Freedom of Academic Expression
Civil Society Days, Brussels, 13 June, 2019
Péter Inkei, CEU Press / Budapest Observatory
Levels of observation

• Ad hoc breaches of the freedom of expression, anecdotal instances of censorship

• Systemic violation of academic freedom
The four dimensions of university autonomy

As defined by the European University Association:

- **Organizational Autonomy**: internal organization, leading personalities
- **Financial Autonomy**: internal financial affairs
- **Staffing Autonomy**: management of faculty and staff, recruitments, salaries, dismissal, promotions
- **Academic Autonomy**: student admission, academic content, quality assurance, degrees etc.

These are multi-dimensions, not just yes-no linear dimensions
Reasons to interfere

• Ideological
• Political
• Financial
• Psychological
Value chains

University autonomy – academic freedom – divergent thinking – innovative and creative citizens – well functioning democracy and economy

University autonomy – academic freedom – tolerating heuristics – diversity of discoveries – well functioning democracy and economy

Responsiveness and accountability are a beneficial provision.
Stakeholders

- Educators, scholars
- Students
- Administrators
- Governments
- International organisations
- Civil society