

bpv | LEGAL

COMPETITION  
PRACTICE  
GROUP

# bpv | LEGAL

Corporate and Commercial Law

Mergers and Acquisitions

Antitrust, EU and Public Procurement

Real Estate and Construction

Environment and Energy

Labour Law

Banking and Finance

IP, Internet and Media Law

Litigation/Arbitration

Tax

# bpv LEGAL ALLIANCE

bpv LEGAL was founded in 2006 as an alliance of four independent law firms with an existing history of successful close cooperation. We offer high-quality national and cross-border advisory services to clients in Central and Eastern Europe.

bpv LEGAL has been established by bpv GRIGORESCU in Bucharest, bpv JÁDI NÉMETH in Budapest, bpv BRAUN HAŠKOVCOVÁ in Prague and bpv HÜGEL RECHTSANWÄLTE in Vienna. The Brussels office of bpv HÜGEL RECHTSANWÄLTE serves as a competence centre for European Law, an asset of vital importance to all new EU member states. The name "bpv" itself derives from the location of the member firms' offices.

The combined strength of the alliance is represented by more than 90 lawyers and tax experts, practicing in a wide range of legal areas and having experience in both international and domestic transactions. In addition, bpv LEGAL can draw upon the close relationships that its partners have established over the years of operating and working together in the region.

The client portfolio of the alliance includes private or public, medium and large size companies acting in a broad spectrum of industries. In addition, our member firms advise public sector institutions and companies of the public hand. Whoever our client, we provide tailored, quality service, in an efficient and timely manner.

**The essence of our business:  
local know-how, international approach.**

## COMPETITION PRACTICE GROUP

The Competition practice group of the bpv LEGAL alliance offers leading legal advisory services on EU and national competition law throughout Central and Eastern Europe.

The Competition practice group of more than 18 lawyers has built up a considerable track record in advising on all aspects of European and national antitrust, abuse of dominance, merger control, public procurement, state aid as well as unfair competition law. Our experts rank amongst the top competition law advisors in Central and Eastern Europe. bpv HÜGEL's Brussels office serves as a perfect interface with the European institutions.

Due to the pan-European nature of the bpv LEGAL alliance, our clients can rely on specific on the spot support and a region-wide network, which is particularly important in merger but also in antitrust and leniency cases requiring applications in multiple jurisdictions.

The practice group not only provides seamless legal advice but also entertains excellent relations with the relevant competition authorities to the benefit of our clients.

Our strength as bpv LEGAL Competition practice group lies in our ability to find the right way ahead for our clients facing competition law issues, particularly as they concern cross border aspects.

## COMPETITION EXPERTISE

The member firms of the alliance have proven track records in advising on intricate issues of Competition law in sophisticated transactions and complex legal as well as factual circumstances. Our specific areas of expertise include:

- Merger Control
- Antitrust Advice and Due Diligence
- Representation before Competition Authorities and Courts
- Private Enforcement Litigation
- Abuse of Dominance Advice and Proceedings
- Uncovering Cartels and Leniency
- Protection during Dawn Raids
- Public Procurement Projects and Remedies
- Counselling on State Aid
- Representing in Unfair Competition Cases

# MEMBER FIRMS

## bpv GRIGORESCU | Bucharest

Our firm has one of the leading Romanian practices in Romanian and EU Competition law, recognised by its peers and by some of the most prestigious independent legal researchers. We assist clients in all aspects of antitrust, merger control and state aid, as well as in matters of unfair competition. We further deal extensively with matters of EU law at large.

The professionals of our firm are widely recognized for their capabilities to advise on regulatory filings, compliance advice, investigation assistance as well as litigation issues. In addition, the team often comes in support of other practices, in particular those dealing with regulatory issues in connection with energy, public procurement, environment, data protection or consumer protection. Our recent work includes:

- Advising a leading energy services group on merger control proceedings and issues related to horizontal agreements and clearance concerning potential implications of market sharing;
- Advising a leading international food processing company on compatibility of Romanian restrictions on distribution of certain food products with EU regulations and free movement of goods principle;
- Assisting a global leader in construction materials in conducting a multi-annual antitrust compliance audit and in implementing a compliance program;
- Advising a global leading manufacturer of public transportation vehicles on EU law aspects of public procurement procedures for tram and subway trains;
- Advising a leading cheese producer on antitrust issues related to vertical agreements and other issues subject to investigation by the Competition Council.

**Contact:** Catalin Grigorescu, LL.M.Eur, Partner  
**Email:** [catalin.grigorescu@bpv-grigorescu.com](mailto:catalin.grigorescu@bpv-grigorescu.com)

## bpv JÁDI NÉMETH | Budapest

Counseling in competition law has for many years been one of the most highly appraised practice areas of bpv JÁDI NÉMETH. Amongst the various fields of competition law, our routine has primarily been developed by providing representation to our clients in forums of the Hungarian Competition Office in merger clearance procedures as well as in unfair competition investigations. Through our involvement in national proceedings aimed at approving mergers implemented on a multinational level we could firmly develop an enhanced cooperation with consultants of several other jurisdictions. Most recently, given the severe consequences that violators of competition law shall face, we have put an increased emphasis to offer our clients antitrust seminars that are more and more frequently accompanied by mock raid trainings and followed up by intensive post-training consultations in order to fine tune reactions to potential investigations. Our recent references include:

- Merger clearance procedures in the construction products industry;
- Preparation of the complete Hungarian merger clearance application to approve an acquisition planned by a European bakery group;
- Assistance in the merger clearance of a leading European steel products manufacturer;
- Representation of the Hungarian subsidiary of a Germany-based Cash&Carry Construction Store in unfair competition proceedings started by the Hungarian Competition Office;
- Representation of the Hungarian subsidiary of an Austrian coating manufacturer in court proceedings initiated to review measures taken by the Hungarian Competition Office because of unfair competition practices.

