

Reference: AL/0084/2012

Budapest, 27.01.2012

Seminar in European Competition Law for National Judges

Competition Law Cases Through the Intellectual Property and High Tech Lens

24-25 February 2012, Budapest, Hungary

The Hungarian Competition Authority (GVH) and the OECD-GVH Regional Centre for Competition in Budapest (Hungary) ("RCC") will organise its next competition law seminar for European competition law judges on 24-25 February 2012. The seminar receives funding from the European Union.

The seminar will provide judges an opportunity to discuss competition law cases that involve intellectual property rights, the Internet, and related issues characteristic for high tech industries. We will focus on issues that have already come up in private competition law litigation before national courts or are likely to arise in these circumstances, and avoid esoteric discussions about the competition law/IP interface and issues that are unlikely to make their way into national courts. We may also use the seminar to explore similarities between litigation in competition cases and in intellectual property cases, and lessons that can be learned from comparing experiences in these two areas.

We will discuss Article 101 cases as well as Article 102 cases. Topics addressed in the seminar include abuse



of dominance cases involving collecting societies, refusals to license intellectual property rights, including rights in data base information, restrictions concerning sales over the internet including e-books, parallel trade in pharmaceuticals, and the recent case concerning satellite broadcasts. Procedural aspects of competition litigation will be discussed as well.

This seminar will be limited to approximately 30 participants and therefore have extra emphasis on active participation and interaction among participants. There will be ample opportunity to exchange ideas and views with expert speakers and other participants, including through discussions in breakout groups. Participants will be encouraged to share any experience from actual cases they have been involved in with other judges.

The seminar requires a good understanding of general European competition law. Familiarity with intellectual property rights would be a benefit, but is not a requirement to participate in, and benefit from the seminar.

The event is open to all judges at national courts and prosecutors in EU member countries and Croatia and the FYR of Macedonia. Experience in the field of competition legislation and good command of English are the conditions of registration.

Participation will be completely free of charge. The costs will be covered by EU and GVH funds.



Participants will be accommodated in the Art'otel Budapest, which will also serve as the seminar's venue. The organizers will take care of the reservations and cover the costs of the accommodation for 3 nights, on 23, 24 and 25 February.

Participants shall arrange their travel themselves, but the organizers will reimburse the (economy class) travel costs after the seminar. The local transportation costs (taxi, airport shuttle, public transport) and the cost of travel insurances will not be reimbursed. Please note that the condition of the reimbursement is the actual participation in the entire seminar. If someone cannot participate for any reason whatsoever we cannot reimburse the ticket costs.

Participants will be invited to a welcome dinner on 24 February and will receive lunch on 24 and 25 February.

The national judicial training centres of the following countries offered to directly participate in the selection of applicants: Croatia, Estonia, FYR of Macedonia, Lithuania and Romania.

Please contact your national training centre for more information if you would like to register from any of these countries. If your country is not listed above please send your registration form directly to the RCC.

We reserve one place for applicants from each country, but in the end free places will be filled up irrespective of nationality. We will decide about the applications on the basis of the individuals' work experience and the group's composition, as we would like to have a heterogeneous group to incite the exchange of ideas and experiences among participants.

The registration deadline is 8 February 2012. Applicants will be informed until 10 February if their registration has been accepted.

Should you have any questions about the event, please contact Ms. Andrea DALMAY (dalmai.andrea@gvh.hu, phone: +36-1-472-8880). Please forward this announcement to your colleagues, who may be interested in participating.