

## **Statement of the Hungarian Reformed General Convent in the Carpathian Basin on the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Trianon Peace Treaty**

To carry it with the strength of faith but not to forget it – this is the task assigned to Hungarians on the ninetieth anniversary of the Peace Treaty of Trianon.

We Hungarian Reformed people never spoke against others but only for ourselves and our perseverance. The Peace Treaty of Trianon is an unjust verdict which spans generations and maims nations, people and families alike. It still makes life and relationships rather tense, not only for Hungarians but also for all the other nations' in the Carpathian Basin. Trianon, the child of Europe, is a historical heritage which we, the nations living in the Carpathian Basin, must jointly carry. After three generations we must learn to live with this shocking reality of our history to build a common future which surmounts this division and also spans borders based on a new European order.

The borders defined in Trianon not only caused a division in physical terms but also parted Hungarians in spirit. One of the demonstrative examples is the painful message of the referendum held on 5 December 2004. Rejection stemming from disinterest and the interests of party politics tore long-healed scars open again.

The respective church bodies in Hungary, Carpathian-Ukraine, Vojvodina, Transylvania and Partium signed the Constitution of the Hungarian Reformed Church on 22 May 2009. Taking this step manifested our centuries-old community, the community of Hungarian Reformed believers, after toiling for nearly 20 years. The renewed declaration of our unity is a thanksgiving celebration, but also signals great responsibility at the same time: we must support unity to give an example to the whole of the Hungarian nation. Therefore, it is vital for the Hungarian Reformed Church to blossom in its unity and for our cross-border cooperation to strengthen. In this way we bear witness to our hope that God's grace in Christ, which reconciles all and everything, is greater than any unrest and division caused by man. We put our trust in the grace of the Lord who heals every wound.

It is the historic responsibility of today's Reformed Christians to enliven the Hungarian Reformed Church and bring cure, joy and peace instead of pain, sadness and anger within and across the borders of Trianon.

The previously separate Reformed organisations around the world will reunite in Grand Rapids in June 2010. While rejoicing that unity is not exclusively our business, we will participate in the General Council as a member of the worldwide Reformed family and part of the universal church of Jesus Christ. Together we strive to turn our community into a sign of hope in our shattered world.

“Christ is the future, Him we follow.”

Approved by the General Convent's meeting in Komárom on 27 May 2010.