

The Hungarian authorities' position
on the draft Commission Regulation 360/2012/EU on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to de minimis aid granted to undertakings providing services of general economic interest

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The Hungarian authorities appreciate the draft SGEI de minimis regulation put forward by the Commission and would like to thank the Commission for their hard work.

Hungary welcomes the Commission's proposal to increase the aid ceiling. We are currently living in an era of crises with exceptionally high levels of inflation which is here to stay for the upcoming years and the new de minimis regulation should reflect that. Revision in 5-6 years would handle adequately the impacts of the current inflation environment.

Hungary also welcomes the Commission's effort to strengthen transparency. Nevertheless, introducing mandatory national level registers would create excessive and unnecessary financial and administrative burden on the Member States, not to mention having 27 different systems would also falter transparency objectives.

At the same time, Hungary is open to having a shared EU level register, should the Commission introduce a detailed proposal in that matter. As the SGEI de minimis regulation is directly applicable, more details have to be regulated in the text. Hungary suggests the Commission to incorporate an EU level register into the Transparency Award Module, publicly accessible for aid grantors and beneficiaries alike.

Should a new register be introduced, Hungary proposes to introduce a longer, minimum 12 months transitional period, so that stakeholders could be accustomed and prepared for the new requirements. This period would also allow Member States to cooperate with the Commission as regards the daily use of the register.