

Reflections received on the Last Memo

What....!?

Thank you, Peter, for the information, even if it hits as a shock. And it is good to know that the undersigned is holding fit as I always remember being the case.

Most probably it is the best possible reaction at the moment.

Thanks – but really sorry that it has come to this. You have provided wonderful and informative insights over the years. And of course you were never paid for it – part of a distinguished international club of people who are *not* beholden to state and institutional sycophancy! Austria remains a funny country which has yet to come to terms with its role in the mid-20th century, let alone over the Habsburg Empire long before that. As one might put it, Austria is a country which still likes to think that Beethoven was Austrian but Hitler was German. PS I should have said that Bavarians often sound and behave like honorary Austrians! We better not speculate too much on the role of the Roman Catholic church in that....

Thank you very much Peter for your wonderful work.

Heartfelt thanks for keeping the flag flying for so many of us for so many years!

All good wishes for the future – whatever it may hold.

We've followed the news from Hungary with mounting dread. BO has remained a beacon for hope, and we're very sorry to hear that it's going out.

I was shocked to read your announcement about this being the last bulletin. I think I understand your feelings and I share them. Who could have suspected that all our initial optimism would turn into xenophobia and revived nationalism within just one generation.

I send you my best wishes, for you personally and for the world we live in.

I will miss them.

Maybe one day there will be some more!

It is sad to read that this is the last of the BO memos. I am hardly the most regular among their readers, but I knew I had the opportunity to read them. Now that this opportunity is gone, it is sad and symptomatic. And not only for the Hungarian context, as you show.

Thank you so much for your generous and disinterested work, which has accurately collected and cleverly commented various and precious sources of information.

From the very beginning till this sad end of game, all your memos kept high the spirit of cultural development, freedom of criticism and social solidarity, universal values that we are hardly trying to share, not only between eastern and western Europe, but also between North and South.

I can understand that you're fed up with the poisons distilled by populist and nationalist propaganda, but we have to be confident that the joy of free thinking shall never die, if we are able to communicate it to the young people. Keep writing ! Maybe a book ? As a special tribute to István Bibó ?

This is devastating news. Like a bereavement. I had to re-read this to check if I had made a mistake. No going back – a pause?

We've never met (to my knowledge) but perhaps we can sometime as I have always valued your bulletins for their incomparable assessments and your tongue-in-cheek humour and perceptive wit. Life needs both.

Perhaps we can have a coffee sometime? Are the contact details below going to continue or do you have others?

For your safety I hope you don't receive 4550 emails, but at the other hand: I hope you do.

With tears in my eyes I would like to thank you for the wonderful job you did. I can't believe we will have to live without BO. It was such a joy to receive your messages and such a rich source of information! I am sure we didn't tell you enough how much we valued your work. But I guess it wouldn't have changed your decision. Hope to meet you wherever, to assure ourselves humanity is not lost yet.

I'm so sorry to hear this Péter but I thank you for all your work in keeping us informed and wish you all the best and a continued interest in diverse projects.

I want to say thank you on behalf of myself and so many others who you've laid the path for and kept the torch lit for all these years.

This work you have done as a labor of love has made a real difference even if this moment seems very dark. Please do provide a way to keep in touch and know how much your work has shaped and touched our field.

I started reading these memos some years ago when I worked for culture action Europe.

Thanks for all of them all these years. It has always been very interesting.

Thank you for all your work on the BO memos. Although I am quite a recent subscriber, they have been most valuable in my research work, and in giving a perspective on Eastern European cultural policy. I

am sorry to hear that it will no longer be running. I wish you the best with your future work.

I am so sorry reading this! You were an island of independent observing... I wish you all the best in your personal life and also to find new passion!

I am so sad to hear that this is your last memo. Your communication has been of great value to me and others in our organisation. I hope we can stay in touch.

I wish to thank you for all the work done pro bono which has helped facilitate a lot of European co-operation and enlightenment through the many years, I myself have been a subscriber since 2005 where we met at a conference in Portoroz.

Soon, in June, AMATEO is going to celebrate its 10 years of establishment, now being a European network with a good grant from the EU, so the future is really going to be working for the common goal of active participation in cultural activities.

