

PRESS RELEASE

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Law firms CMS and Ruzicka Csekes, which have been operating in association in Slovakia, will end this arrangement as of 31 May 2017. CMS, the 6th largest global law firm, will then establish its own fully integrated office in Bratislava, using a newly created Slovak team.

"This strategic move in respect of the Slovak market is consistent with CMS' global strategy which operates full service fully-integrated legal practices in each of the markets where it is present," says Helen Rodwell, managing partner of CMS Czech Republic. "We and our clients have valued highly our long-term relationship with Ruzicka Csekes, but believe that operating with our own team of Slovak lawyers will provide the most seamless delivery of legal services to our clients," adds Peter Huber, managing partner of CMS Austria.

Ruzicka Csekes, Slovak Law Firm of the Year for the past four years and the most successful firm in the history of the legal award, will continue as the leading law firm in Slovakia. Following the end of its association with CMS, Ruzicka Csekes will explore and consider all options with regard to further cooperation with one or more international law firms. "Our association with CMS has allowed us to offer a broad range of international capabilities to our clients. Moving forward we will continue to build on our leading position in Slovakia, while considering how best to wrap the international experience into our client driven practice," says Dr. Jaroslav Ruzicka, founder and managing partner of Ruzicka Csekes. "We may associate with another international law firm, but we may also decide to maintain relations with multiple international firms, working with the firm best suited for the work required," added founding partner Erika Csekes.

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Notes to editors:

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Founded in 1999, CMS is a full-service top 10 international law firm, based on the number of lawyers (Am Law 2016 Global 100). With 65 offices in 38 countries across the world, employing over 3,400 lawyers, CMS has longstanding expertise both at advising in its local jurisdictions and across borders. CMS acts for a large number of Fortune 500 companies and the FT European 500 and for the majority of the DAX 30. Revenues totalled EUR 1,01bn in 2015.

CMS provides a wide range of expertise across 19 expert practice and sector areas, including Corporate/M&A, Energy, Funds, Lifesciences, TMC, Tax, Banking and Finance, Commercial, Competition & EU, Dispute Resolution, Employment & Pensions, Intellectual Property and Real Estate & Construction.

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