Elected representatives of

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December 2012

To the President of the Hungarian Republic,

To the Prime Minister of the Hungarian Republic,

To the Speaker of the Hungarian National Assembly,

As members of our respective Parliaments, elected to represent our constituents throughout the world, we are writing to express our deep concerns and to forcefully condemn the recent statement made by Márton Gyöngyösi, Member of the Hungarian Parliament, in which he called for a listing of all Jews in Government and Parliament in Hungary. Mr. Gyöngyösi's targeting of Hungary's Jews is but one of a series of public pronouncements in recent months by members of the Jobbik Party which have sought to single out minority groups in Hungary.

We call for the implementation and respect of Fundamental Rights legislation which applies to all Member States of the European Union, as declared in the Joint Declaration of 5 April 1977 and the European Human Rights Convention. These documents call for the respect for human dignity and declare the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination as part of the common cultural and legal heritage of all the Member States.

We also recall the terrible consequence of such declarations of antisemitism, culminating in the Holocaust, and we therefore:

i. Strongly condemn all forms of intolerance, hostility and use of force against persons or groups of persons on the grounds of racial, religious, cultural, social or national differences;
ii. Affirm our resolve to protect the individuality and dignity of every member of society and to reject any form of discrimination against Hungarian nationals, citizens of other EU states and foreigners;
iii. Support all endeavours already made to protect the individuality and dignity of every member of society and to reject any form of segregation of foreigners;
iv. Stress the importance of adequate and objective information and of making all citizens aware of the dangers of racism, antisemitism and xenophobia, and the need to ensure that all acts or forms of discrimination are prevented or curbed;

v. Request the Hungarian authorities to condemn all antisemitic statements and to engage with civil society to fight antisemitism;
vi. Request the Hungarian authorities to review the principles and guidelines of the Jobbik Party according to the democratic Institution of the Republic of Hungary;
vii. Absolutely reject and call for sanctions to be taken against those who utilise narratives involving Holocaust denial and against forms of hate speech used before and during World War II that lead to the Holocaust.
viii. Recognise that there is but a short step from hate speech to violent attacks against minority groups.

We commend our fellow parliamentarians who stood up in the face of such hatred to demonstrate that they oppose these statements and acts of a growing and dangerous group. We encourage these opposing voices to continue to confront antisemitism and all forms of discrimination and to act now in order to prevent an escalation. In these efforts we stand side by side with our colleagues and offer any assistance they may require.

We call on all in Hungary to abide by the democratic principles which lay at the foundation of the Republic of Hungary and its membership as part of the family of free and democratic nations in Europe.

We finally urge you to oppose any similar statements that may be made in the future. Please consider this incident as a negative example which will serve to encourage everyone to work against a further escalation of hate, prejudice and the rise in antisemitic incidents.

Signed

1. Vangsel Dule MP (Albania)
2. Petra Bayr MP (Austria)
3. Efgani Dönmez MP (Austria)
4. Peter Florianschuetz, Member of the Parliament of Vienna (Austria)
5. Alev Korun MP (Austria)
6. Marco Schreuder MP (Austria)
7. Judith Schwentner MP (Austria)
8. Philippe de Backer MEP (Belgium)
9. Jan Jambon MP (Belgium)
10. Viviane Teitelbaum MP (Belgium)
11. Stanimir Ilchev MEP (Bulgaria)

12. Antonyia Parvanova MEP (Bulgaria)
13. Tiémoko Konate MP (Burkina Faso)
14. Irwin Cotler MP (Canada)
15. Ramón Farías Ponce MP(Chile)
16. Kristiina Ojuland MEP (Estonia)
17. Indrek Tarand MEP (Estonia)
18. Sari Essayah MEP (Finland)
19. Hannu Takkula MEP (Finland)
20. Ben Zyskowicz MP (Finland)
21. Tarja Filatov MP (Finland)
22. Saara Karhu MP (Finland)
23. Mika Niiko MP (Finland)
24. Jouko Jääskeläinen (Finland)
25. Leena Rauhala MP (Finland)
26. Sauli Ahvenjärvi MP (Finland)
27. Pauli Kiuru MP (Finland)
28. Sari Palm MP (Finland)
29. Päivi Räsänen MP (Finland)
30. Pertti Salolainen MP (Finland)
31. Peter Östman MP (Finland)
32. Avi Assouly MP (France)
33. Senator Jean-Marie Bockel (France)
34. Stéphane Demilly MP (France)
35. Senator Sophie Joissains (France)
36. Jean-Marie Leguen MP (France)
37. Hervé Mariton MP (France)
38. Jan Philipp Albrecht MEP (Germany)
39. Alexander Alvaro MEP, Vice-President of the European Parliament (Germany)
40. Volker Beck MP (Germany)
41. Lothar Bisky MEP (Germany)
42. Gitta Connemann MP (Germany)
43. Frank Heinrich MP (Germany)
44. Monika Lazar MP (Germany)
45. Dietmar Nietan MP (Germany)
46. Petra Pau MP, Vice President of the Parliament (Germany)
47. Michael Theurer MEP (Germany)
48. Gert Weisskirchen, former MP (Germany)
49. Wolfgang Wieland MP (Germany)
50. Georgios Papanikolaou MEP (Greece)
51. Matyas Eorsi, former MP (Hungary)
52. Kinga Göncz MEP (Hungary)
53. Zita Gurmai MEP (Hungary)
54. Edith Herczog MEP (Hungary)
55. Csaba Tabadji MEP (Hungary)
56. Minister Yuli Edelstein (Israel)
57. Gabriele Albertini MEP (Italy)
58. Lara Comi MEP (Italy)
59. Magdi Cristiano Allam MEP (Italy)

