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# Challenging times with a stable legal adviser

Like the rest of the world, businesses in Hungary are still facing with challenges and many uncertainties.

The challenges of recent times, the epidemic situation, the shortage of raw materials, the energy crisis, a European war and rising inflation rates are having an increasing impact on Europe and Hungary. The deterioration in economic indicators is a sign of a deeper economic crisis.

These times you and your business require a strong and stable legal adviser, more than ever before.

We have been helping clients in Hungary for over three decades, in both good times and bad. Our lawyers have the knowledge and experience to find practical commercial solutions to your problems, and the flexibility and imagination to deal with rapidly evolving circumstances – from advising on large multi-country restructurings or regulatory matters to assisting you with key cross-border investments, financing or disputes.

Whatever your priorities and concerns, we can give you all the support you expect from a full-service international law firm. In these uncertain times, you can rely on us as legal advisers and business partners, helping you mitigate risk, benefit from innovation, and find new strategies and models to succeed.



They provide exactly the type of assistance that you would expect from a top-tier international law firm. They are smart, responsive and always reachable.

Chambers and Partners, 2023







#### Where to find us

CMS Cameron McKenna Nabarro Olswang LLP Hungarian Branch Office YBL Palace Károlyi utca 12 Budapest, Hungary **E** budapest@cms-cmno.com **T** +36 1 483 4800



# Understanding your business in Hungary

We are the market-leading law firm in Hungary, the only one to achieve a top ranking in almost every category of the Chambers Europe and Legal 500 legal directories. Our clients include many of the top corporate and financial institutions in Hungary and beyond. With our full-service office in the country, we understand the business landscape inside out.



# More than three decades of ground-breaking deals

We have been advising global corporations and investors in Hungary and in CEE since the late 1980s, often on innovative and groundbreaking deals. Fielding 11 partners and over 85 lawyers in Hungary, over 100 partners and over 500 lawyers in the region overall including many leading specialists, we can service even the most complex cross-border projects and transactions.



# Changing the face of law

Your team at CMS in Hungary are open to change, optimistic and pragmatic. It is an approach which anticipates what is coming, is farsighted and proactive. Strong, long-term relationships with our clients and our business partners are a priority. We are ambitious about changing the future face of law so that our people reflect the world we live in, maximise their potential and thrive and we have an ambition to have real, positive social impact in the communities where we operate.



# Legal expertise

As the top tier law firm in CEE, CMS Hungary can advise clients in every area of commercial law. We can help you whether you're consolidating or expanding, acquiring or restructuring, reinforcing your defences or seeking new opportunities. If you are involved in disputes – either locally or internationally – we have a network of top-tier risk and dispute experts who can help you resolve them pragmatically and effectively. We can help you negotiate – or renegotiate – financing, or raise new equity capital.

And we are as ready to help you with all the aspects of 'business as usual' that continue. From intellectual property to taxation, from competition law to contracts, we can give you all the support you would expect from a full-service international law firm.

# Areas of law



# **Sectors**

CMS Hungary has a deep understanding of the key financial and economic shifts in Hungary and the wider CEE region and has built a strong track record across the industry sectors below:





# CMS Hungary across the board

Winner of the Chambers for Excellence Awards in CEE 2018, 2022 Best law firm in Hungary CIJ Awards 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022

Winner of the Hungarian Pro Bono Awards Hungarian Bar Association and PILnet 2019

In Hungary since **1989** 

Corporate responsibility, diversity & inclusion and sustainability are at the centre of our culture

NO. 1 INTERNATIONAL LAW FIRM IN THE COUNTRY

TOP RANKED BY INDEPENDENT LEGAL DIRECTORIES, SUCH AS CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS AND LEGAL 500

# THE LARGEST LAW FIRM IN HUNGARY

# Our track record

#### Corvinus

On the acquisition of Aegon Magyarország Általános Biztosító Zrt., Aegon Asset Management Zrt. and Union VIG Biztosító Zrt.

#### Commerzbank

matters.

On sale of Hungarian entity.

