



Board of Directors No: 1590-2012.I.

**Resolution of The Transylvanian Reformed Church District's General Assembly  
regarding the Romanian State's Re-Nationalization Attempt of the  
Székely Mikó Reformed High-School in Sepsiszentgyörgy/Sfântu Gheorghe**

The Transylvanian Reformed Church District includes more than 400,000 church members. The General Assembly, its supreme representative body, is deeply shocked and distressed following the decision by the Romanian justice against the Székely Mikó Reformed High-School in Sepsiszentgyörgy.

In this case, the verdict denies the legitimate owner, the Transylvanian Reformed Church, of its real estate; the Székely Mikó Reformed High-School property. The decision is a clear derision of justice and equity. It will cause severe material and moral detriment to the Transylvanian Reformed Church.

Consequently, the General Assembly of The Transylvanian Reformed Church District firmly objects to the Buzau Court decision of 28 June 2012. The decision arbitrarily returns previously restituted real estate from The Transylvanian Reformed Church District back to the Romanian State. However, the property was legally conveyed to the Church by Government Emergency Ordinance no. 83 of 1999, published in Official Journal no. 266 of 10 June 1999.

At the same time, the General Assembly of The Transylvanian Reformed Church District speaks in defense, on behalf, of the three Restitution Committee members, who were condemned by the Buzau Court for returning the school building to its rightful owner. Based on false accusations, these three individuals were each sentenced to 3 years of imprisonment. They include: Marosan Tamás, former legal advisor of the Transylvanian Reformed Church District, Markó Attila, secretary of state, and Clim Silviu, counselor of the Romanian State's Justice Department.

Our protest is supported by these legitimate arguments:

1. The annex of nationalization law 176/1948 clearly states that the Székely Mikó Reformed High-School building, in Sepsiszentgyörgy, was confiscated by nationalization from the Transylvanian Reformed Church District. Obviously, according the restitution law, all nationalized properties should be returned to their legitimate owners.
2. In its 15 March 2006 order, the Brasov Court of Appeal definitively and irrevocably recognized that the Székely Mikó Reformed High-School, in Sepsiszentgyörgy, and all its assets were owned by the Reformed Church, prior to the nationalization. Consequently, the Transylvanian Reformed Church District is legally entitled to retain full possession of all its former school buildings. Based on the prior objection of our Church, this decision was recognized and confirmed by the Buzau Court hearing on 24 January 2012.
3. In the 28 June 2012 sentence, the Buzau Court ordered the Transylvanian Reformed Church District to pay penalties of 1,137,000 Lei. The Romanian State argued that the

Church damaged the property, by using it. In fact, Transylvanian Reformed Church District invested 2.9 million Lei out of own funds for building improvements and modernization of education 2.9 million Lei.

4. In its judgment, the Buzau Court failed to consider the evidence presented by the Church. Further, the Buzau Court failed to uphold the contemporary religious and secular laws, which legally assign ownership of the applicable school real estate to established Reformed Church Bodies.

The self-definition of the Székely Mikó Reformed High-School from the period between the two World Wars also reflects this: "the school, such an expression of religious freedom, according the present laws altogether represents the property of the Reformed Church and as such is entirely subordinated to the Church Authorities."

Moreover, the Romanian Ministry of Education issued the school an operating license in 1928, signed by Minister of Education, Anghelescu, which clearly states that the Székely Mikó Reformed High-School is the property of the Transylvanian Reformed Church District.

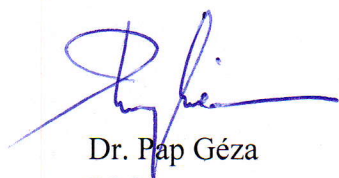
Given the above points, the General Assembly of the Transylvanian Reformed Church District considers the proceedings initiated against the members of the Restitution Committee an authentic show trial. As such, it constitutes an attack against Hungarians in Transylvania. In addition, it signals the beginning of an imminent Re-Nationalization process, harkening back to the days of communism.

When State issued laws are ignored, there is no prevailing law. In effect, the Székely Mikó Reformed High-School verdict certifies that the Rule of Law in Romania is a sham, a lie, and an illusion. The Buzau Court judgment has shaken our public confidence in the Romanian judiciary system.

As a European Union (EU) member state, Romania continues to commit human rights violations, which are forbidden, by its constitution. Therefore, we advocate the international monitoring of the Romanian justice system and call for a review of the Romanian restitution process, which has been delayed, since the fall of communism in 1989.

In the future, our church leaders will publicize the Székely Mikó Reformed High-School verdict, protest the Re-Nationalization process, spotlight this injustice at international forums, and fight by all lawful means to protect the truth and our legitimate Church real estate.

Kolozsvár, 6 July 2012.