These are very sad news to hear since this medium has been so useful in my daily job in culture policy planning in Latvia.

I am totally shocked, will miss you and your bright posts, and am going to look for some turds to aim at the fan.

First I would like to congratulate you for the impressive work of BO over these years. My mailbox and I will certainly miss the wits and sharp analyses of your memos.

I am sincerely saddened by the news, not only because the memo was probably the longest newsletter I would read with great interest from beginning to end, but also because as you rightly wrote, the toxic spirits have managed to tire you out... They did put an awful lot of efforts into it.

I do hope you'll find other ways to contribute to the (re)openness of the east-Europe mind, and echo the voices of those who feel the same way you do.

Sorry to read that this is the last memo. I have read carefully and enjoyed them

This is a sad choice you had to make.

BO's monthly memo was a friendly monthly visitor, and my friends from several small NGO's were looking forward for information and analyses provided by you, with an objective mind and insight.

I know it will be sadly missed, and I am writing this e-mail just to let you know how much your work has been appreciated and valued. I know this must have been a difficult and painful decision to take.

However, you have proven with your work so far that you deserve our full trust and respect, and support in all the steps you find necessary to take.

So, although I am very sorry to have to witness this outcome, I support your decision to withdraw from fighting against windmills yet again, and wish you all the best in your future life and work.

Authentic, courageous people with integrity are a dying breed. With your work, and with this decision, you prove to be among them.

So sorry ; it has been such an interesting, stimulating and always enjoyable moment to read each and every memo ; that it is ending can not be true ! Will you reconsider ? You have to! These memos were also used fruitfully for the own work of many. As is the east, the west is diverse: not a single way of thinking of course. Grab back this spirit you says has gone..

Thank you for your message, though it is truly disheartening!

Your memos have been outstanding: full of lucid analyses, sharp speak, irony and humour; you made the figures speak and tell us stories about the East and the West, the North and the South.. and the larger units and visions around them, all the geographical, material and mental constructs.. As an ex-statistician and sociologist I have not missed a single BO memo. And shared them with many colleagues at the CoE, and elsewhere.

We will be missing this spicy publication and steady reminder of our shared larger ambitions for Europe.

Perhaps you can reconsider the decision...? I hope you will, and expect the other 4549 recipients of this last piece to express a similar wish.

Thank you also for the dedicated reporting about the CoE's work in the cultural and heritage sector, where and when you found this relevant.

It was a pleasure to work with you, and we shall not give up working with you!

If I understand correctly you are stopping this email bulletin? That is really sad as it is always something I enjoy very much every month, though I understand your reasons of course.

We are so sad to hear and read that this is the last BO memo. Our critical source since our start. Any last chance to provide you with good spirit to continue?

This message is a very sad sign of where our Europe is heading to. I came to know you while working as a consultant for UNESCO and doing a research on measures to protect and foster cultural diversity in East Europe. In these years, I always received with pleasure your updates, who made me think about a better Europe because culture had a role to play. Culture can open minds, this is why culture scares. So, you are scaring those who want the inglorious restoration.

I do hope you will find a way to use this power to stop this process. Thanks for this email, I will spread the news as I can, hoping that this will move some reaction to help Hungary to change its orientation before it will be too late.

Thank you for what you have done. I will be missing reading your thoughts - and I am sure everybody will be missing an important moment of reflection.

Take care and enjoy the journey towards a new spirit.

I'm very sad receiving your mail, sad about nationalism spreading in the world as a new religion for the masses and sad about what happened and happens in your country. But I do hope you and your colleagues & friends will manage in some way to keep going and enjoying all matters of culture you've so strongly supported with the BO. Thanks for your work and all your Memos!

I am really sad to hear that you will no longer be sending any of your brilliant memos. So I wanted to simply say thank you for all your hard work and that your monthly memos are definitely going to be missed.

You might not remember me but we crossed paths briefly in Casablanca, Morocco, a couple of years ago at an EU organised event (can't recall the name, I'm afraid). We've exchanged cards and since then I have been receiving your brilliant memos each month which quickly became part of my monthly readings and valuable insights into the European Cultural sector.