## **CEE Equity Partners**

On a high value transaction involving a potential sale of 100% of the Fund's indirect shareholding in Invitech ICT Services Kft., the second largest telecommunications network in the country, including five server parks/data centres.

#### **RTL Group (Bertelsmann Group subsidiary)**

On an EUR 1 million, high-profile employment litigation case; on the legal questions regarding the permitted use and sharing of data related to television broadcasting; support for the launch and operations of the SVOD service, RTL Most+; support during the negotiations with the client's partner to resolve outstanding IPrelated issues.

#### Microsoft, Samsung, Siemens, IT Services Hungary

On their operations in Hungary, including IP, employment, competition, tax and commercial issues on a daily basis, review of IT contracts and supply agreements.

#### Microsoft, OTP Mobile, Samsung, Iron Mountain

On various data protection and GDPR-related matters on a regular basis.

Astellas, Baxalta, Eli Lilly, Janssen-Cilag, Johnson & Johnson, Merck, Roche, Takeda, Bausch & Health On the review of new distribution model concepts, clinical trial agreements, genetic sampling, agreements with HCPs/HCOs on rules of reimbursement of medicinal products, donation practices and regulatory

#### Medtronic, OTP Bank, Magyar RTL Television (Bertelsmann Group subsidiary), Viagogo, MOL

On the full range of competition law matters, including antitrust investigations, damages litigation, misleading of consumers cases, compliance trainings and day-today advice.

## Budapest Marriott Hotels, Johnson Electric, Microsoft, Unisys, AEGON

On employment and labour law issues and immigration matters, including contracts, collective bargaining agreements, employee compensation and benefits and liability.

#### Scheidt & Bachmann

On a cross-border ICC arbitration involving two jurisdictions in the IT & transportation sector.

## **Esterhazy Privatstiftung (Austria)**

In relation to the ownership and possession of 15th century artefacts known as the "Fraknó Treasure".

## A major German OEM

On all issues concerning greenfield developments, including real estate, foreign investments and state aid law, corporate structure and tax. We also advise them on all of their innovation projects.

#### Futureal

Ongoing advice for one of the key clients of the team (client since 2006).

Recently we assisted Futureal on:

- a planned office building development.
- a large-scale residential project, in connection with the land acquisition and zoning matters of the project.

#### Erste Bank, Raiffeisen Bank, UniCredit Bank

On several high-profile project finance and real estate finance transactions.

## **OTP Bank, Raiffeisen Bank, Erste Bank**

On several bond issuance projects in Hungary and beyond.

# Working better, faster



During our common projects, all of the members of the CMS teams have provided professional, outstanding legal service, even in case of tight deadlines. They were constantly available throughout the project, even on short notice.

Legal 500, 2023



The market is changing rapidly, and so are we. Our clients benefit from bespoke CMS-developed tech as well as industry-standard AI. Here are just a few examples of how we use technology to deliver for our clients.

# Delivering cost and time savings via AI

Due diligence, data and contract analysis can be time-consuming and complex. We use AI tools to review large volumes of information guickly and costeffectively. The software enables us to cluster, compare, analyse and visualise data from multiple sources and search thousands of documents accurately. It delivers time and cost savings every time.

# Speeding up document generation

CMS has created suites of template documents for transactional use, dramatically increasing the speed of contract production and passing on time and cost savings to our clients.

# Increasing efficiency through self-serve contracts

Using bespoke technology, we have created the CMS Contract Automation Portal. The cloud-based system allows clients to generate draft documents by completing a simple questionnaire. Clients who use the portal have been able to improve the quality, consistency and speed of delivery for their documents.

# Managed contracts service: service led approach, data insights and consistency

CMS provides a complete managed service for a procurement team's legal support needs. CMS has designed and implemented a centralised team, process and platform to systematically track legal support provided. The platform features automatic notifications, secure online data capture and tracking and live data insights in areas like most frequent push back clauses, contract value and legal support breakdown per procurement category, jurisdiction and language.

