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We must defend Christian culture

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We await the Christian world's great festival: the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. In silence of everyday life, and the soul's horizon opens up. In this special atmosphere we can set our tasks in the world for the year ahead.

Whether or not we admit it or realise it, we Europeans live in a culture ordered in line with that of an earlier Hungarian prime minister, the late József Antall: "In Europe, even an atheist nation is a Christian nation. Our mother tongue, through which we have grasped and shaped reality, has valuable consequences.

From Mihály Babits we know that the Hungarian spirit was born when our Eastern character became the source of the Hungarian worldview and mentality. But this has also caused much difficulty in being strangers to those around us. Nevertheless, for a thousand years our Christian essence has remained. This is why, right down to the present, we remain true to the culture of our mother tongue by our nation's achievements over the course of a millennium.

According to the Gospel of Saint Mark, Christ's second commandment is "Love your neighbor as yourself." This is the second commandment in Europe nowadays. It is used to rebuke us for declaring ourselves to be Christians. Millions of people from other continents settling in Europe – and that we even refuse to let them in.

But this commandment consists of two parts, and our accusers have forgotten the second part: "Love yourself." Loving ourselves also means accepting and protecting everything that embodies our identity: we love our country, our nation, our family, Hungarian culture and European civilisation. Values that have unfolded, and can unfold, time after time.

For centuries our lives were shaped by the knowledge that Hungary's freedom was also a mission that we stood our ground during the period of Ottoman conquest, it was this which

was this which emboldened the Lads of Pest. Our Fundamental Law says, “We are proud of our roots and made our country a part of Christian Europe one thousand years ago”, and “\

When we draw the boundaries of our identity, we mark out Christian culture as the source and a civilisation. It is within this that we live. The essence is not how many people go to reality of everyday life: how we speak and behave towards one another; the distance we we enter this world, and how we leave it. For European people, Christian culture determines gives us a benchmark and a compass. Amidst the contradictions of life, Christian culture and injustice, the relationship between men and women, family, success, work and hono

Our culture is the culture of life. Our starting-point – the alpha and omega of our philosophy received from God. Without this we could not evaluate “human rights” and similar modern into the life of civilisations built on other foundations.

The fundamental elements of European life are now under attack. There is now a threat that should not need to think deeply about, but on which one only has to act. The essence of reference points: one will have no footholds, and one will have nothing against which to count on we attend church – or if so, which one we attend – we do not want to be forced to conceal feelings of others.

We do not want our Christmas markets to be rebranded, and we definitely do not want to children to be deprived of the joys of Saint Nicholas, Santa Claus and the Christmas angels Resurrection. We do not want our religious festivals and ceremonies to be haunted by an molested in crowds of New Year’s Eve revellers.

We Europeans are Christians. All this is ours, and this is how we live. Hitherto we have survived and then rose from the dead. For us our religious festivals are self-evident, and we look to the human body’s immune system: as long as it is working properly, we do not even notice weakened. When crosses are airbrushed from photographs, when people seek to remove change how we celebrate our festivals, then every right-thinking European citizen bristles Gyula Juhász brilliantly put it – is “just paganism with holy water”. And it is even true of the Christian”.

Today the attack is targeting the foundations of our life and our world. Europe’s immune system be who we are. They want us to become something which we do not want to be. They want that the process will be smooth, they want us to change. By the light of Christmas candle

are also attempting to eliminate Europe. They want to take our life from us, and exchange lived up to now they are promising one which is new and more enlightened. This, however abstract, theoretical sophistry. Utopias are dreams: potentially wonderful, and therefore a and meaningless as dreams are. One cannot live in them, or be guided by them.

We cannot claim that Christian culture is the peak of perfection. This is precisely the key own imperfection; but we have learned to live with this, to draw inspiration from it and to we have been striving to improve the world. The gift borne by imperfection is that we are beautiful, new, mixed world now want to take this opportunity from us. Now they also war generations; our duty to do so is derived from the knowledge that, when called upon to do

Although the fact was forgotten for a while, ever more frequently nowadays I hear that six the route: Europe, as Robert Schuman said, will be Christian, or it will be nothing. The ye A new task has been given to the free nations of Europe and the national governments e must do this not to oppose others, but to defend ourselves, our families, our nation, our c

In 2017 we also saw that leaders of the European countries approach the task in differen others believe that this is progress itself; and still others have set out on the path of surre someone else to solve this problem for them. Hungary's one-thousand-year history prove starting-point has always been that we have the right to our own life. And we have defenc is why for years we have been working to strengthen Hungary so that it can finally stand

As far as 2018 is concerned, we can say that for as long as the national government leac uncompromisingly to ensure that our homeland remains a Christian culture and a Hungar remains European.

I wish everyone a Happy Christmas.

(Viktor Orbán)