60. Margherita Boniver MP (Italy)
61. Giuseppe Calderisi MP (Italy)
62. Paolo Corsini MP (Italy)
63. Emanuele Fiano MP (Italy)
64. Enrico La Loggia MP (Italy)
65. Senator Pietro Marcenaro (Italy)
66. Senator Mauro M. Marino (Italy)
67. Matteo Mecacci MP (Italy)
68. Guide Melis MP (Italy)
69. Senator Enrico Musso (Italy)
70. Fiamma Nirenstein MP (Italy)
71. Elio Massimo Palmizio MP (Italy)
72. Enrico Pianetta MP (Italy)
73. Fiorello Provera MEP (Italy)
74. Enzo Raisi MP (Italy)
75. Eugenia Roccella MP (Italy)
76. Senator Ada Spadoni Urbani (Italy)
77. Giorgio Stracquadanio MP (Italy)
78. Ezio Zani MP (Italy)
79. Karl Zeller MP (Italy)
80. Boriss Cilevics MP (Latvia)
81. Inese Vaidere MEP (Latvia)
82. Mantas Adomenas MP (Lithuania)
83. Vytenis Povilas Andriukaitis MP (Lithuania)
84. Benediktas Juodka MP (Lithuania)
85. Ausra Marija Pavilioniene MP (Lithuania)
86. Gediminas Kirkilas MP (Lithuania)
87. Emanuelis Zingeris MP (Lithuania)
88. Hans Van Baalen MEP (The Netherlands)
89. Bastiaan Belder MEP (The Netherlands)
90. Marie-Louise Bemelmans-Videc, former Member of the Senate (The Netherlands)
91. Kees van der Staaij MP (The Netherlands)
92. Lena Kolarska-Bobinska MEP (Poland)
93. Michal Kaminski MEP (Poland)
94. Paulo Casaca, former MEP (Portugal)
95. Mario David MEP (Portugal)
96. Pedro Delgado Alves MP (Portugal)
97. Diogo Feio MEP (Portugal)
98. Luis Campos Ferreira MP (Portugal)
99. Ana Gomes MEP (Portugal)
100. Vital Moreira MEP (Portugal)
101. Joao Rebelo MP (Portugal)
102. Vera Rodrigues MP (Portugal)
103. Michael Seufert MP (Portugal)
104. Adao Silva MP (Portugal)
105. Cristian Busoi MEP (Romania)
106. Corina Cretu MEP (Romania)
107. Vasilica Dancila MEP (Romania)
108. Ioan Enciu MEP (Romania)

109. Daciana Sarbu MEP (Romania)
110. Dr. Zarko Korac MP, Deputy Speaker (Serbia)
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112. Miroslav Mikolasik MEP (Slovakia)
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114. Milan Sindler, Member of the Parliament of Bratislava (Slovakia)
115. Monika Smolkova MEP (Slovakia)
116. Boris Zala MEP (Slovakia)
117. Dr. Ruth Rabinowitz, former MP (South Africa)
118. Pilar Barreiro MP (Spain)
119. Pablo Casado MP (Spain)
120. Gabriel Elorriaga MP (Spain)
121. Rosa Estaras Ferragut MEP (Spain)
122. Juan Moscoso del Prado y Hernandez MP (Spain)
123. Carmen Navarro MP (Spain)
124. Esther Herranz (MEP) Spain)
125. Ramon Tremosa i Bacells MEP(Spain)
126. Alejo Vidal-Quadras MEP, Vice-President of the European Parliament (Spain)
127. Jordi Xucla I Costa MP (Spain)
128. Goran Lindblad, former MP (Sweden)
129. Olle Schmidt MEP (Sweden)
130. Caroline Szyber, MP (Sweden)
131. Cecilia Wikström MEP (Sweden)
132. Jacques Neirynck MP(Switzerland)
133. Ian Austin (UK)
134. Bob Blackman MP (UK)
135. Luciana Berger MP (UK)
136. Lord Alex Carlile of Berriew (UK)
137. Lord Dholakia of Waltham Brooks (UK)
138. Diane Dodds MEP (UK)
139. Mike Gapes MP (UK)
140. Rt Hon Margaret Hodge MBE MP (UK)
141. Andy Love MP (UK)
142. Baroness Sarah Ludford MEP (UK)
143. Fiona Mactaggart MP (UK)
144. John Mann MP (UK)
145. Claude Moraes MEP (UK)
146. Struan Stevenson MEP (UK)
147. Charles Tannock, MEP (UK)
148. Graham Watson MEP (UK)
149. Rep. Doug Lamborn (USA)
150. Imam Umer Ahmed Ilyasi, Chief Imam, All India Imam Organization (India)