On behalf of the academic community of Eötvös Loránd University, it is my honour to extend the University of Vienna congratulations on their 650th anniversary. I would also like to transmit rector magnificus, Heinz W. Engl and all his colleagues our warmest expression of friendship.

650 years is a magnificent milestone in the history of an institution and it will deservedly be the cause of tremendous celebration for everyone associated with this prestigious place of learning. Six and a half centuries of academic excellence, a still growing record of outstanding contributions in various fields of science, from which every university can take inspiration.

As far as I know, in its 650-year-long history, the University of Vienna has remained dedicated to creating an academic home for people of various ethnic, religious, socio-economic and national backgrounds. As new generations of students have entered its halls, it has adapted to serve new interests and new emerging areas of study. However, it has remained true to values of academic excellence for which it was established. The students and alumni this university can be proud of their alma mater’s reputation as it is a respected institution of higher learning and a truly twenty-first century university with a diverse and international student body.

We are glad and proud to have been cooperating with the University of Vienna since 1977 and we do hope to strengthen the ties and the collaboration between our institutions. We are convinced that the CENTRAL Network, founded last year, will also contribute to promoting our strategic partnership activities.

**Happy 650th Birthday, University of Vienna! Here’s to you, and here’s to the next 650 years. May you continue to provide excellence in teaching and research in the future.**

Prof. Dr. Barna Mezey
Rector
Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest