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COMPETITION LAB FOR JUDGES

HORIZONTAL COOPERATION AGREEMENTS

 **Budapest, Hungary**

 **29-30 May 2025**

Seminar objectives

The Hungarian Competition Authority (GVH) will hold a seminar on **competition law**, taking place on **29-30 May 2025** in **Budapest**, Hungary. The seminar is organised under the framework of the OECD-GVH Regional Centre for Competition (RCC) as part of the **Single Market Programme** of the European Commission. Kindly note that the seminar will receive funding from the European Commission.

The seminar will focus on **horizontal cooperation agreements**. It is designed to sketch out a general analytical framework for assessing cooperation agreements between competitors by carefully looking at every step of the assessment, from the notion of competitor to new developments with regards to the ancillary restraints doctrine, to the conditions of exemption and their application in specific cases. It will then examine traditional forms of cooperation between competitors, e.g., purchasing agreements, joint bidding, and network sharing agreements, as well as newer forms of cooperation designed to support the goals of a digital and green economy. Exchanges of information will also be addressed in their many forms and functions.

The topics will be addressed and discussed by competition law experts from OECD member countries. Practical exercises on hypothetical cases involving all participating judges will provide an excellent opportunity to apply the lessons of the seminar in practice. Additionally, participants will engage in **Q&A sessions** with the speakers and will be encouraged to share their experiences with one another to further promote cooperation.

We encourage national judges who wish to deepen their knowledge of **competition law**, particularly **horizontal cooperation agreements**, to attend our upcoming seminar in Budapest. **Registration** is open to national judges, prosecutors and apprentice national judges dealing with competition law issues in one of the Member States of the European Union, Kosovo, Montenegro and North Macedonia.

Each applicant is requested to indicate their **prior experience** in general European competition law. In addition, a good command of English is a prerequisite for registration.

Participation in the seminar is free of charge; the costs will be covered by EU and GVH funds.

One place will be reserved for one applicant from each of the eligible countries. In case of multiple applications from the same country, candidates will be selected on the basis of a number of criteria, including the applicants' institution, position, years of relevant experience and previous pertinent training.

Participants shall make their own travel arrangements and their travel costs (economy class) will be reimbursed by the organizers upon receipt of the invoice and other necessary documents after the seminar. Please note that the costs of local transportation (taxi, airport transfer, public transport) and travel insurance will not be covered. The organizers will take care of the reservations and cover the costs of accommodation for three nights between 28 and 31 May 2025. In addition, participants will receive lunch on both days of the seminar and will be invited to a welcome dinner in a restaurant in Budapest on 29 May 2025.

Please be informed that actual participation in the entire training is a necessary precondition for reimbursement, which implies that if the participant cannot attend the seminar for any particular reason, the organisers will not be able to reimburse any of the costs incurred. It is also important to underline that the participant will be liable for refunding any costs incurred due to the modification or cancellation of an application that has already been accepted by the event organisers.

Please kindly note that the deadline for submitting your registration is **2 April 2025**. Applicants will be notified by 11 April 2025 if their registration has been accepted.

Registration link: <https://forms.office.com/e/h4uJX79bYe?origin=lprLink>

Should you require any further information or have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact **Ms. Miranda Molnár** (e-mail address: molnar.miranda@gvh.hu, phone number: +36 30 693 8718).

Please forward this announcement to your colleagues who may be interested in participating.
