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The International Society of Political Psychology ISPP has been following with concern the proposal by the Hungarian government to ban gender studies programmes at the country's universities. We respectfully call on the Hungarian government to reconsider the proposal. Such legislative changes threaten the academic freedom of students, teachers, and scholars, and question the academic autonomy of universities in Hungary.

The ISPP is a longstanding international scientific association with members across the world, including in Hungary. Our members include psychologists, political scientists, psychiatrists, historians, sociologists, economists, anthropologists, and many of them are connected with gender studies. Indeed gender issues form an integral part of these disciplines. Scientific analysis of social differences and structural inequalities from a gender perspective is crucial for the understanding of societies, historically and in the contemporary context. By banning gender studies, opportunities to gain such an understanding are restricted, which will also hamper societal development.

ISPP appeals to the Hungarian government to uphold the principle of academic freedom for researchers, teachers and students, irrespective of scholarly discipline.

On behalf of the ISPP Executive Committee,



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