



26 – 27 May 2021

Essentials of State Aid Law

Experts

Chair & Speaker:

Phedon Nicolaides

Professor at Maastricht University; Visiting Professor at the College of Europe, and Academic Director at Lexxion Training

Péter Staviczky

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Anita Gyürkés

Head of Department, State Aid Monitoring Office, Budapest



The two-day Lexxion Training Online focuses on the following topics:

Day 1:

- System and Structure of State Aid Control in the EU
- Concept and Principles of State Aid (incl. Short Coffee Break)
- State Aid Assessment: Principles of Compatibility
- State Aid Exemption: *De minimis* Aid

Day 2:

- General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER) and Compliance
- Environmental and Energy Aid & Practical Cases
- Regional State Aid
- State Aid for R&D&I
- State Aid Notification & State Aid Recovery



Overview

Our Lexxion Training Online on the essentials of State aid law helps you to receive an understanding of concept of State aid and its general prohibition under EU treaty rules. With the help of our experts you will find out how to assess the existence of State aid in your funding measures. By the end of the Lexxion Training you will have a detailed overview of the most important State aid exemptions and learn how to implement them in the practice. Insights into the methods of assessment and handling of State aid cases by the DG Competition, will help you take action when returning to your projects. Throughout the Lexxion Training you can raise questions and discuss pressing topics with colleagues from other Member States.

Methodology

A Lexxion Training provides you with a **comprehensive overview of the current State aid control system** in different sectors. **Presentations, practical exercises and group work will enable you to apply the guidelines in the respective sector in practice.**

This training will be conducted by renowned experts from **EU and Member States' institutions, as well as leading law firms and consultancies.**

Our training method combines the **three stages of learning** to ensure that participants obtain the **best possible understanding of EU rules:**

1. Identification of the main points or principles,
2. Appreciation of the complexities and limitation of the principles,
3. Application of the rules and principles.

Participants will be actively involved in the course. The sessions will combine **presentations, case studies and discussion on practical issues.** You will have ample opportunities to present your own issues and discuss them with the speakers and participants from other Member States.

Target Group

Public officials from:

- Ministries and other national authorities
- National Competition Authorities
- State Aid Monitoring Offices
- Courts of Auditors
- Regional governments
- Communal and City councils
- National and Regional Development Agencies

Personal involved in granting State aid in sectors such as:

- Transport and infrastructure
- Finance
- Environment and Energy
- Telecommunication and Broadband
- Social services and health
- Agriculture
- Research, Development & Innovation

ESI funds experts from:

- Institutions coordinating the national strategies for Structural Funds
- Managing, Certifying and Audit Authorities, Intermediate bodies
- Bodies implementing EU funded projects
- Lawyers and consultants
- Experts from Public and private banks
- Academics

Chair & Speaker:

Phedon Nicolaides, *Professor at Maastricht University; Visiting Professor at the College of Europe, and Academic Director at Lexxion Training*

09:00 Welcome Note by Lexxion & Introduction Round

09:15 System and Structure of State Aid Control in the EU

- Sources of law
- Powers of European Commission
- Obligations of the Member States
- Judicial review
- Fitness check of state aid rules and response to the Covid-19 pandemic

Phedon Nicolaides

10:15 Short Coffee Break

10:30 Concept and Principles of State Aid

- Articles 107 & 108 of the TFEU
- The meaning of aid granted by a Member State or State Resources
- The concept of economic and non-economic activity
- How to determine advantage to certain undertakings or production of certain goods
- How to establish whether a measure is selectivity
- The meaning of distortion of competition and effect of trade between the Member States

Phedon Nicolaides

12:00 Virtual Lunch Break

12:30 State Aid Assessment: Principles of Compatibility

- Is there a need for a subsidy?
- Appropriateness of State aid measure
- Funding gap method and market failure
- Incentive effect and proportionality
- Avoidance of undue negative effects on competition and trade between Member States
- Transparency and evaluation

Phedon Nicolaides

14:00 Short Coffee Break

14:15 State Aid Exemption: *De minimis* Aid

- Application of Regulation 1407/2013
- Notion of *de minimis aid*
- Notion of single undertaking
- Advantages of *de minimis aid*

Phedon Nicolaides

15:15 Summary and End of Day 1

09:00 Welcome Note Day 2

09:05 General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER) and Compliance

- Legal background
- State aid modernization
- Regulatory framework under the SAM
- Scope of the GBER
- Specific Provisions

Péter Staviczky,

State Aid Attaché, Permanent Representation of Hungary to the EU, Brussels

10:15 Short Coffee Break

10:30 Environmental and Energy Aid & Practical Cases

- Guidelines and Legal framework for energy and environment projects: Scope of application
- Notifiable energy and environmental aid
- Specific State aid provisions for energy efficiency and renewable energy
- Practical experiences

Péter Staviczky

11:30 Short Coffee Break

11:45 Regional State Aid

- Regional development: GBER and guidelines
- Reconciling completion and cohesion

Anita Gyürkés,

Head of Department, State Aid Monitoring Office, Budapest

13:00 Virtual Lunch Break

13:30 State Aid for R&D&I

- The new Framework for State Aid for R&D&I
- Non-economic research vs economic research
- Collaboration between research organisations and undertakings GBER rules

Phedon Nicolaides

14:30 Short Coffee Break

14:45 State Aid Notification & State Aid Recovery

- Notification procedure:
- Regulation 2015/1589
- What needs to be notified and how?
- Types of procedures

Péter Staviczky

16:00 Summary of Day 2 and End of the Lexxion Training

Bigmarker is the platform for online participation in this course. In order to join the course online, please [check](#) your device compatibility first.

