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Summer Course: State Aid – Concept, Principles, Exemptions & Guidelines

20 –23 August 2024

Barcelona

Experts



Phedon Nicolaides
Professor at Maastricht University; Professor at University of Nicosia, and Academic Director at Lexxion Training



Katarzyna Pamuła-Wróbel
Director, State aid department, Olesiński & Wspólnicy, Warsaw



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

Day 1:

- System and Structure of State Aid Control in the EU
- Concept and Principles of State Aid
- Case Studies & Working Group Exercise
- Compatibility Assessment of State Aid
- General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER)

Day 2:

- De minimis Regulation
- State Aid Procedures: Notification & Recovery of Unlawful Aid
- Environmental and Energy Aid & Practical Cases
- Practical Exercise on a Fictional Case: Procedural Rules, GBER & Notion of Aid – When to Notify

Day 3:

- Services of General Economic Interest (SGEI)
- Case Study on SGEI
- State Aid for R&D&I & Practical Cases
- Regional Aid & Practical Cases

Day 4:

- Funding of Infrastructure in Compliance with State Aid
- Practical Exercises and Group Work on Infrastructure Funding
- Problem-Solving Session and Final Discussion – Discuss your cases and ask your questions in full confidentiality

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20 – 23 August 2024 | Barcelona

Programme Day 1 + 2: 20 – 21 August

Chair & Speaker of Day 1:

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

Day 1

08:30 Registration & Welcome Coffee

09:00 Welcome Note & Introduction Round

09:30 System and Structure of State Aid Control in the EU

- Statistics on state aid
- System of graduated control
- Responsibilities of the European Commission, Member States, and beneficiaries

Phedon Nicolaides

10:00 Coffee Break & Networking

10:30 Concept and Principles of State Aid

- The requirements of Art. 107(1) TFEU
- The notion of aid
- The notion of undertaking
- Economic vs. non-economic activity
- Determining advantage and selectivity of measures
- Effect on trade and distortion of competition

Phedon Nicolaides

12:30 Lunch Break

13:30 Case Studies & Working Group Exercise

Phedon Nicolaides

15:00 Coffee Break & Networking

15:30 Compatibility Assessment of State Aid

- 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

16:30 General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER)

- The GBER rules: Common and specific provisions
- Scope and categories of exempted aid

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

17:30 Summary and Lessons Learnt of Day 1

17:45 End of Day 1

18:30 **Evening Event & Common Dinner**

Day 2

09:00 De minimis Regulation

- Application of Regulation 2023/2831
- Thresholds, gross grant equivalent, cumulation, national registers

Péter Staviczky

09:30 State Aid Procedures: Notification & Recovery of Unlawful Aid

- Notification procedure: Regulation 2015/1589
- What needs to be notified and how?
- Types of procedures
- Practical Case: How to Notify a Measure?
- Non-compliance and recovery of unlawful aid
- Practical Case: How to Recover Unlawful Aid?

Péter Staviczky

11:00 Coffee Break & Networking

11:30 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

13:00 Lunch Break

14:00 Practical Exercise on a Fictional Case: Procedural Rules, GBER & Notion of Aid – When to Notify

Péter Staviczky

15:30 Summary and Lessons Learnt of Day 2

15:45 End of Day 2

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Programme Day 3 + 4: 22 – 23 August

Day 3

09:00 Services of General Economic Interest (SGEI)

- Concept of SGEI
- Recent judgments and Commission decisions
- SGEI Package (2012) and Altmark criteria

Phedon Nicolaides

10:30 Coffee Break & Networking

11:00 Case Study on SGEI

- How to define a market gap?
- How to calculate compensation?
- How to notify SGEI aid?

Phedon Nicolaides

12:30 Lunch Break

13:30 State Aid for R&D&I & Practical Cases

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

Phedon Nicolaides

14:30 Coffee Break & Networking

15:00 Regional Aid & Practical Cases

- Guidelines on Regional State aid
- Regional aid under the GBER – Implications for Member States' authorities
- Compatibility measures of regional aid
- Treatment of SMEs and large investment projects
- When does a Member State have to notify? Can a Member State withdraw a notification?

Katarzyna Pamuła-Wróbel, Director, State aid department, Olesiński & Wspólnicy, Warsaw

16:30 Summary and Lessons Learnt of Day 3

16:45 End of Day 3

19:00 Common Dinner & Networking

Day 4

09:00 Funding of Infrastructure in Compliance with State Aid

- Infrastructure funding in regional policy
- Funding infrastructure after Leipzig/Halle: What are public authorities still allowed to finance?
- MEIP and its application to infrastructure funding
- Compatibility principles of infrastructure funding
- The 20% rule of infrastructure funding

Katarzyna Pamuła-Wróbel

10:30 Coffee Break & Networking

11:00 Practical Exercises and Group Work on Infrastructure Funding

- Transport infrastructure
- Financing of airports
- Research infrastructure
- Sport and multifunctional recreational infrastructures
- Public Utilities infrastructure: water, sewerage, and waste

Participants will work on cases. The results will be presented and discussed commonly.

Katarzyna Pamuła-Wróbel

13:00 Lunch Break

14:00 Problem-Solving Session and Final Discussion – Discuss your cases and ask your questions in full confidentiality

Phedon Nicolaides

15:00 Summary and Lessons Learnt of Day 4 and the Summer Course

15:15 Closing Remarks and End of the Summer Course

Registration

Venue

Exclusive Venue in the Heart of Barcelona

As the number of places is limited, please register as soon as possible.

Participation fee for participation in Barcelona:

- YES, I would like to participate for the reduced fee for public authorities **EUR 3.380,00** (excl. VAT).
- YES, I would like to participate for the regular fee of **EUR 3.880,00** (excl. VAT).

Discount for European State Aid Law Quarterly (EStAL) subscribers: € 150,-

VAT will be added if applicable.

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 6 August 2024. 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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