# Bringing you the future

We invest understanding what is new, what is coming up and how it will affect our clients – in Hungary and beyond. This knowledge is reflected in every piece of advice we give. It also forms the basis of the know-how, education and training that we offer our clients. Keeping you up to date is a priority for us, and this page shows some of CEE-specific thought leadership, training and regular analysis that is available.

# **CEE Spotlight Series**

A programme of events, webinars and seminars across our Central and Eastern Europe offices that help you stay ahead of the issues that impact your organisation. Our programme spans our key sectors and reflects our expertise across all of our practice areas. To register, please email: **clientservices@cms-cmno.org** 

# **Talking CEE**

A future facing video and podcast series bringing together lawyers and experts to discuss the challenges, changes and opportunities that business and industry face in Central and Eastern Europe today – and tomorrow. Find out more at **cms.law** 

# **Interactive webinars**

Extending the accessibility of our legal experts across every office location, our collaborative webinars allow our clients to discuss real-time business issues presented by speakers anywhere in the world.

# **CEE thought leadership**

## **Emerging Europe M&A Report**

Our annual report pulls together deal data across the CEE/SEE region, as well as providing commentary on recent trends and developments in the region and some predictions on where to expect deals in the coming year.

# Law-Now E-learning

Our online E-learning solution helps clients build and evolve their compliance and risk management programmes. Read more about our off-the-shelf courses or how a bespoke solution can meet your needs at Law-Now eLearning

## Law-Now

Our market-leading electronic information service provides regular updates on key legal issues. This tailored service enables you to keep up to date with the legal developments that matter to you. Register at **cms-lawnow.com** 

# Social media

Follow **CMS Hungary** and **CMS CEE** on LinkedIn and **@CMS\_CEE** on Twitter to be part of our conversation on all things legal in Hungary and within CEE. We post articles, thought leadership, event information and general commentary specific to Hungary and Central and Eastern Europe.

## **Greenfield investments in CEE**

A guide for potential investors on what incentives are available when investing in the leading countries in CEE. It includes information about the process for entering into an investment agreement in order to access funds, key real estate, competition, infrastructure, tax and employment issues.



# **Key contacts**



Erika Papp Managing Partner, Head of Finance CEE/CIS

**T** +36 1 483 4857





Dóra Petrányi

Partner, CEE Managing Director, Global Co-Head of the Technology, Media and Communications Group **T** +36 1 483 4820 E dora.petranyi@cms-cmno.com

#### Zsolt Okányi



Partner, Global Head of Dispute Resolution, Head of Dispute Resolution in Hungary and CEE **T** +36 1 483 4837

E zsolt.okanyi@cms-cmno.com

#### Péter Simon

Partner, Head of Energy, Projects and Construction **T** +36 1 483 4829

E peter.simon@cms-cmno.com



#### Anikó Kircsi

Partner, Head of Corporate/M&A, Private Equity, Consumer Products **T** +36 1 483 4827 E aniko.kircsi@cms-cmno.com



## Eva Talmacsi

Partner, Corporate/M&A, Private Equity, ECM - Hungary & CEE, Co-Head of CEE TMT Sector Group **T** +44 20 7367 2435 E eva.talmacsi@cms-cmno.com



Gábor Czike Partner, Head of Real Estate and Construction **T** +36 1 483 4819 **E** gabor.czike@cms-cmno.com



József Várady Partner, Real Estate and Construction **T** +36 1 483 4840 **E** jozsef.varady@cms-cmno.com



#### Martin Wodraschke

Partner, Co-Head of CMS Auto-Tech Group, Co-Head of CEE German Practice **T** +36 1 483 4828

E martin.wodraschke@cms-cmno.com



Andreas Köhler Partner, Co-Head of CEE German Practice **T** +36 1 505 4928

E andreas.koehler@cms-cmno.com



Szabolcs Szendrő

Partner, Head of Competition **T** +36 1 483 4896 E szabolcs.szendro@cms-cmno.com

#### Eszter Kálmán Senior Counsel, Head of Tax **T** +36 1 483 4842

E eszter.kalman@cms-cmno.com



# CMS







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#### CMS locations:

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