



HUNGARY

## Street protest over government overhaul of academic bodies

**Reuters** 08 June 2019

Hungarians took to the streets of central Budapest on Sunday 2 June to protest plans to overhaul the country's leading scientific research body, which they see as part of a wider government attempt to curb academic freedom, writes Marton Dunai for *Reuters*.

Right-wing Prime Minister Viktor Orbán, who took power in 2010, has tightened controls over public life, including the courts, the media, universities and scientific research, putting him on a collision course with the European Union.

In its latest move, the government has said it plans to strip the 200-year-old Hungarian Academy of Sciences of its network of research institutions and hand over their buildings and assets to a new governing council. News website *Index.hu* reported last Tuesday that the government was now drawing up draft legislation for the plan. The academy said on Wednesday that the government wanted "total political control" of vital research.

**[Full report on the Reuters site](#)**

<https://www.universityworldnews.com/post.php?story=20190606153745758>