



October 23, 2018

### **APSA Statement on Elimination of Gender Studies from Hungarian Universities**

The American Political Science Association condemns the Hungarian government's decision to revoke accreditation and funding for gender studies programs at the country's universities. Prime Minister Viktor Orbán's decree is an egregious violation of academic freedom.

It is particularly concerning that the Hungarian government dismisses gender studies as ideology, when in fact, gender studies is a long-standing, evidence-based research area and academic field that informs our understanding of how gender impacts all areas of sociopolitical and economic life, and how public policies reflect and shape struggles for gender equality. Banning scholarship and education on gender and inequality not only infringes on the academic freedom of the students and instructors in those departments, but also deprives all of Hungary's students and researchers of the critical insights into society and humanity gender studies provides.

The American Political Science Association is a scholarly association that represents more than 11,000 U.S. and internationally based professors and students of political science, including scholars in Hungary. As made clear in APSA's [previous statement](#), political interference in an accredited and legitimate degree program is unacceptable. We strongly urge Prime Minister Orbán to rescind this decree.

###

*Founded in 1903, the American Political Science Association is the leading professional organization for the study of political science and serves more than 11,000 members in more than 80 countries. With a range of programs and services for individuals, departments, and institutions, APSA brings together political scientists from all fields of inquiry, regions, and occupational endeavors within and outside academe to deepen our understanding of politics, democracy, and citizenship throughout the world.*