Just seen your latest and final(?) BO Memo. Really sad to learn this, but sympathise with how you feel. In my country riven by division, acrimony and hate, it is depressing to read the daily press comment in the right wing media in the UK determinedly pursuing the Brexit path to economic disaster and labelling as 'traitors' all those who oppose it. And for the creative sector it IS a disaster. On the 20th April the British composer and conductor Howard Goodall set out online the problems that UK musicians and other creators would have to face in engaging with EU countries in future with visas and work etc and was immediately attacked by twitter trolls.

Meanwhile, immigrants (many from the British Commonwealth) who have been living in the UK for 30-40 years have lost their jobs, social security and faced the threat of deportation (and, in some cases, actually been deported), as have their children born in the UK because they did not have written proof they entered the country legally (as you know we don't have ID cards). The scandal has been known about for some time, but Government ministers proclaimed they did not know about targets for expelling individuals, even though the Home Office was pursuing government policy of creating a 'hostile environment' for "illegal" immigrants. I have seen the impact on friends. It is depressing to see moderate voices drowned out by the clamour of extremists on the right and left and how few politicians are prepared to stand against this ignorance and stupidity for fear of losing their parliamentary seats. How sad in an interconnected world to see the idealism of an open Europe being replaced by resurgent nationalism. Clearly, we learn nothing from history.

I always enjoyed reading your Memo and do hope that you will consider resurrecting it at some stage.

I hear you!

Very sad but completely understandable.

I do hope our paths cross again at some point - you have been a support and an inspiration over many years - and I hope you find satisfying alternatives to keep you interested and bemused.

Oh Peter, what has happened?

I will miss the bright light of your analysis, and the perspective of Central Europe which must be heard, beyond the political simplifications and populist horrors which are planting their poisonous discourse in all too many minds throughout Europe and beyond.

I live in Bratislava, pretty close to Budapest, and, for a few years, I have been reading your reports. This last one hit me profoundly.

I understand what you are writing about. Neighboring countries, intertwined histories; something about this Central European atmosphere, environment, mood, that can make one tired, exhausted, listless...

One has a feeling that s/she doesn't belong. Maybe that's why I found the courage to write back.

And it's not very often that I do that - being the shy, old fashioned type who believes in good old face to face conversation...

I'm very sorry to read that this is the last Memo, I do hope we can learn from your sharp observations at other occasions...

It's really very sad news about BudObs considering that similar situation is developed elsewhere. Could we help somewhat? In any case, we are open and culture-oriented as always.

Thank you very much for your work and efforts. It was always very useful (no matter what others say).

It is regrettable and I am really sorry!

With the hope of possibilities for resistance and all the best for you!

Extremely sorry to hear! I will miss the memo, especially in times like these.

What a pity, dear Peter! Thanks for your solid information all these years. I must admit I have similar feelings about what's happening now in Europe and all related countries, but I would say: the work you are doing is needed more than ever. Nevertheless I fully respect your decision. I hope we will still experience developments for better in the near future. Thanks again (a true fan of BO)

Thank you very much for the memos. They have been useful for me, both while I was working professionally with European cooperation as secretary of the European Council of Artists and later on to keep me updated on European issues and to keep up my European perspective. Although your focus was Central and Eastern Europe, there was plenty of useful information for anyone anywhere else in Europe.

Although I now and then have been in contact with former colleagues I really have been missing a forum on European level and the possibility to reflect together with people from other parts of Europe on everything that has happened during the last 3 or 4 years.

Your last memo has made me realize that I ought to do something instead of just watching the decay of European values and cooperation.

Thank you, Peter, for the Memos. I appreciated them a lot.

I much appreciate the work of BO. Thank you for all your Central European spirit. I am sure that this spirit will not go away.

I cannot say how sorry I was to receive your recent memo.

I assume it was not a decision which you took light-heartedly and therefore, I fear it will not be possible to make you change your mind.

Yet, I wish you would...

It's been an honour to have met you and a true pleasure to receive your regular updates and your precious insights into our world.

