



Nemzetközi Kürtőskalács Szaktestület
Internationaler Berufsverband der Kürtöschkalach Bäcker
International Kurtosh Kalach Trade Corporation

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Dr. Karl PLSEK
Austrian Federal Ministry of Health
Vienna

Klausenburg, 2. December 2017.

Dear Dr. Plsek,

My name is dr. Peter HANTZ, I'm a senior research scientist in Hungary, and the executive of the International Kurtosh Kalach Trade Corporation (www.kurtos.eu). We founded this organization in 2013, having members from all over the world. We promote the European Union Traditional Speciality Guaranteed (EU-TSG) registration of this cake, which is an important element of Transylvanian-Hungarian culinary culture. The ancient form of the Kurtosh Kalach (Schornsteinkuchen) has German roots, and reached Hungary through Austrian and German mediation. The last, important steps in its evolution (the preparation of the caramelized sugar glazing) happened in Hungary at the time of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy. Presently this cake is baked and sold all over the world, and became an appreciated representative of European gastronomy.

Unfortunately our 5-years struggle did not yield any results. The reason for this is the incompetence of the Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture, which stopped all our attempts - I was even fined for my persisting efforts. This attitude is due to the influence of some Kurtosh Kalach bakers on the Ministry who do not follow the classical, original recipe, and who fear that a regulation would terminate their business.

The Ministry put us under considerable pressure prompting us to ignore the traditional recipe, which we firmly rejected. For two years the Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture has even tried to pass the registration rights to Romania, a thing we would like to avoid for a quite obvious reason, namely the fact that Kurtosh Kalach is simply not part of the Romanian culinary tradition: the name of the cake does not even appear in Romanian academic explanatory dictionaries.

Due to the conflict of our values and aims with those of the Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture we see no chance in attaining the registration of Kurtosh Kalach in Hungary- in any case not until the present government is in office, and corrupted interest-groups obviously outweigh professional arguments.

Therefore we would kindly like to ask the Government of Austria to initiate the EU-TSG registration of the Kurtosh Kalach while maintaining the cake`s traditional Hungarian name, "Kürtőskalács".

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Peter HANTZ
Executive of the IKTC