



National Press Building #809
Washington D.C. 20045
(202) 737-0127

June 17, 2006

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

The American Hungarian Federation, an umbrella organization celebrating 100 years of service to its community, applauds and greatly appreciates your traveling to Hungary on the 22nd to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution of 1956. This trip will be of great symbolic value and will enable you to reach out to the people who suffered tremendously under Soviet domination and communism, but who ultimately prevailed in their quest for freedom, independence and democracy. Your trip also will have a special meaning for freedom loving Americans, including many who fled Hungary in 1956 and substantially contributed to their new country.

We are especially pleased that you will reach out to all the Parliamentary parties, including the opposition parties, as some of them represent the very constituencies who actively and passively resisted the totalitarianism imposed by the Kremlin. They paid an extremely heavy price for their patriotism and love of freedom. As the wounds are deep, please be patient with those who may not be reconciled with the course history took fifty years ago.

As you celebrate the triumph of liberty in Budapest, we respectfully call your attention to the fact that there are Hungarian communities living in states neighboring Hungary who do not yet fully enjoy the benefits of freedom because of the discrimination and intolerance they experience solely due to their nationality. It would be most fitting if this 50th anniversary year were to be capped by a commitment by every country of the region to promote genuine democracy (and stability) by respecting the minority rights and legitimate aspirations of their respective minorities.

Thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,

Frank Koszorus, Jr.
Associate President

Stefan Fedor
President