I just read your email, and... I have to say that I'm not surprised, and I do think I understand the reasons. But I am still sad... I know many people probably told you this, but I have to tell you that too. Your work, analysis, witty comments and diligent approach to policy analysis from Central/East Europe was so valuable to my work - research, teaching... but also always helpful when I was building my argument in everyday life, fighting for the values I think we share.

Your work is and always be appreciated. I read your memos carefully for years, and if you stop publishing them, it will definitely feel like a serious gap.

Thank you for everything you are doing. I still have some hope that this is not your final decision.

Thank you for this memo and really sorry to read that this is the last one.

I really enjoy the Budapest Observatory's memos, and I strongly recommended all my students to read them as they offer a very useful contribution to know and understand what is going on in the field of culture/cultural policies in the EU/Eastern Europe. I very much appreciated the unique critical/humoristic tone of these memos which I feel is very much needed to address these issues - I'll really miss that!

Last but not least, reading about the toxic spirits echoes the great difficulties of the cultural practitioners' group from the Southern Mediterranean Region gathered presently in Rabat for a Med Culture workshop. As you mentioned, let's keep working!

For some days I wanted to respond to your message where you announced the end of so many years of the BO newsletter. I'll find it a lot to miss! Your weighted and well-documented vision was and is still very necessary. Also, a critical view in defense of a common European project where the countries of Central and Eastern Europe could play a role of equality with those of the West.

I understand, I am disappointed that the Hungarian situation causes you. I'm following the political situation in your country and I'm very worry for my Hungarian friends and for people like you. Neither does the political situation in Catalonia, with a Spain unable to accept its internal diversity and an ultra conservative and nationalist judiciary, leave little room for optimism.

However, we must move forward in favor of the values we believe in.

It was with great dismay that I read your recent news.

I have been a keen reader of your newsletter ever since it was first issued. I am based in Cologne, working on culture industries research

I can understand your reasons for discontinuing the newsletter, but they make me very sad. It is a pity that there are people in power (not only in Hungary) who, through their narrow-mindedness, make it very difficult to work in an open and future-oriented way. As you so aptly put it, the atmosphere gets more and more poisoned, taking the fun out of many activities and commitments and making them pointless.

We met recently during the Prague Assembly of Compendium Experts. It is sad reading the last BO Memo with this dreadful illustration photo on the right.

It took me some days to reflect on your decision, as it came as quite a blow in these dark days that are oozing hatred, populism and intolerance seemingly everywhere.

I hope you are well, as you say at the end. But if your spirit is gone, what's left? Hopefully a spirit still fires you in other domains, other initiatives...

I do believe history runs in cycles. I take hope in the next wave of humanism, even though I don't know how long it will take to come around. Someone(s) will have to come an undo all the damage that is taking place now. I hope we live to see it.

I send you a very sincere thank you for your years of the BO and its delightful, informative and always interesting newsletter. And a big hug, Dragan-style in thanks for you being yourself.

This is very unfortunate news. I for one will miss your witty and thoughtful guide to the cultural world. Your letter brings home the seriousness of the situation ("culture war"?) in Hungary in a very personal way. I wish you all the best in your other endeavors --

I would like to tell you how this situation deeply saddens me. I feel very connected to Hungary and to the current situation the country is living after the last elections; I go quite often to Budapest and it's difficult to me to see my friends and loved ones getting disheartened and feeling powerless in order to change the situation in the country.

And me, as Spanish and fellow European, can't really find the words to express my support, and I'm certain of representing also the support of thousands of others, for your amazing work and your human values.

Thank you very much for everything, I hope you and your team can find the sparkle to revive the spirit that kept you working and fighting.

What news is this! Your wonderful, fabulous newsletter was a constant source of inspiration , information and encouragement to me over so many years. Its pithy, newsy, factual and in-depth content was always amazing and I really congratulate you on such an achievement. The Memo stood out internationally (and i believe me I read them all!) as a model newsletter and raised awareness of cultural policy issues across Eastern Europe incredibly effectively. Even though I have moved on, I am still reading the news and will miss yours in particular.

