

## Two new members were appointed to the decision-making body of the GVH

On 1 September 2011, Mr Pál SCHMITT, the President of the Hungarian Republic appointed Dr. Ádám BERKI and Mr Tamás PÁL as new Members of the Competition Council of the Gazdasági Versenyhivatal (GVH – Hungarian Competition Authority). The appointments of the Members of the Competition Council are for a period of six years and they may be reappointed on one occasion.

The Competition Council is a separate and independent decision-making body within the GVH, but its decisions are subject to judicial review. Therefore, a decision on the substance of a case may only be made by the Competition Council proceeding in the case. If the parties challenge the decision in court, the Competition Council is also allowed to represent the decision of the GVH with the assistance of the legal experts of the GVH. The Competition Council is also responsible for reviewing the orders of the case handlers within the course of the procedure.

The Chair of the Competition Council - who is also endowed with the responsibilities of one of the Vice Presidents of the GVH - organises and supervises the activities of the Competition Council, while in competition supervision procedures, the decisions are concluded by the Competition Council in a panel of three or five members.

The Members of the Competition Council also participate in the competition advocacy tasks of the GVH and contribute to the efforts to disseminate competition culture in Hungary.

Mr Ádám BERKI graduated from Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Faculty of Engineering in 1971. From 1976 – considering his education in the field of technology - he acted as a judge at the Budapest Metropolitan Court (at the industrial property right council) and conducted legal activities. While acting as a judge, he also obtained a law degree in 1984 from Eötvös Loránd University, Faculty of Law. After finishing his career as a judge, he worked as a legal adviser before acting as an advocate, mainly engaged in business law. He speaks fluent German and Greek.

Mr Tamás PÁL graduated as a chartered economist from Budapest University of Economic Sciences, Faculty of Economics in 1993. During his professional career, he mainly acted as a manager at financial companies or carried chief executive offices. He also lectured at Budapest University of Economic Sciences from 1994 until he was appointed as a Member of the Competition Council. From this school year, he will be giving lectures at Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Institute of Business Studies. He speaks fluent English.

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