

## The Turkic States Competition Council was established in Istanbul

The Hungarian Competition Authority joins competition cooperation as an observer

Budapest, 23 January 2024 - The Turkic States Competition Council has been established, to which the Hungarian Competition Authority (GVH) has joined as an observer, similar to Hungary's status in the Organisation of Turkic States. The new organisation, which brings together national competition authorities from different countries, has as its main objective the sharing of knowledge and the exchange of experience.

The Organisation of Turkic States (OTS) is an international organisation of Turkish-speaking countries, founded on 3rd October 2009. Current members are Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Türkiye, and Uzbekistan. Hungary has had the observer status in the OTS since 3 September 2018.

The Turkic States Competition Council was established in Istanbul on 23rd January 2024 at the initiative of the Turkish Competition Authority, is an organisation of national competition authorities from each country. Its objectives include:

- fostering cooperation in the field of competition enforcement,
- creating favourable conditions for the development of regional cooperation,
- enhancing the competition advocacy in the member and observer countries,
- promoting knowledge sharing, in particular in the areas of investigative, regulatory, enforcement and methodological expertise.

As with Hungary's status in the Organisation of Turkic States, the Turkic States Competition Council has been joined by the Hungarian Competition Authority as an observer. The GVH already had professional relations with several competition authorities from the Organisation. The competition authorities of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan are all beneficiaries of the Regional Centre for Competition Budapest (RCC) jointly run by the GVH and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Budapest.

Established in 2005, the RCC builds on the expertise of the OECD and the GVH to provide assistance, mainly to countries in Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, through the organisation of training and professional programmes to improve competition policy, competition law and advocacy, and to facilitate the work of competition authorities, thus contributing to the improvement of competition and economic growth in the beneficiary countries.

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Through the RCC, Hungary and the GVH play a leading role in the region in providing technical assistance and participation in the development of transition economies, a role further strengthened by the GVH's accession to the Turkic States Competition Council as an observer, further supporting the development of competition law and policy in the member countries.

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