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# C 154



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## Information and Notices

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### Contents

#### II *Information*

##### INFORMATION FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS, BODIES, OFFICES AND AGENCIES

###### **European Commission**

2022/C 154/01	Non-opposition to a notified concentration (Case M.10602 – SWISS LIFE INTERNATIONAL HOLDING / ELIPS LIFE) <sup>(1)</sup> .....	1
2022/C 154/02	Non-opposition to a notified concentration (Case M.10582 – GAMALIFE / GOING CONCERN OF ZURICH INVESTMENTS LIFE SPA) <sup>(1)</sup> .....	2

#### IV *Notices*

##### NOTICES FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS, BODIES, OFFICES AND AGENCIES

###### **European Commission**

2022/C 154/03	Euro exchange rates — 7 April 2022 .....	3
2022/C 154/04	Explanatory Notes to the Combined Nomenclature of the European Union .....	4

###### **European Data Protection Supervisor**

2022/C 154/05	Summary of the Opinion of the European Data Protection Supervisor on the Proposal for a Directive on information exchange between law enforcement authorities of Member States ( <i>The full text of this Opinion can be found in English, French and German on the EDPS website <a href="http://www.edps.europa.eu">www.edps.europa.eu</a></i> ) .....	7
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<sup>(1)</sup> Text with EEA relevance.

NOTICES FROM MEMBER STATES

2022/C 154/06	List of Member States and their competent authorities concerning Articles 15(2), 17(8) and 21(3) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008; List of competent authorities in Northern Ireland concerning Article 17(8) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008 in accordance with the Protocol on Ireland/Northern Ireland of the Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community.....	10
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V *Announcements*

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION POLICY

**European Commission**

2022/C 154/07	Prior notification of a concentration (Case M.10691 – CDP GROUP / FOMAS GROUP / PUNCH GROUP / JV) – Candidate case for simplified procedure <sup>(1)</sup> .....	17
---------------	--	----

OTHER ACTS

**European Commission**

2022/C 154/08	Publication of an application for registration of a name pursuant to Article 50(2)(a) of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs.....	19
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<sup>(1)</sup> Text with EEA relevance.

## II

*(Information)*INFORMATION FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS, BODIES, OFFICES  
AND AGENCIES

## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

**Non-opposition to a notified concentration****(Case M.10602 – SWISS LIFE INTERNATIONAL HOLDING / ELIPS LIFE)****(Text with EEA relevance)**

(2022/C 154/01)

On 1 April 2022, the Commission decided not to oppose the above notified concentration and to declare it compatible with the internal market. This decision is based on Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 <sup>(1)</sup>. The full text of the decision is available only in English and will be made public after it is cleared of any business secrets it may contain. It will be available:

- in the merger section of the ‘Competition policy’ website of the Commission (<http://ec.europa.eu/competition/mergers/cases/>). This website provides various facilities to help locate individual merger decisions, including company, case number, date and sectoral indexes,
- in electronic form on the EUR-Lex website (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/homepage.html?locale=en>) under document number 32022M10602. EUR-Lex is the online point of access to European Union law.

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1.

**Non-opposition to a notified concentration****(Case M.10582 – GAMALIFE / GOING CONCERN OF ZURICH INVESTMENTS LIFE SPA)****(Text with EEA relevance)**

(2022/C 154/02)

On 24 February 2022, the Commission decided not to oppose the above notified concentration and to declare it compatible with the internal market. This decision is based on Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 <sup>(1)</sup>. The full text of the decision is available only in English and will be made public after it is cleared of any business secrets it may contain. It will be available:

- in the merger section of the ‘Competition policy’ website of the Commission (<http://ec.europa.eu/competition/mergers/cases/>). This website provides various facilities to help locate individual merger decisions, including company, case number, date and sectoral indexes,
- in electronic form on the EUR-Lex website (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/homepage.html?locale=en>) under document number 32022M10582. EUR-Lex is the online point of access to European Union law.

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1.