It is with considerable sadness and concern that I have read your last memo. I have a loyal recipient and reader of your memos for a long period of time, first in my former and now in my current capacity. I always found your memos and information relevant, insightful and clear. It would have been completely understandable to call it a day after so many years, simply there is always a moment to refocus and change. But the reason why you have decided to end with the memo (the current political situation) gives me (as a person with Central-European roots too) great sadness. Whenever important activists like you give up, something is definitively wrong. The only thing I can do now is to thank you for your hard work over the years, express my respect for your dedication and expertise, and wish you all the best.

So sorry to hear this. So sorry for both our countries. But we cannot give up. Perhaps you will stop writing Memos but I believe you will find some source for hope around you and some motivation for action after all or regardless.

As Vaclav Havel said:

Hope is a state of mind, not of the world. Hope, in this deep and powerful sense, is not the same as joy that things are going well, or willingness to invest in enterprises that are obviously heading for success, but rather an ability to work for something because it is good.

Thank you for all those years of connecting us to Europe and mainstreaming our part of Europe. Thank you for your courage and spirit.

Thank you very much for all your memos, your work and your believe in a European spirit.

You are not alone and your enthusiasm and engagement was worth every minute you invested.

Thank you very much for everything you have done. Thank you for barometer, festival analysis and at all for you fresh contextual analysis of state of arts and policy in Europe and Central and Eastern Europe. We are loosing our continuous alert.

Thank you for the BO memos. They were great and I will miss them.
Well done for sending them all these years.

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The only response I have at this moment is: silence ...and tears

I'm very much touched and shocked about your mail underneath. Since we met first time in the UNESCO context some years ago, me personally I'm following your precious and wise work and the phantastic source of "BO Memos".

To read your today's mail and more in between the lines, it makes me very sad to see all the positive energies and movements gone, we have seen since in the early years of Europe's unification....

Your clear and always very much appreciated and helpful analyses and comments on culture policy in East and West and in the entire Europe will be missed very much.

Thank you and all your team very much for all your incredible work !!!

Receiving this mail left me without words.

I cannot stress enough how important BO memos have been to articulate a shared, informed, panEuropean understanding of cultural policies.

Do let me know how CAE can help in limiting the difficult circumstances that have led you to take this decision.

I hope BO will continue with new (or not) exciting projects. I am certainly looking forward to more collaborations: we made a difference.

So this is the last Budapest Observatory memo.

Europe is changing. And we have to act! Thank you Péter Inkei for all you have done for the East European cultural policy accession, our self-understanding, understanding of processes... We need now to take another path - together! Will we have a strength for that? Opposing all the populist around us, xenophobes building fences, dictators shaking hands with each other...

Journalist in Slovakia fired or killed, imprisoned to life in Turkey, free media in Serbia closed and directors dismissed, nationalist in Poland on the rise, antisemitism throughout the Europe is slowly showing its ugly face, state of Israel is contributing by creating apartheid state killing Palestinians... UK? France? Better? Hardly

Have I got it right that the April memo was the LAST - not in the sense „the newest, the most recent” but in the sense that there will be no more memos from you?

From the last sentences of your message I understood that you decided to stop providing us with your monthly observations and analysis.

I would like to say that - even though I have not been researching cultural policies for quite a while already - I did appreciate your memos very much. They gave me an insight into matters that I myself was not able to cover. Being on your address list I knew that if anything important happens in the field of European cultural policies (especially in terms of financing), I will know it thanks to your memos.

Thank you very much for this service - carried pro bono. Many people appreciated that I am sure, and many will miss it!

Why? Is Peter giving up? Forced? What happened?

Again, I fully understand you, suffer with you, and deplore the end of this wonderful newsletter, piece of research!

The "inglorious restoration", as Péter Inkei calls it . Will we do something about it?!

Péter Inkei indeed, that was my way coming back from China in 2002 to understand the background of what was happening in Europe. That Eastern European critical view was so important....thank you!!!!

And wish you strength

I fully agree, thank you for your great work Peter. Sustainability of innovative European cultural policy initiatives still seems to be the greatest challenge.

