

PRESS RELEASE

DEAL ACTIVITY IN THE REGION: CEE M&A AND PRIVATE EQUITY FORUM IS SOON APPROACHING

Vienna, 21 September 2021 – Despite ongoing challenges related to Covid-19 lockdowns, the M&A activity in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) reached EUR 8.5bn (121 deals) by value in 1Q21, representing a 49.7% increase compared to the same period last year (EUR 5.7bn, 115 deals).

This represents the region's highest first quarter figure since 1Q13 (EUR 10.6bn, 109 deals).¹ Wolf Theiss is proud to be involved in many of these transactions across our 13 offices in CEE, working as an agile, multidisciplinary, cross-border team while assisting our clients with local and global transactions.

The H121 also indicates a favourable outlook for the future. According to Mergermarket, a total of 280 deals took place within the region – up by 79 compared to H1 2020. Deal value also posted an impressive start to the year, with a total of €12.6bn, increasing 54% year-on-year.

"The M&A market in the CEE region benefits greatly from the large-scale global recovery, building on an impressive continuous growth story over the last 30 years," states Horst Ehardt.

"Central Europe continues to flourish, and both trade buyers and private equity clearly recognise the long-term potential of the region's evolving technology companies and the fast-growing purchasing power of the local consumer markets", adds Florian Kuszniar.

Will this trend continue? What sectors will emerge as the winners of the pandemic? And how will the ongoing COVID-19 crisis and new regulatory measures such as FDI regimes further impact M&A activity in CEE? **Register for the CEE M&A and Private Equity Forum taking place on 29 September 2021 in Warsaw** in order to discuss these and other important topics with experts in law and business.

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¹ Source: Mergermarket

ABOUT WOLF THEISS

Wolf Theiss is one of the leading European law firms in Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe with a focus on international business law. With 340 lawyers in 13 countries, over 80% of the firm's work involves cross-border representation of international clients. Combining expertise in law and business, Wolf Theiss develops innovative solutions that integrate legal, financial and business know-how.

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