## IV

(Notices)

## NOTICES FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS, BODIES, OFFICES AND AGENCIES

## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Euro exchange rates <sup>(1)</sup>

7 April 2022

(2022/C 154/03)

1 euro =

Currency	Exchange rate	Currency	Exchange rate		
USD	US dollar	1,0916	CAD	Canadian dollar	1,3704
JPY	Japanese yen	135,32	HKD	Hong Kong dollar	8,5554
DKK	Danish krone	7,4378	NZD	New Zealand dollar	1,5816
GBP	Pound sterling	0,83450	SGD	Singapore dollar	1,4848
SEK	Swedish krona	10,3130	KRW	South Korean won	1 330,92
CHF	Swiss franc	1,0185	ZAR	South African rand	16,0520
ISK	Iceland króna	141,00	CNY	Chinese yuan renminbi	6,9448
NOK	Norwegian krone	9,5595	HRK	Croatian kuna	7,5562
BGN	Bulgarian lev	1,9558	IDR	Indonesian rupiah	15 692,35
CZK	Czech koruna	24,512	MYR	Malaysian ringgit	4,6046
HUF	Hungarian forint	379,26	PHP	Philippine peso	56,114
PLN	Polish zloty	4,6370	RUB	Russian rouble	
RON	Romanian leu	4,9419	THB	Thai baht	36,541
TRY	Turkish lira	16,0929	BRL	Brazilian real	5,1460
AUD	Australian dollar	1,4578	MXN	Mexican peso	21,9806
			INR	Indian rupee	82,9510

<sup>(1)</sup> Source: reference exchange rate published by the ECB.

## Explanatory Notes to the Combined Nomenclature of the European Union

(2022/C 154/04)

Pursuant to Article 9(1), point (a), of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2658/87 <sup>(1)</sup>, the Explanatory Notes to the Combined Nomenclature of the European Union <sup>(2)</sup> are hereby amended as follows:

On page 402:

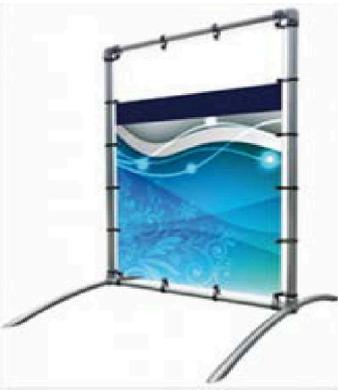
*The following text is inserted in the Explanatory Notes to heading 9403 after the phrase ‘This heading does not include “information displays” such as “street boards” and “roll-ups”’::*

‘Information displays are designed to be easily erected, taken down (folded up/rolled up) and carried/moved to wherever they are needed. They are designed for outdoor or indoor use or both. Their purpose is mainly to provide information and/or for advertising.

Consequently, they do not have the character of furniture according to the HSEN to Chapter 94, General, second paragraph, (A), to equip private dwellings, hotels, theatres, offices, schools, ... or ships, caravan trailers etc..’

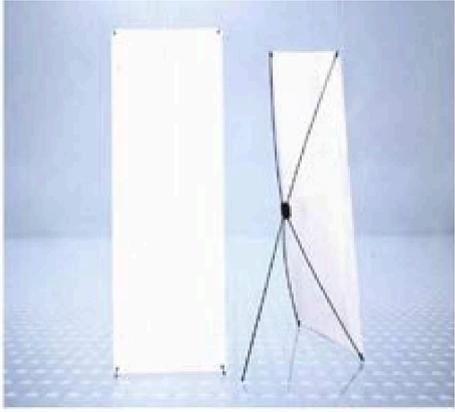
On page 404:

*The table in the Explanatory Notes to heading 9403 situated after the phrase ‘Examples of “information displays” which are to be classified according to their constituent material, under a heading covering various articles of this material’ is deleted and replaced by the following table:*

	
<p>A base of hard plastics, a top of an aluminium frame with a plastic sheet in the middle covered by transparent PVC foils from both sides.</p>	<p>A base and a frame of aluminium with rubber attachments and transparent PVC foils covering a sheet of paper.</p>
<p>Heading 7616 (the essential character is provided by the aluminium frame).</p>	<p>Heading 7616 (the essential character is provided by the aluminium frame).</p>

<sup>(1)</sup> Council Regulation (EEC) No 2658/87 of 23 July 1987 on the tariff and statistical nomenclature and on the Common Customs Tariff (OJ L 256, 7.9.1987, p. 1).

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ C 119, 29.3.2019, p. 1.

