Notification Number: 306695.1

Hungarian Act on agents involved in the certification and transfer of professional athletes

On 29 June 2021, Hungary notified an amendment to the 2004 Sports Act adding the activity of a player agent or player agency. The amendment foresees the introduction of a section 37/A, 37/B and 37/C containing the following rules:

- (i) definition of player agent activities, player agent and player agency (section 37/A);
- (ii) requirements to be fulfilled by a player agent or a player agency (section 37/B);
- (iii) competence and tasks of the national sport federation concerning the inspection of the activities of player agents and player agencies, including the right to impose administrative sanctions (section 37/B and 37/C).

The notified requirements under section 37/B seem to apply to both the establishment and to the cross-border provision of services. The main requirements are as follows:

- a) Notification of the activity
- b) Payment of an administrative fee
- c) No criminal record and no prohibition to act as player agent/agency (no bankruptcy or liquidation for undertakings)

According to the explanations of the Hungarian authorities, the notification of the activity is an obligation on the service provider to obtain an authorisation from a competent authority, including the entry in a register or registration with a professional body or association. Only a person who has notified the activity and who has paid the administrative service fee for the registration may carry out the activity of player agent/players agency.

The Commission services would like to ask the Hungarian authorities the following questions:

Is the profession of sporting agent as described in the draft law a regulated profession in Hungary?

Could you please confirm our understanding that these above-mentioned requirements apply also to cross-border service providers and clarify how these above-mentioned requirements are justified by an overriding reason of public interest and how they are proportionate in the context of the cross border provision of services?