

STATE AID MONITORING OFFICE

State aid policy developments and current challenges from Hungary's perspective

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Current challenges

Challenges of the Single Market

- Strong competition of third countries;
- High energy prices;
- Shortages in skills and labour;
- Difficulties in accessing capital;



Possible response: Strengthening competitiveness

/Political Guidelines 2024-29; Competitiveness Compass; Clean Industrial Deal; Industrial Action Plan for the Automotive Sector; European Steal and Metals Action plan; Critical Medicines Act; /



rethinking competition policy incl. State Aid



Simplification = predictability + clarity

After ongoing crisis management need for stable and coherent rules

- Stable rules allowing confident planning;
- Clear formulation enabling consistent application;



- reduction of administrative burdens
- fostering legal certainty and trust in the State aid system

Key Areas for Simplification 1.

- 1. General Block Exemption Regulation often difficult to apply
- uncertainty;
- inconsistent definitions;
- complicated structure;

Example: funding gap calculation

Revision: horizontal overview, uniform wording

Key Areas for Simplification 2.

- 2. Policy coherence
- e.g. with Structural Fund rules
- 3. SME definition
- update and harmonize across EU law
- 4. Guidance & dialogue
- online workshops and practical guidance notes

Hungary's Key Message

Simplification means:

- 1. Clear rules \rightarrow legal certainty
- 2. Fewer administrative burdens \rightarrow especially for SMEs
- 3. Better alignment with EU priorities and policies



stronger European competitiveness, support for green & digital transitions, cohesive Single Market

Many thanks for your attention!