Very sad now Peter you have inspired my organisation and I knew the BO work before I had the chance to meet you in person.

I left this last memo as unread in my inbox, after I read it, because I felt the need to say a proper thank you for all the valuable insights it has offered me through out the years. One month later, here it is:

I am not such a young professional anymore, but my professional roots are still close to my mind and soul. I was drawn on this path of looking at the cultural field as a mechanism put on a path towards certain goals, and find its structural drives, because of people like you, Dragan Klaić, Milena Dragisević-Sesic, Mercedes Giovinazzo, John Holden. Corina Suteu.

I think that somewhere during the debates and conferences I attended and heard you and the others, read the reports and analysis, I understood there is more to be done than facilitating this connection, there is something to be understood about how things work, an advocacy work to be done on behalf of the value of public culture and the tools to support it, nurture it. Your work and approach were greatly inspirational, in a time of great need to bridge the relation between the East and the West of Europe, as it still is...

THANK YOU, Peter!

I realize this only today, cleaning my inbox. Sorry to hear this, but well understood. Still, keep in touch!

I do hope you and your incisive observations and judgements will not disappear altogether. I wish you continued your brilliant job. Thanks for your latest, certainly not last, paper.

My condolences to the broken spirit.

I am saddened to hear that. I have great appreciation for your all your valuable work and for keeping cultural spirit alive in a period that is fastly heading towards trumpism and darkness.

Your last article - I don't hope the last one, but in the context of BO for sure - is an impressive reminder on the pasts of cultural heritages.

Thanks for all, and many best wishes (certainly for you in those hard times in your country),

I didn't react to your previous message as I hardly believed it (or refused to acknowledge it) but your PS reminds me how much I will miss your regular memo. Wondering how your correspondents, friends and acquaintances will do without it.

In the meantime I'm not surprised and rather extremely sad to see another result of the bad turn this continent (this world?) seems to take nowadays. We'll fight to overcome.

My best regards, dear Peter, I follow situation in your country and I am so much disappointed with it in our one.

I try to believe in better future.

The memo will be much missed. Thank you for it.

Sorry to hear it, sad indeed. It will not be the same without BO's astute observations.

I subscribed to your newsletter not that long ago, maybe tops 4 months, I am wondering with this message is the observatory altogether closing? Is the site going to be available even though no longer up to date?

Congratulations on your work and i am sad to hear the newsletters are no longer being produced.

Greetings from Mexico

Knowing you for so long, having worked with you, and reading so many BO bulletins have been highlights of my life. The bulletins constitute, as far as I can judge, the most important single source of professional analyses of contemporary European culture. Contemporary, but replete with burning issues that go back decades and (as you indicate in the reflections on the heritage of past diversity, centuries). I have organized a conference on Romania's forgotten diversity a few years ago, so I fully take your point.

I'm very sorry to hear that the April Memo stands. I was still hoping for a reversal of this decision, although I follow Hungarian developments with increasing concern. Romania is not a democratic haven, as you well know, but what happens in Hungary is beyond anything I was expecting.

It is difficult to believe! We didn't meet many years (I think more than 15), but I was very pleased to read your observations all these years. Many thanks for work you done. Could you confirm me your actual contact?

Peter and the crew, thank you so much for your engagement! It is so pity. I will miss it. Best wishes and hope, we keep in contact somehow.

Thank you Peter for informing us on cultural matters at the European level over the years. Your absence will certainly be felt.

Dear Budapest Observatory friends, goodbye, be safe, be well.

Best wishes for all of you, and hope that some day in some form, this valued contact will continue.

Just one very short message - un grand Merci for your work !!!

I was sorry to hear about your decision and I also understand it was a hard one. During the last years I found out interesting information about the cultural life although I have changed my job and I no longer work in the cultural domain.

It makes me so sad and angry to read the news... I know there will always be opportunities to work together, but this is a major blow!

As you well know, Italy is apparently going down a very similar path, so ... much sympathy to all of you, and stay in touch!

I am still in shock! How can there be no more Memo :(

Hope there will be other ways through which we can benefit from your vast reservoir of knowledge on the region and all matters cultural.