Dr. Pap Géza  
Bishop



Geréb Péter  
First Presbyter



**AZ ERDÉLYI REFORMÁTUS EGYHÁZKERÜLET PÜSPÖKI HIVATALA - KOLOZSVÁR**  
**SIEBENBÜRGISCHER REFORMIERTER KIRCHENDISTRIKT - BISCHOFSAMT**  
**TRANSYLVANIAN REFORMED CHURCH DISTRICT - THE BISHOP'S OFFICE**

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**Statement**

Since the change of Romanian State power in 1989, the Hungarian Historic Churches of Transylvania have relentlessly struggled to obtain the restitution of their confiscated church properties. This real estate was Nationalized under Communist rule. The Churches demand that the Romanian State immediately return their property, by either full indemnification or full in-kind exchange.

For the past 22-years, we have waited patiently. However, our legitimate demands that are assured by the Romanian Constitution (and its rule-of-law) have been violated, within the framework of private property rights and public jurisdiction.

Consequently, the members and Executive Bodies of our Churches note, with profound indignation, the legal verdict, which Re-Nationalized the Székely Mikó Reformed High-School in Sepsiszentgyörgy (Sfantu-Gheorghe); legally-owned Hungarian Reformed Church real estate.

We find the judicial tyranny of the Romanian Court system intolerable. First, the property records substantiating Church ownership were barred as evidence. Second, the Romanian Court imposed a penalty of 1,137,000 lei against the Transylvanian Reformed Church District. Third, the Romanian Court sentenced two members of the Property Restitution Committee to jail, for legally transferring the real estate back to its rightful owner; the Hungarian Reformed Church.

While expressing compassion for the wrongly convicted persons, our Churches will join together, seeking a proper and equitable legal appeal on their behalf. We hope that this will happen soon. The wide-spread anti-Hungarian feelings, by the Romanian State, publicly prejudice our case.

As stated above, until all our confiscated Church property is De-Nationalized or proper compensation is received, there is no legitimate relationship, between the Hungarian Historic Churches of Transylvania and the prevailing powers of the Romanian State.

Transylvania-wide, 11 July 2012.

György Jakubinyi, Archbishop of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese in Gyulafehérvár (Alba Iulia)  
Géza Pap, Bishop of the Transylvanian Reformed Church District  
István Csúry, Bishop of the Királyhágómellék Reformed Church District  
Jenő Schönberger, Bishop of the Szatmár (Satu-Mare) Roman Catholic Diocese  
László Böcskei, Bishop of the Nagyvárad (Oradea) Roman Catholic Diocese  
Ferenc Bálint Benczédi, Bishop of the Transylvanian Unitarian Church  
Dezső Zoltán Adorjáni, Bishop of the Evangelical-Lutheran Church in Romania

**For validation:**

Kolozsvár/Klausenburg, 15. 07.2012



Rt. Rev. Dr. Géza Pap, Bishop



Synod no: 21-2012

### Statement

Based on the submission of the Királyhágómellék Reformed Church District, at the 13 July 2012 assembly, the Synod of the Reformed Church in Romania issued the following resolution:

We acknowledge, with indignation, the Re-Nationalization of the Székely Mikó Reformed High-School in Sepsiszentgyörgy (Sfântu Gheorghe), the imposition of jail sentences against two Property Restitution Committee members, and the financial penalties assessed against the Transylvanian Reformed Church District.

We consider this current event, by the Romanian Administration of Justice, a harsh attack against the Church, the ethnic Hungarian population, the Rule-of-Law in Romania, and also an assault against the citizens of the European Union.

We request that the Competent Authorities quickly intercede and stop the wholly illegal process of Re-Nationalization of the Székely Mikó Reformed High-School in Sepsiszentgyörgy (Sfântu Gheorghe). The Buzău Court decree issued on June 28 reverses Church progress and subjects believers to memories of the pre-1989, dark-dictatorship.

We invite, with faith and hope, the joint-action of all Religious Denominations living in Romania to demand:

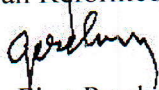
- The consistent application of the Rule-of-Law in Romania.
- The full realization of “Restitutio in Integrum” in Romania.
- The immediate termination of all Re-Nationalization activity in Romania.

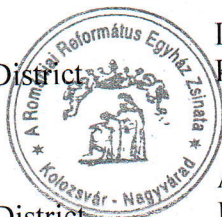
The Synod of the Reformed Church in Romania calls for all pastors and believers to common prayer for the reversal of the failure of democracy in Romania, for fairness, justice, and lawful courts in Romania, and for our Church community in Christ.


Kolozsvár, 13 July 2012

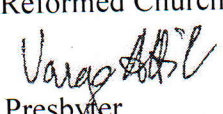
### The Presidency of the Synod

  
Dr. Géza Pap, Bishop  
Transylvanian Reformed Church District

  
Péter Geréb, First Presbyter  
Transylvanian Reformed Church District



  
István Csűrly, Bishop  
Királyhágómellék Reformed Church District

  
Attila Varga, First Presbyter  
Királyhágómellék Reformed Church District