

PONTES: the CEE lawyers

news quarterly

deals, cases, law and market developments October – December 2021

Recent transactions*

CZ We represent over **400 investors** with claims exceeding EUR 150m in the Czech-Slovak insolvency of Arca Investments. This is the largest CEE cross-border insolvency case of at least a decade with COMI of the Slovak holding company in the Czech Republic.

HU We advised **RenesolaPower** in the acquisition of a target company developing 11 700 kW (DC) photovoltaic power projects and two further target companies constructing 34 177 kW (DC) photovoltaic power projects in Hungary. Due to our Client's cooperation with the seller on the development of the projects, both transactions required a sophisticated transactional structure and joint development agreements to be set up.

SK We assisted **Purromi**, a start-up that develops solutions for tracking cryptocurrency transactions, on the Venture Investor deal, as well as on numerous IP matters, transfer of proprietary rights and corporate restructuring.

BG We are advising **Malex Management** on the acquisition of one of the biggest RES plants in Bulgaria, currently owned by a Chinese conglomerate. The highly complex Chinese-Swiss-Bulgarian deal is in its closing stage.

HU We assisted **RenesolaPower** in the sale to an international investor of a target company developing seven photovoltaic solar power plants in three locations in Hungary.

PL We are successfully representing **landlords of shopping centres and office buildings** in disputes with tenants demanding significant rent reductions due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Since courts recognise landlords as also being affected by the pandemic, they refuse to reduce rents on this ground.

CZ We advised **InHouse Finance UAB**, Lithuanian fintech developers, on the acquisition of a 100% stake in STARLIT s.r.o., a company developing property management software, including due diligence.



* 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 & MIHÁLIKOVÁ**
ADVOKÁTSKA KANCELÁRIA | LAW FIRM

PL **SOLIVAN.**

RO **JINGA ASOCIATII**

HU **Pontes Budapest ügyvédi iroda**

CZ **JSK**
advokátní kancelář

Recent cases and notable legal developments

BG Bulgaria's Supreme Court of Cassation issued a pivotal interpretive judgment

On 26 October 2021, the General Assembly of the Supreme Court of Cassation issued Interpretative Judgment No. 5/2019 clarifying what procedure employers must follow with respect to employee layoffs on the grounds of “closure of part of the enterprise”. The Supreme Court interpreted that this ground for dismissal requires a permanent cessation of activities being performed in the closed part of the enterprise. This Interpretative Judgment follows the initiation of the so-called “Proposal for Interpretative Judgment” to all competent legal authorities opened by Gugushev & Partners Law Office, due to the lack of clarity in the effective law as to this ground for layoffs and the immense discrepancy in the court practice on this matter. This Interpretative Judgment will play a significant role in streamlining the lawful application of this ground for layoffs, which at present is frequently utilised in the context of companies' mergers and acquisitions.

CZ Registration of beneficial owners

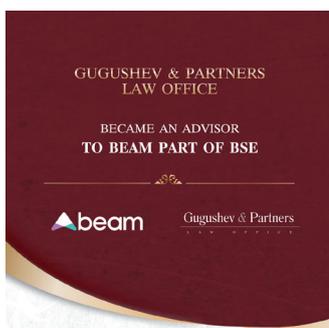
The interim period under the new Act on Ultimate Beneficial Owners expired on 1 December 2021. This means that by now all Czech companies must have accurate and up-to-date information about their beneficial owners registered in the UBO Register, otherwise they cannot distribute profits to their shareholders or adopt general meeting resolutions, and may face fines of up to EUR 20,000.

PONTES NEWS

BG Gugushev & Partners Law Office adds new partners

Antoniya Markova, Daniela Petkova, Yoanna Ivanova and Kostadinka Deleva were promoted to Partners at the end of 2021.

Each of them has proven their expertise and leadership skills and has over 15 years of experience in the relevant field, advising major clients on some of the most significant deals and projects on the Bulgarian market. These changes aim to strengthen the company's practice of internal promotion and employee development, thus demonstrating the equal opportunity spirit that is crucial to our firm.



BG Gugushev & Partners Law Office became a BEAM Market Advisor

On 23 November 2021, Gugushev & Partners Law Office became a BEAM Market Advisor. The BEAM SME Growth Market is a unique market organised by the Bulgarian Stock Exchange (BSE), giving small and medium enterprises the opportunity to raise funds under more accessible terms than those on the regulated market while providing them with advantages similar to those enjoyed by public companies.

For Gugushev & Partners Law Office, joining the circle of BEAM Market Advisors is a natural continuation of our work in the area, as our team has significant experience advising businesses that are aiming to grow into public companies.