What do you need in order to join the course online?

- ✓ Speakers, Microphone; Camera is possible, if you would like to be seen during the course.
- ✓ A wired connection is strongly recommended.
- ✓ If your internet connection doesn't work, you can join the course by telephone, using a dial-in number. In this case there might be additional telephone costs.

How to join the course online?

- ✓ Choose the computer from which you would like to follow the course.
- ✓ Please check your device compatibility.
- ✓ As soon as you get the invitation link: Please register for the course by clicking the invitation link.
- ✓ 15 minutes before the course: Bring your headset and eventually camera, click the invitation, enter and enjoy the course!

Minimum system requirements are as follows:

- ✓ Operating System: Windows 7 or later; Mac OS X 10.12 or later, Linux.
- ✓ Browser: The most recently-published versions of Chrome, Firefox, Microsoft Edge, Safari, or Opera.
- ✓ High-speed internet: A consistent, high-speed connection is required. Mobile tethering, hotspots, slow or inconsistent public Wi-Fi networks may create latency when using video conferencing.

FAQ

Why do I need to register before the course starts?

Thank you for registering! This not only helps us to communicate with you in regard to technical issues but it helps you to network with your fellow course participants.

Will the course be recorded?

Please ask the responsible event manager.

Do I need a camera?

It is recommended to have a camera for more comfortable communication with the speakers and other participants.

Do I need a microphone?

Since this is an interactive online course, yes.

Do I need to install anything?

No. We expect you to have a browser, of course.

Can I ask questions during the course?

Yes, you can ask your questions live by using your microphone. You can speak to all participants at the same time as you may have experienced in Skype.

When can I enter the course I'm attending?

Please enter 15 minutes before the start, so that you have enough time for technical checks. You can only enter if you have passed the system check.

May I leave the course and come back later?

Yes, just log in at a later time during the course.

May I access via Phone?

Yes, you can. Participating via phone means you can listen only. Please keep in mind that you will be dialling a US number which would result in higher telephone costs.

Can't find invitation?

Please check your spam-folder. You should also ask your colleague from the IT department to 'whitelist' us. For more details please ask the corresponding event manager, who will be happy to help you.

I failed the Firewall System Check – what can I do?

Please contact your IT department and have them open the necessary ports, which can be found [here](#).

What are the detailed System requirements?

All requirements can be found [here](#).

I failed the Audio Output System Test – what can I do?

If you are using headphones or external speakers, try unplugging them. Please unmute your device. Test your speakers [here](#) to find out if they work.

I would like to participate but I'm waiting for an approval. Can I order a ticket on the day of the course?

Sure. Please message events@lexxion.eu.

My email address has changed – can I still participate?

Sure. Please provide us with your updated email address; you will then receive a new invitation.

How do I contact the host of the course?

events@lexxion.eu is happy to help you.

Participation fee

- YES, I would like to participate for the reduced fee for public authorities **EUR 990,00** (excl. VAT).
- YES, I would like to participate for the regular fee of **EUR 1.290,00** (excl. VAT).

Discount for European State Aid Law Quarterly (ESTAL) subscribers: € 100,-

The German VAT of 19% will be added. Customers from other EU countries with a valid VAT ID number receive an invoice without VAT (reverse charge).

Newsletter subscription

- Please send me information about European State aid law issues for free. I may unsubscribe from this service any time.

Cancellations

Cancellations should be made in writing per post or fax. Please note that the full fee will be charged in case of no show at the online event or for cancellations received after 12 May 2021. Nomination of a substitute remains possible without any additional costs. For more detailed information, scope and conduct of contract as well as cancellation policy, please check the Terms & Conditions on our website.



Please register with:

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Position, Department

Company Name

Address

Phone, Fax

E-Mail

VAT Reg.-No.

Date, Signature

Upcoming event:

Online Master Class – ‘State Aid Uncovered’ with Prof. Dr. Phedon Nicolaides 7 – 8 July 2021

Comprehensive analysis of the recent Judgements and Commission decisions on State aid concept and exemptions, the related aspects in the Commission’s Notice on the Notion of Aid, and in-depth problem solving of participants’ cases.

Every participant has an exclusive opportunity to have a one-on-one meeting with Phedon Nicolaides to discuss your case and ask the questions directly from the speaker.