



THE EVANGELICAL - LUTHERAN CHURCH IN ROMANIA

**EPISCOPAL OFFICE**

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„Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn!” (Romans 12:15.)

We were astonished to hear about the final and irrevocable decision of the Ploiești Court of Appeal on November 25, 2014 in which the Székely Mikó Reformed High-School from Sepsiszentgyörgy (Sfântu Gheorghe) – the property of the Transylvanian Reformed Church District – was renationalised.

Following this decision, notwithstanding that we are law abiding citizens, we have no other choice than accept it: this renationalisation of the Székely Mikó Reformed High-School and the conviction of those who acted in a completely lawful manner during the entire restitution process is nothing else than disfranchisement and a violation of the laws, an outrageous violation of the right to property which overrides historic and legal facts. A politically motivated, unconstitutional decision was given and we protest against it! Our faith in the rule of law has been shaken to its very core. The Romanian state has declared to us that minority churches and their followers in faith do not enjoy the same rights as everybody else in this country.

This ignominious procedure of renationalisation raises doubts as to the paradigm of impartiality, lawfulness and rightfulness and it suggests that other goods belonging to minority churches from Transylvania which have a similar ownership situation are not safe either.

We would like to assure our partner church – the Transylvanian Reformed Church District – of our unconditional support and we will fight by their side against oppression, perfidy, lies and wrongdoing. We can not let this go unchallenged and we can not helplessly watch how the heritage of our future generations is robbed, compromising a secure future for our children and churches.

That is why we turn to our partner churches and to international Christian organisations. We ask you to identify yourselves with this cause, to support with all the possible lawful means the legitimate efforts and struggle of the minority churches from Romania against a corrupt, politically biased and discriminating system. We ask you to raise your voices and to pray for us.

Rev. Dezső Zoltán Adorjáni

Bishop

Rev. Attila Fehér

Episcopal Councilor