Your decision to put an end to the BO monthly Memos is a terrible blow for the European research and for all of us. In the last weeks, in Italy, we have been obliged to consider the results of our general elections and the uncertain and problematic making of a populist majority in Parliament and of a populist Italian government, that finally is born.

We put a note about your choice in our website: www.economiadellacultura.it. I want you to know that our Associazione per l'Economia della Cultura and the review *Economia della cultura* deeply sympathize with you and are engaged in defending and maintaining the cultural and political conditions of an open mind in Italy and in Europe, Hungary included. I hope that we can continue to stay in contact and have as frequently as possible exchanges about your activity.

Be present and look into the future!

Time will come and you will again share your inspirations and insight knowledge. There is no other way than working together for a profound change of systems. Time will come.

These people in power need people, who closely draw eyes on their programmes, designed to pass over certain values. What kind of values?

Thank you very much for your work and investment in making data analysis feeling poetic ! and feed our own reflections and actions for years.

I read with sorrow that the excellent BO memo will not, any more, land on our boxes.

I have always been telling participants of the European Diploma & other of our training programmes that this newsletter is one of the - very few - best & most useful ones.

I fully understand that this toxic environments is kind of lethal and, of course, I understand that you decided to quit.

However, we can't leave the turf, our turf, to these morbid bastards.

I did not react yet because I was a bit shocked and did not know what to say

Now you are overwhelmed with reactions – what to say?

I want to thank you very much for the memo's and for the talks we had during the Compendium meetings.

It helped to form a realistic image of Hungary and of the . I regard you as one of the very important "wise men" in the Compendium community.

And I realise what a blessing it is to live in a liberal democracy.

For now I wish you all the best and good spirit and Zivil Courage (to use this nice German bi-lingual frase),

Finally a piece that crowns all the above:

Thank you for this. I was very saddened by the April memo. I thought you might like to see this short appreciation: <https://parliamentofdreams.com/2018/06/01/the-spirit-is-gone/>

And in Hungarian:

Remek volt a Memo, mindig érdeklődéssel olvastam és vártam a következőt! Sajnálom, hogy befejezted. Köszönöm az eddigieket. További aktivitást, minden jót kívánok.

Sajnálom, mert mindig érdeklődéssel olvastam.

De teljesen megértem. És egyelőre magam sem látom a detoxikálódás tuti módszerét. Keresem, keressük.

Péter, nagyon is értem, miről beszélsz, de hiányozni fognak a híreid. Jó egészséget és minden ellenére sok örömet kívánok.

Megdöbbenve olvastam hírleveled végét a hírleveled végéről. Ez egy újabb pici győzelme a NER-nek, ismét egy fórummal kevesebb. Biztos ezerszer átrágtad magad a döntésen, ezért nem próbállak meggyőzni a folytatásról, pedig szívesen megtenném. Ehelyett megköszönöm az eddigi munkádat, a hírlevél nagyon hasznos volt, különösen mióta a DG EAC-ban dolgozom kulturális területen.

Sajnálom, hogy ez az utolsó BO memo, amit írtál. Mióta találkoztunk pár éve, és küldöd a memókat, nagy érdeklődéssel olvastam őket. Sok hasznos információt merítettem belőlük. Az elkeseredést megértem, de fontos, hogy megmaradjanak a független szellemi műhelyek, a szabadság kis körei. Persze tudom, könnyű ezt mondanom Brüsszelből.

Nagyon sajnálom, hogy így alakultak a dolgok.

Sok éven át, hónapról – hónapra mindig érdekes volt könnyed hangvétélű, de mindig tartalmas híradódat olvasni.

Hiányozni fog.

Köszönöm, hogy a kezdetektől havonta megkaptam a BO Memo-t, mint egykori minisztériumi kollégád a Szalay utcából.

Nagyon fog hiányozni.

Reméltem, hogy nem az áprilisi az utolsó, mint írtad akkor.

Ezért nem is reagáltam rá...

Végül G Berlinből, páratlan ritmusérzéssel:

Kedves Inkei Péter,

kérem törölje az email-címemet, nem szeretnék több hírlevelet kapni.