

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 4, 2015

His Excellency Viktor Orbán
Prime Minister of Hungary
1357 Budapest, Pf. 6.
Hungary

Dear Mr. Prime Minister,

As the Co-Chairs of the Bipartisan Taskforce for Combatting Anti-Semitism, we write to express our deep concern about plans to erect a statue in the city of Székesfehérvár, Hungary honoring Bálint Homan, who spearheaded Hungary's anti-Jewish legislation and paved the way for deportations of and atrocities against Hungarian Jews during the Holocaust. Homan's actions led to the deaths of over a half-million innocent Hungarians, nearly eradicating Hungary's pre-war Jewish population.

Based on reporting in Hungary's press, we understand that your government is covering most of the expense of erecting this local monument to Homan. We believe such plans to honor Homan exacerbate disturbing national trends of historical revisionism and rehabilitation of Hungary's disgraced wartime leadership and are inconsistent with your stated policy of zero tolerance for anti-Semitism.

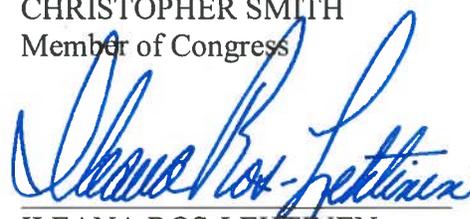
Your words set a strong example and have a real effect on whether the scourge of anti-Semitism is on the rise or in retreat in your country. To that end, we urge you to publicly condemn Homan's role in the persecution and deportation of innocent Hungarians and to withdraw government funding for the construction of this or any statue in his honor. Doing so will send a clear and needed signal to those who would seek to forget the past or see it repeated, and it would be especially timely as Hungary concludes its chairmanship of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance.

Sincerely,


NITA M. LOWEY
Member of Congress


ELIOT L. ENGEL
Member of Congress


CHRISTOPHER SMITH
Member of Congress


ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN
Member of Congress

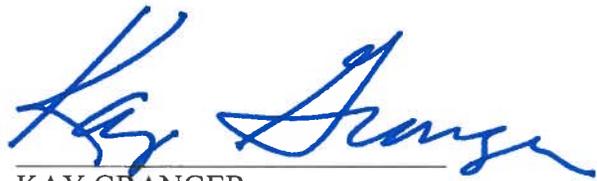
His Excellency Viktor Orbán

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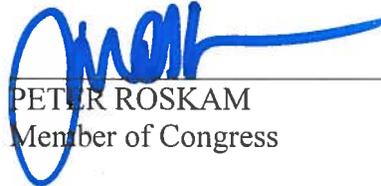
STEVE ISRAEL
Member of Congress



KAY GRANGER
Member of Congress



THEODORE E. DEUTCH
Member of Congress



PETER ROSKAM
Member of Congress