

**DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE OF HUNGARIANS IN ROMANIA (RMDSZ/  
DAHR)  
STATEMENT ON THE FREEDOM OF SPEECH (SEPTEMBER 29, 2001)**

During the last decade, since the December 1989 revolution, the right to the freedom of speech and of press played an important role in the formation of a democratic institutional system. In the self-organization process of the Hungarian community in Romania, information in native language is the basic pillar for the maintenance of national identity. The DAHR Program includes the extension of public radio and television in Hungarian language and the support of a proper infrastructure for the press. We are convinced that information in native language can be restrained neither by a law for the protection of the official language, nor by other juridical regulations.

We express our disquiet on the declarations of the Prime Minister of Romania concerning press in Hungarian language, which question the right to free and independent information. At the same time we consider unacceptable the fact that the Government of Romania wants to ban the use of schoolbooks published abroad, as the intention is in contradiction with the obligations assumed by Romania.

The Council of DAHR Representatives fights with consistency for the right to a free press in Romanian and Hungarian languages and the right to the freedom of speech.

Tg. Mures, September 29, 2001

Council of DAHR Representatives

[Quelle: <http://www.rmdsz.ro/angol/index.htm>]