

ISTVÁN RÉCZICZA

MANAGING PARTNER, DENTONS

大成 DENTONS



in the telecom sector where Gergő Budai, Balázs Fazekas and Dániel Szeszlér have all proven to be very successful.

WHAT DREW YOU TO LAW AS A PROFESSION?

As a member of the young generation of the 1980s, and having made my career choice in the waning years of the communist regime, it was above all else the concept of independence that attracted me to the practice of law. During the course of my legal studies, it became clear to me that if a world different from the existing regime were to be born, then such a birth would bring about the development of a legal system where lawyers could and should rely on their professional expertise and independence in order to excel at their jobs. It was clear to me that the time of legal mechanisms serving solely political interests

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was coming to an end and that, within the legal realm, private practice promised maximum independence. I was strongly interested in being involved in the shaping of society and business life and in having a say in the functioning of society. The changing economic, legal and social environment of that time offered me the opportunity to do so. Moreover, I was also able to do immensely practical work. A world that was fundamentally changing when I began my career created the conditions for managing a legal practice based on strategic considerations, a practice that has enabled clients to achieve not only legal solutions, but also business objectives. This confluence of being a person seeking to help shape society for the common good, of being a professional interested in achieving success in business and of being a private person striving to establish independence is what drove me forward.

OF WHICH ACHIEVEMENTS ARE YOU MOST PROUD?

I am proud of having been among the largest and leading law firms in Hungary for more than two decades. The lawyers trained in our office and ranked among the best are either still with our firm or have taken their talents to other enterprises where they have applied the special approach to the practice of law that they acquired while working here. I am especially proud of our achievements

Name of law firm	Dentons
Name of associate non-Hungarian law firm or cooperation network	Dentons Europe LLP
Address	1061 Budapest, Andrássy út 11.
Managing partner	István Réczicza
In charge of position since	2015
Year of Hungarian law firm's establishment	2015; Dentons (formerly Salans) has been in Budapest since 2006
No. of attorneys with license to practise in Hungary on Sept. 15, 2020	34
No. of partners of Hungarian law firm on Sept. 15, 2020	9

HOW DID YOU PICK YOUR LEGAL SPECIALTY AREA?

Managing matters relating to regulated industries is a highly complex task. It requires a knowledge of EU regulations, Hungarian regulations and practices, the mindset of decision-makers and the expectations of individuals operating businesses. Practical legal solutions can best be achieved through a coordination of all of these considerations. I have never been interested only in law in the abstract. I have always been interested in how law is applied in the real world. This is the reason why we have undertaken numerous ground-breaking cases which were precedent-setting in Hungary. Such matters have ranged

from our involvement in the application of the first company transformation law in the late '80s to the representation of Hungary in the first ICSID [International Center for Settlement of Investment Disputes] matter, just to mention two immensely interesting areas.

WHAT WOULD YOU CHANGE TO IMPROVE THE LEGAL ENVIRONMENT IN HUNGARY?

Frequent changes to legislation should be avoided through the development and enactment of only those changes which are carefully thought through. Such an approach would make the legal environment more predictable.

