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Motion for Annual General Assembly

Situation in Hungary DRAFT

On World Refugee Day the Hungarian Parliament adopted a new version of the 2018 Anti-NGO package, and the Seventh Amendment to the Fundamental Law of Hungary. The threat it poses is even more severe and unacceptable. The primary aim of this legislation is to intimidate, by means of criminal law, those who fully legitimately assist asylum seekers or foreigners, protecting humanitarian values and the right to a fair procedure. It threatens jail those who support vulnerable people. This runs counter to all we consider as the rule of law, European and human values.

SOLIDAR and SOLIDAR Foundation condemns Hungary’s government continuing crackdown on civil society. The “seventh amendment” to the Constitution requiring state authorities to protect Hungary’s “Christian culture”, bans the settlement of foreign populations; restrict people’s ability to peacefully protest; undermine the independence of the judiciary; and criminalize homelessness.

We strongly stand in favour of the accessibility and need of public areas and public spaces. The developments in Hungary point to a violation of basic humans rights such as freedom of association, expression, information and freedom of press, this will directly affect the well-being of society and represent a strong blow to the European values. We need to act to guarantee the freedom of civil society to play its role effectively and to operate as an essential mechanism of balance of power that any healthy society and working democracy has in place. We welcome the European Parliament’s Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE) that recommended on Monday (June 25) triggering an Article 7 procedure against Hungary for breaching the fundamental values of the Union under Viktor Orbán’s rule.

The European People's Party (mother party of Viktor Orbán’s FIDESZ) the European Commission and the Council can no longer ignore the situation and they have to react to reassert the European values by condemning and reverse immediately trend to limit the role of the civil society.