



The first year of the EU Trade Mark Reform – a bridge between the past and the future

By Imre Gonda

Abstract

The road to adopt the European Trade Mark reform was long, and so will be the implementation of its provisions. Some of them (EUTM Reg.) has already entered into force last year, while for others we have to wait for years (e.g. the transposition of measures on administrative cancellation). It is worth examining how the staged entry into force may affect the smooth operation of the European and the national trade mark systems.

Furthermore, it might be useful to elaborate on the question, how the revised EUTM can affect national procedures managed under the old rules. Little emphasis was given to the transitional measures in the EUTMR which might be particularly interesting for the new grounds for refusal or invalidation with possible retroactive effect. Can national legislators take advantage of the bitter experience of the EUTM or everything is reassuringly covered on the European level? The aim of the presentation is to find an adequate answer to this question and to some others that may influence the transposition of the Directive.