



By: TA | AP Brief

# Hungary, following Trump, will designate antifa a terrorist organization



Hungary will replicate a policy announced Thursday by U.S. President Donald Trump and designate antifa a terrorist organization, Prime Minister Viktor Orbán said on Friday.

Antifa, short for “anti-fascist,” is an umbrella term for loosely affiliated far-left-activists and groups that resist fascism, fascists and neo-Nazis, especially at demonstrations.

It resembles more an ideology than an organization, though some have embraced militant tactics.

Orbán, a right-wing populist and strong Trump ally, said in comments to state radio on Friday that he was “pleased” by Trump's **announcement** that he plans to designate antifa as a “major terrorist organization” in the United States.

“Antifa is indeed a terrorist organization,” Orbán said. “In Hungary, too, the time has come for us to classify organizations such as antifa as terrorist organizations, following the American model.”

It was unclear what prompted Orbán's decision to make the move. Antifascist groups rarely engage in political actions in Hungary, where Orbán and his party have held near-total power for more than 15 years.

## A 2023 incident

Yet in his statements Friday, Orbán referenced a 2023 incident in which antifascist activists **engaged** in assaults against several suspected participants in an annual far-right event in Budapest.

One of the alleged assailants, Italian antifascist **activist** Ilaria Salis, was jailed in Hungary for over a year following the assaults, resulting in a diplomatic dispute between Rome and Budapest over her treatment in detention.

Salis was released to house arrest in May 2024 before winning a seat in the European Parliament, as a result of which she gained legal immunity.

## Orbán bemoaned Salis' release

Hungary continues to demand that she be returned to face trial, where prosecutors have sought an 11-year sentence.

Orbán on Friday bemoaned Salis' release, saying antifa had “come to Hungary and beaten peaceful people in the street, some were beaten half to death, and then they became European members of parliament and from there lecture Hungary on the rule of law.”