

Merger review

Hungarian experience

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CALL-IN OPTION IN HUNGARY

The soft threshold was introduced in 2017

Concentrations can be notifiable if

- the combined domestic turnover of all the groups of participating undertakings exceeds 5 billion HUF (approx. EUR 13m); and
- it is not obvious that the transaction does not have anti-competitive effects

Voluntary notification

No standstill obligation

Ex officio investigation is possible, but not later than 6 months after the closing

STATISTICS

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023*
Notifications	55	63	57	61	68	64	42
Notifications (soft threshold)	2	0	3	3	1	3	1
Closed with an official certificate	1	0	2	2	1	0	1
Closed with the CC's decision	1	0	1	1	0	2	0
Ex officio cases	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pre-notifications	42	56	52	54	80	73	54
Pre-notifications (soft threshold)	10	5	7	4	9	7	8

Number of cases

* January- October

MERGER CONTROL PROCEDURE IN HUNGARY

After the notification is submitted, the GVH has **8 days**

- ✓ to clear the merger with an official certificate, if the notification is complete and it obviously does not raise any competition concerns, or
- ✓ to open a formal competition proceeding
 - a *phase I. case* with the deadline of **30 days** if the notification is incomplete, so cannot decide on the chance of competition concerns, or
 - a *phase II. case* with the deadline of **4 months** if the notification is complete, however, the competition concerns cannot be excluded.

Possibility to convert a phase I. case into a phase II. case

SIMPLIFICATION - RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

The GVH started reviewing its merger-related notices and the notification form in 2022.

Public consultations were held in the summer of 2022 and early 2023

New documents entered into force on 1 July 2023

✓ Major changes

- Introducing of a new simplified form
- Increase in the hard notification thresholds and in the administrative fees
- Modification and expansion of the categories of cases in the Notice on the initiation of competition proceedings

Thank you for your attention!
In case of any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at
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Further information:

<https://gvh.hu/en>

<https://www.facebook.com/versenyhivatal>

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/hungarian-competition-authority>