



President

29 June, 2010

Mr Joan Gaspart
European Hospitality Foundation

Dear Mr Gaspart,

The Hotel Association of Hungary is pleased to nominate Dr. Akos Niklai for the 2010 EHF Award.

Dr. Niklai has been a leading hotelier and restaurateur over the last 35 years in Hungary and Australia, winning several international and national awards with the properties he was running. During the enlargement period of the European Union, in his capacity as President of the Hotel Association of Hungary and the Hungarian Tourism Employers Organisation he was instrumental in understanding, communicating and introducing EU regulations and has been successful in identifying and introducing good European solutions for national problems of the hospitality industry. He was the founding Co-chairman of the National Social Dialogue Committee for the Hospitality Industry and established good and productive dialogue with the social partners on both national and European level for many years. He was contributing regularly to European Tourism Forums. He has been very active on both European and national level in reducing VAT rates, being the Chairman of HOTREC's VAT Committee.

For 6 years Dr. Niklai was Chairman of the Hungarian National Tourist Office and has been very active in successfully leading this large organisation, promoting Hungary as a popular destination internationally and domestically. As member of the Hungarian Tourism Committee he was the key initiator of the Hungarian Tourism Strategy as well.

He is a great supporter of professional education at all levels. He is Honorary Professor in Tourism and also the Chairman of the Budapest Business School. He was the founder of the Clefs D'Or School.

Dr. Akos Niklai is the holder of the „Pro Turismo” award and has been awarded with the Cross of the Order of Knighthood by the President of the Republic of Hungary.

The Board of HAH fully supports this nomination and is convinced that Dr. Akos Niklai is an outstanding candidate for this prestigious award.

Kind regards,

Dr. János Erdei
President