

Hungarian Embassy  
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1180 Uccle  
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Belgium

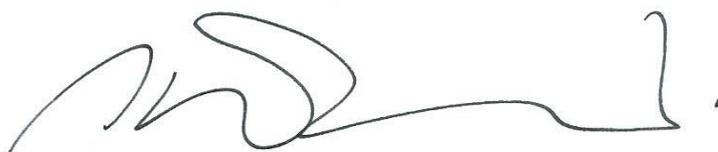
London/Brussels 12 July 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

CEATL, the European Council of Literary Translators' Associations, is appalled by the fine imposed on the book shop Lira könyv for selling the book Micsoda család! (What a Family!) written by Lawrence Schimel, illustrated by Elina Brasliņa and translated by Anna T. Szabó, for failing to note that it contains 'content which deviates from the norm'. We stand in solidarity with the book's author, Lawrence Schimel, when he writes that the Hungarian government is 'trying to normalise hate and prejudice with these concerted attacks against books like mine (...) which represent for kids the plural and diverse world they live in.'

CEATL further condemns the Hungarian government's crackdown on LGBT rights in Hungary with the law of 15 June 2021, and stands with all Hungarian associations protesting this law, in particular our own member association, MEGY, which has called for its revocation: 'Literary translators should not be restricted by any politically motivated law that restricts fundamental human rights in the subject matter about which they translate books'. The 35 European translators' associations that make up CEATL join with MEGY in calling for a revocation of this retrograde law.

Yours faithfully



Shaun Whiteside, President CEATL

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