

PRESS RELEASE

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Subject **The Legal 500: Top Placements for CMS**

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***The Legal 500* Confirms International Standing of CMS:
Law Firm Receives the Most Top-Tier Rankings in CEE Overall
For Austria, CMS Reich-Rohrwig Hainz Received Top Placements in 9 Categories**

For 27 years already, *The Legal 500* has been analysing the capabilities of law firms in over 100 countries. In their recently published EMEA Rankings, CMS received top marks. Overall 70 mentions in the two top categories speak for the high quality of service provided across a multitude of fields by the team in Austria as well as in the offices in CEE. On top of that, *The Legal 500* has named three partners at CMS Reich-Rohrwig Hainz “Leading Individuals 2015”.

With 16 recommendations by *The Legal 500*, nine of which in the two top categories, CMS Reich-Rohrwig Hainz is rightfully proud of the results for Austria. The outcome ranks the Viennese law firm among the leading legal advisors in a majority of its areas of expertise. The services in labour law, where CMS has been placed in tier 1, are especially highlighted. CMS Partner Bernhard Hainz, head of the labour law team, was named a “Leading Individual” again this year. What is more: the internationally renowned and experienced team of analysts at *The Legal 500* sees the quality of service in the offices in CEE as just as outstanding as in the headquarters in Vienna.

CMS dominating CEE ranking

The most recent results of *The Legal 500* once more show the extraordinary standing of CMS in CEE. No other law firm operating in CEE comes close to the 61 mentions in tier 1 and tier 2 across 14 countries. In twelve of these countries, CMS was ranked among the best law firms at least once. CMS Hungary and Bulgaria received the most recommendations, with 10 and 9 respectively. On the very competitive market in Bulgaria, where a high number of Bulgarian law firms and two Austrian competitors are active as well, the advice CMS provided during large-scale deals convinced the analysts. The clients CMS supports in Bulgaria include MKB Bank, UniCredit Bank Austria, Österreichische Volksbanken, Magyar Telekom, Telekom Austria, Vienna Insurance Group, Delhaize Group, Quinn Group and Lidl.

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Leading Individuals 2015

Apart from Bernhard Hainz, *The Legal 500* also placed Nedžida Salihović-Whalen and Radivoje Petrikić among the top legal advisors. Nedžida Salihović-Whalen is a partner in Sarajevo and is ranked the top advisor for both Corporate/M&A and Real Estate & Construction in Bosnia. Radivoje Petrikić is a partner at CMS Reich-Rohrwig Hainz in Vienna and heads the offices in Belgrade and Sarajevo. *The Legal 500* named him the leading expert in the field of “Legal Market Overview” in Serbia.

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About CMS Reich-Rohrwig Hainz

CMS Reich-Rohrwig Hainz is one of the leading law firms in Austria and Southeast Europe. Because we are specialists, our lawyers and tax advisors are able to provide you with advice of the highest calibre and sophistication: both, from a legal perspective as well as through our industry specific know-how. Highly-specialized teams consisting of internationally experienced lawyers primarily provide services in the following fields of law: M&A, banking and finance, real estate, construction law, taxes, labour laws, IP and IT laws, and public procurement. We operate offices in Vienna, Belgrade, Bratislava, Brussels, Istanbul, Kiev, Ljubljana, Podgorica, Sarajevo, Sofia and Zagreb. All CMS offices together offer clients a team of more than 600 experienced specialists in 15 offices across the CEE/SEE region. www.cms-rrh.com

About CMS

Founded in 1999, CMS is a full-service top 10 international law firm, based on the number of lawyers (Am Law 2013 Global 100). With 59 offices in 33 countries across the world, employing over 3,000 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 €842m in 2013.

CMS provides a wide range of expertise across 18 expert practice and sector areas including Corporate, Energy, Funds, Lifesciences/Pharmaceuticals, TMT, Tax, Banking and Finance, Commercial, Competition, Dispute Resolution, Employment, Intellectual Property and Real Estate & Construction.

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