

## DECLARATION FROM ARAD

### ...on the 25th anniversary of the church protest against the demolition of villages

„Is there no one in this country who would put a bullet through this traitor’s head?” – this question of the article published two years ago in the weekly magazine **Ștefan cel Mare** might come to our mind seeing the **discreditation- and hate-campaign** that that has recently unfolded against my person. I don’t even have to say that this **open incitement** to armed violence has not had any legal consequences till today, and despite our legitimate complaint and multiple requests law enforcement organs have not facilitated justice to be done. Prime minister **Victor Ponta** also has given rise to the initiation of litigation with his unfounded accusations according to which **László Tőkés** „represents anti-Romanian interests,” and he is „financed by persons interested in Romania’s instability who wish Romania to be attacked from all sides.”

Later in the months of July and August several of the country’s dignitaries – led by president **Traian Băsescu** and **Crin Antonescu** chair of the Senate – as well as the party-media have all become part of the anti-Hungarian and anti- Tőkés provocative campaign. Victor Ponta envisaged the initiation of criminal proceedings, the president of the country questioned my right to be a Romanian citizen, the co-president of the Social-Liberal Alliance (USL) initiated the withdrawal of my **Romania’s Star** award. Further, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs also has attacked me as well as such run-down leaders of the Romanian secret services as **Nicolae Uliearu** (Romanian Intelligence Service– SRI) and **Ioan Talpeș** (Foreign Intelligence Service – SIE). They slandered me with a „past in the intelligence services” that has long been cleared.

For more than a month the Romanian press has also been loud with such accusations against my person that condemn me for being anti-Constitution and anti-Romanian, for extreme nationalism and irredentism, for offending against peace between ethnic groups and against European values, etc.

What have I done to deserve to become the **scapegoat** for almost all the agents of Romanian politics as the **target** of the nationalist-postcommunist media, and all this to peak in the fact that „thanks” to the intervention of Victor Ponta social-democrat party president and **Corina Crețu** socialist EP-member and the comrades joining her official proceedings for the withdrawal of my state award have started?!

The obvious reason and explanation lies in my suggestion of the 27th of July 2013 made at the Summer Camp in Tusnad Bai according to which following the Austrian-Italian model Hungary should take on a **protective role** with reference to Hungarians from Romania, Transylvania, in order to guarantee our rights.

Mentioning the well-functioning **European model** guaranteeing the autonomy of the Austrian community in living in South-Tirol, Italy, triggered unexpected and excessive anger in the Romanian political leaders. As a response reaction they ask for my head arguing that I have violated the Constitution and endangered Romania's nation state unity and territorial integrity, and they have been campaigning against me playing the **Hungarian card** outbidding each other in stirring Romanian national feelings, in fact indirectly but obviously against the entire Hungarian minority.

This coordinated attack-series – it seems – will peak in **setting an example** through withdrawing my Romania's Star award earned for my merits in the 1989 revolution from Timisoara, for their own political interests as well as with the aim of teaching a lesson and intimidate the Hungarian community who have been demanding their rights to autonomy more and more strongly.

- According to the **European Union Charter of Fundamental Rights** we all have the right to human dignity (Art. 1), to personal integrity (Art. 3) and to the freedom of expression (Art. 11). Based on the above I most strongly reject the gross violation of my human dignity, the threatening limitation of my political and EP-member freedom of expression, and the verbal aggression *ad personam* that constitutes open incitement. meant the acknowledgement of all the Timisoara heroes' and resistance fighters' merits. As „**they stole the revolution from Timisoara**”, in 2009 the Romania's Star award served justice to a certain degree to the „martyred city.” If they withdraw the award now, this would again mean ignoring Timisoara's revolutionary past and would constitute further proof of the now unfolding **communist type reorganisation**.
- Organic part of the **democratic regime change** that started in 1989 is constituted by the **minority regime change** that includes guaranteeing the collective rights of Hungarians from Transylvania. However, what we witness is the continuous limitation of our rights, the plan of the artificial territorial rearrangement that is forced upon us and which is discriminative in character, and Hungarians have continuously been blamed for their autonomy-demands, which refers to the ignoring of the above

mentioned demands rather than the realisation of such pursuits. The back motive behind the above described provocative campaign and the withdrawal of my award consists in the maintenance of anti-Hungarian discrimination and hindering the achievement our goals. The propagandistic script of my „decoration’s” withdrawal is meant to distract the public’s attention from such hypocritical political background.

- The – possible – withdrawal of the Romania’s Star award would be an obviously **discriminative, anti-Hungarian act**. (This is shown also by the fact that from the socialist ex prime minister convicted for corruption, **Adrian Năstase** the award was not withdrawn.) The accusations against me that distort my words and the invented slanders are all by their nature **ethnic by character**. In other words: they humiliate me, they continue to address fierce hatred speeches against me, they want to deprive me of my merits because I am Hungarian and – like a good Romanian for his Romanian nation – I stand by my Hungarian nation.

One of the most beautiful and most truthful messages of the revolution from Timisoara consists in the fact that on the „freeing Christmas” of **1989 Romanians and Hungarians** stepped up together against dictatorship and in defending freedom. We call this collaboration based on the solidarity among the ten nationalities and religious groups of the city **the spirit of Timisoara**.

The **postcommunist restoration** that has been going on with varying intensity for quarter of a century has been trying to destroy – among other things – this spirit, trying to destroy our social and human environment similarly to the destruction of **Rosia Montana’s** natural environment.

Freeing ourselves from the retracting burden of communism, we need a **new, second regime change**. „Romania’s Star” point at this correct direction, as the Latin inscription of the historical award states: *In fide salus!* (Liberation in Faith!) Our country, our society, indebted, at the verge of bankruptcy, in moral crisis, need faith and liberation.

If they want they can take the award away from me. But: nobody can deprive us of **our faith in Christ**, a faith that led us also among the fate-changing events of 1989.

Arad, 7 September 2013.

László Tőkés