**Contact:** Dr. Andrea Jádí Nemeth, LL.M., Partner  
**Email:** [andrea.jadi-nemeth@bpv-jadi.com](mailto:andrea.jadi-nemeth@bpv-jadi.com)  
**Contact:** Dr. Zoltán Kató  
**Email:** [zoltan.kato@bpv-jadi.com](mailto:zoltan.kato@bpv-jadi.com)

## bpv BRAUN HAŠKOVCOVÁ | Prague

Competition and EU law has since 1994 been one of our specialized practices. For many years, the relevant handbooks have ranked us as one of the leading firms in that field. We have handled both difficult national and multijurisdictional merger control cases as well as provided compliance services in daily business. We perform internal antitrust investigations for our clients with experienced larger teams. Our daily contractual practice, for instance in distributorship agreements, always considers cartel law. As the members of the antitrust law team besides understanding the economic issues behind many antitrust cases also have experience in corporate law, commercial law, labour law and energy law, we are able to combine both specialized practices with the need of comprehensive advice. Our recent experience includes:

- Merger control proceedings in the energy sector (natural gas);
- Czech and Slovak Merger control proceedings following acquisition of the last major independent Czech construction company;
- Advising the competitor of a former state monopoly on issues of cross-subsidiarisation in partially liberalized markets leading to one of the first dawn raids by the European Commission in the Czech Republic, continuing advice in the ensuing European Commission proceedings and proceedings with regulatory body;
- Full scale internal investigation into antitrust law compliance (mock dawn raid) for subsidiary of large American company, using our IT team for full data access and covering also labor law issues;
- Antitrust compliance trainings in English, Czech and German language.

**Contact: Arthur Braun, M.A., Partner**  
**Email: arthur.braun@bpv-bh.com**

## bpv HÜGEL RECHTSANWÄLTE | Vienna

Competition law is one of bpv HÜGEL's major practice areas and the firm's team of specialized lawyers, located in Vienna and Brussels, is amongst the largest and most experienced in Austria. The firm's Brussels office serves as a perfect interface with the European institutions. bpv HÜGEL advises and represents clients on all aspects of Austrian and European antitrust, abuse of dominance, merger control, public procurement and unfair competition law. In this regard, the team has built up a considerable track record by handling many the most important competition cases in Austria. Recent work includes inter alia:

- Advising a leading oil and gas company with regard to merger transactions;
- Advising the Austrian telecoms incumbent in the take-over of one of its most prominent rivals;
- Representing a leniency applicant in the Austrian Elevators & Escalators case;
- Fending off private enforcement injunctions and claims against the incumbent in the Austrian telecoms sector;
- Advising a steel manufacturer with regard to antitrust proceedings before the European Commission;
- Appearing before the European Court of Justice in the Austrian Banks case;
- Exempting the Austrian electricity generation from public procurement rules;
- Representing prominent clients in unfair competition law suits.

**Contact: MMag. Dr. Astrid Ablasser-Neuhuber, Partner**  
**Email: astrid.ablasser@bpv-huegel.com**  
**Contact: Dr. Florian Neumayr, LL.M., Associated Partner**  
**Email: florian.neumayr@bpv-huegel.com**

# CONTACTS

## **bpv GRIGORESCU**

33 Dionisie Lupu Street  
RO-020021 Bucharest  
Phone: +40 21 264 16 50  
Fax: +40 21 264 16 60  
E-mail: bucharest@bpv-grigorescu.com  
Web: www.bpv-grigorescu.com

## **bpv HÜGEL RECHTSANWÄLTE OEG**

Rond Point Schuman 9  
B-1040 Brussels  
Tel.: +32 2 286 8110  
Fax: +32 2 286 8118  
E-mail: brussels@bpv-huegel.com  
Web: www.bpv-huegel.com

## **bpv JÁDI NÉMETH**

Vörösmarty tér 4.  
H-1051 Budapest  
Tel.: +36 1 429 4000  
Fax: +36 1 429 4001  
E-mail: budapest@bpv-jadi.com  
Web: www.bpv-jadi.com

## **bpv BRAUN HAŠKOVCOVÁ**

Palac Myslbek, Ovocny trh 8  
CZ-110 00 Prague 1  
Tel.: +420 224 490 000  
Fax: +420 224 490 033  
E-mail: prague@bpv-bh.com  
bratislava@bpv-bh.com  
Web: www.bpv-bh.com

## **bpv HÜGEL RECHTSANWÄLTE OEG**

Donau-City-Straße 11, ARES-Tower  
A-1220 Vienna  
Tel.: +43 1 260 50 0  
Fax: +43 1 260 50 133  
E-mail: vienna@bpv-huegel.com  
Web: www.bpv-huegel.com