

PONTES: the CEE lawyers

news quarterly

deals, cases, law and market developments April – June 2022

Recent transactions*

BG We are advising on the EUR 34 million sale of a **leading Bulgarian BPO company** and its subsidiaries. The transaction involves several jurisdictions and is the culmination of over one year of legal consultancy from Gugushev & Partners.

SK We represented **Minit j.s.a** and its founder on their exit from an enterprise producing process mining software, which was acquired by Microsoft. We are truly proud to be part of the largest-ever start-up exit in Slovakia, made by a company we have advised from day one.

HU We assisted **OXO Technologies**, a tech investment company admitted to the Budapest Stock Exchange, regarding its exit from Gravity Research & Development PLC. The buyer was Taboola (**Nasdaq: TBLA**), a global leader in powering recommendations for the open web. As numerous sellers held different types of preferred shares, a one-off shareholders' agreement tailored to this sale was put in place.

AT We developed a phantom share programme based on equity participation for **Storyblok GmbH**. The start-up received a EUR 8.5 million investment in 2021 and a EUR 47 million investment in 2022. Right after its first investment round, our partner in the Austrian office, Bernd Taucher, started supporting Storyblok on a stock option plan for key employees.

SK We assisted an international law firm representing a client, a provider of high-tech interconnect, sensor and antenna solutions, on the legal due diligence of Europe-based target companies. This was a massive cross-border transaction involving a number of advisors and jurisdictions, including the US, Italy, France, China and Slovakia.

CZ We advised **SUDOP CIT** on its acquisition of Profiq, which helped strengthen its position on the Czech IT market. SUDOP's goal is to build one of the largest IT groups in Central Europe and acquiring Profiq enables them to grow their IT services reach to companies in Silicon Valley, Colorado and Utah.

CZ PL We advised **Topforsport s.r.o.** on its acquisition of shares in Eleven Teamsports Polska, one of the three biggest internet shops for football equipment in Europe.

PL We provided legal advice to **Pimenta Foods** on its acquisition of a production facility that is the company's first investment in Poland.

* only selected transactions are presented; a full list of our publishable transactional experience is available upon request.

Members of PONTES are:

AT  graf patsch taucher

BG  Gugushev & Partners
L A W O F F I C E

SK  MAJERNÍK (M) MIHÁLIKOVÁ
ADVOKÁTSKA KANCELÁRIA | LAW FIRM

PL  SOLIVAN.

RO  JINGA ASOCIATII

HU  Pontes
Budapest
ügyvédi iroda

CZ  JSK
advokátní kancelář

BG We are assisting with the preparation of all required documents for the registration of an AIF manager as well as the application for an EuVECA logo, the first ever to be registered in Bulgaria. **The investment fund** is intended to be evergreen, which is quite rare for Bulgaria.

SK We represented **SaferPass** and its founders on their exit to a US company. This was a cross-border deal with US and Dutch elements, where part of the acquisition price was paid in stock.

AT We recently supported the **HEAD Group** in another bonded loan transaction with Deutsche Bank (after 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2019).

CZ We provided legal advice to **Genesis Capital Fund III**, a group of private equity funds, and **Conectart**, the operator of the largest domestic call centres, in the add-on acquisition of the South Bohemian call centre Atoda. Conectart thus strengthened its position on the Czech call centre service providers market.

Recent cases and notable legal developments

CZ There was a major amendment to consumer law in the Chamber of Deputies, which significantly affects the rights arising from defective performance or a contractual guarantee and expands the list of abusive arrangements. A new type of contract governing the provision of digital content also will be introduced. Most of these changes are due to the implementation of consumer directives.

HU A recent amendment to the Hungarian Civil Code abolished a longstanding adverse practice regarding business quotas in limited liability companies. Now the founders' quota can be initially divided into certain pieces corresponding to the annual percentages of the reverse vesting mechanism.

BG A vote of no confidence passed against the now-former prime minister Kiril Petkov on 22 June 2022. From a legal standpoint, this development means that there will not be any significant changes to the state's laws.

PL Personal income tax was reduced from 17% to 12%. For income between PLN 30,000 and PLN 120,000, a 17% tax rate will apply. For income above PLN 120,000, a 32% tax rate will apply. Self-employed people can choose to apply a 19% flat tax to their entire income.

PONTES NEWS

PL Internship programme

We started recruitment for student internships. These give students the opportunity to become familiar with legal consulting, and for some, to become part of our team.



BG Gugushev & Partners Law Office wins Deal of the Year Award

We are proud to have received the Deal of the Year Award for our work on the EUR 170 million acquisition of Delivery Hero's businesses by Glovo in six separate legal jurisdictions.

CZ New JŠK website!

In May, we successfully launched a new website. The new website is light, dynamic and clear, and increases the value of our brand.

www.jsk.cz

