. So I started by reminding Hungarians of the ideas that create freedom and prosperity: private property and individual rights, free markets, and constitutionally limited government. I joined with others and we started by publishing the first Hungarian translation of Frederic Bastiat's classic book *The Law*, on the nature of limited government and freedom. We set up a website – www.kapitalizmus.hu -- and are reaching thousands and thousands of Hungarians daily.

For the future of our nation – as free, independent, and prosperous – we want to take our message to the youth of Hungary. We are planning to visit every single secondary school in the country and make presentations to students and provide free books and DVDs and other materials and aids to the schools so that they can understand what freedom is...and what it is not. It is already a generation since the iron grip of the Communists was removed from our country and people are already forgetting what it was to live without freedom. We must remind them.

This educational program will require a strong and organized campaign from our foundation in order to be successful. We are grateful for the generous support from our friends abroad – the Free to Choose Network, which produced Milton Friedman's wonderful television shows, the Atlas Economic Research Foundation, and the UK-based Network for a Free Society, but will need your help, too.

That is why we are turning to people who we know care about liberty. I am inviting you to join us in the campaign and help us make a difference in the heart of Europe

The Atlas Economic Research Foundation helped us with a cash grant and has agreed to forward tax-deductible donations to us. Your contribution, made payable to the Atlas Economic Research Foundation will give our cause an incredible boost. Your gift will help us reach and teach a generation of Hungarians, people who can build a better future for the country. And if you pay US taxes, it will be fully deductible. (Atlas has also agreed to pay for any small expenses to collect the donations and wire the funds to our bank in Hungary, where we are a legally recognized research organization.)

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Our goal is to raise \$50,000 by June 30, 2012. I ask for your support in this great challenge. This is a serious effort in "civics education," that is, in the education of what it means to be a citizen of a free country.

Here are some of the things we could accomplish with your support:

\$100 would enable us to visit one school in the provinces

\$500 would enable visits to three schools in a big city and would provide materials for the students

\$1,500 would distribute *The Law* and other materials to 750 students

\$2,500 would enable us to visit twelve schools and put three videos online to supplement our teaching materials, thus reaching an even wider public

Hungarians helped the American Revolution to secure the freedom of a great nation. When Michael Kovats presented his sword to Benjamin Franklin in Paris, he wrote,

"I, who have the honor to present this letter to your Excellency, am also following the call of the Fathers of the Land, as the pioneers of freedom always did. I am a free man and a Hungarian."

Americans stood by Hungary as we suffered under Nazi and then Soviet oppression. Please stand with us now and help us to defeat authoritarianism, nationalism, statism, anti-semitism, and hatred with a message of human dignity, the rule of law, free markets in a land of free men and women.

Your gift will have a tremendous impact on the ability of our students to comprehend what is actually happening around them. It will also help them begin to appreciate and foster the values we share.

Thank you in advance for your encouragement and support.

PS: Contributions can be made directly to Atlas with the note that it is for the Hungarian Free Market Foundation, or you are also able to donate the Foundation directly. Should you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

With best regards,



Zoltan Kesz

Director

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