	
<p>A central plastic plate attached to five plastic rods (bars) of almost equal length, all of which can be tilted in different directions. Four of them have a plastic hook at the end and a plastic cap is mounted on the fifth rod.</p>	<p>A frame in the shape of a concave curved screen constructed from tubes of aluminium and feet of steel to be placed on the ground (approximately 2 m high and 2 m long). The frame is designed to have a textile fabric attached. The textile fabric is not included at importation. The disassembled product is designed to be carried in a bag.</p>
<p>Heading 3926 (the article is made solely of plastics).</p>	<p>Heading 7616 (the essential character of the article is provided by the aluminium frame).</p>

 	
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<p>Collapsible accordion frame of base metal (aluminium with plastic fittings) that is placed on the ground (approximately 2m high). Designed to hold a printed fabric (not included at importation) by means of magnets. The disassembled product is designed to be carried in a suitcase on wheels.</p>	<p>Frame constructed from aluminium to be placed on the ground (approximately 2 m high). The frame is designed to have a textile fabric attached by means of magnets. The textile fabric shown in the image of the assembled product is not included at importation. The disassembled product is designed to be carried in a bag.</p>
<p>Heading 7616 (the essential character of the article is provided by the aluminium frame).</p>	<p>Heading 7616 (the essential character of the article is provided by the aluminium frame).</p>

# EUROPEAN DATA PROTECTION SUPERVISOR

## **Summary of the Opinion of the European Data Protection Supervisor on the Proposal for a Directive on information exchange between law enforcement authorities of Member States**

*(The full text of this Opinion can be found in English, French and German on the EDPS website [www.edps.europa.eu](http://www.edps.europa.eu))*

(2022/C 154/05)

The European Commission adopted on 8 December 2021 a Proposal for Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on information exchange between law enforcement authorities of Member States. The Proposal is part of a larger legislative package, referred to as 'EU Police Cooperation Code', which also includes a Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on automated data exchange for police cooperation ('Prüm II'), amending Council Decisions 2008/615/JHA and 2008/616/JHA (the 'Prüm Decisions') and Regulations (EU) 2018/1726, 2019/817 and 2019/818 of the European Parliament and of the Council (subject to a separate EDPS opinion), and Proposal for Council Recommendation on operational police cooperation.

The Proposal aims at facilitating equivalent access for law enforcement authorities to information held in another Member State, while complying with fundamental rights, including data protection requirements; as well as ensuring that all Member States have an effective functioning Single Point of Contact and remedying the proliferation of communication channels used for law enforcement information exchange between Member States, while reinforcing Europol's role as the EU criminal information hub.

While the EDPS understands the need for the law enforcement authorities to benefit from the best possible legal and technical tools for exchange of information for the purpose of preventing, detecting or investigating criminal offences, he considers that certain elements of the Proposal need to be amended in order to ensure compliance with data protection requirements.

Firstly, the Proposal should clearly define the personal scope of the information exchange, and in any event limit the categories of personal data that may be exchanged about witnesses and victims, in line with Article 6 of the Law Enforcement Directive 2016/680 and similarly to the approach taken by Annex II of the Europol Regulation.

The EDPS also considers that, in line with the principle of storage limitation, the future Directive should explicitly lay down that the personal data in the case management systems of the Single Points of Contact should only be stored for very short periods of time which should generally correspond to the time limits for provision of information stipulated in Article 5 of the Proposal.

Finally, the EDPS is of the opinion that the Member States should be required to assess on a case-by-case basis whether Europol should receive a copy of the exchanged information, and for what purpose. The Proposal should also explicitly require that this purpose, together with any restrictions pursuant to Article 19 of the Europol Regulation, are communicated to Europol.

The Opinion also analyses and provides recommendations on a number other specific issues, such as the relationship of the Proposed Directive with the existing data protection legal framework as well as the use of SIENA as the main channel for communication between Member States.

## **1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND**

1. On 8 December 2021, the European Commission adopted a Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on information exchange between law enforcement authorities of Member States, repealing Council Framework Decision 2006/960/JHA (the 'Proposal')<sup>(1)</sup>.

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<sup>(1)</sup> COM(2021) 782 final.

2. The Proposal is part of a larger legislative package, referred to as 'EU Police Cooperation Code', which also includes:
  - Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on automated data exchange for police cooperation ('Prüm II'), amending Council Decisions 2008/615/JHA and 2008/616/JHA and Regulations (EU) 2018/1726, 2019/817 and 2019/818 of the European Parliament and of the Council <sup>(2)</sup>, and
  - Proposal for a Council Recommendation on operational police cooperation <sup>(3)</sup>.
3. The objective of the EU Police Cooperation Code is to streamline, enhance, develop, modernise, and facilitate law enforcement cooperation between relevant national agencies <sup>(4)</sup>. In this regard, the Proposal for a Directive aims at ensuring the equivalent access for any Member State's law enforcement authorities to information available in other Member States for the purpose of preventing and detecting criminal offences, conducting criminal investigations or criminal operations, thereby overcoming currently existing rules at national level, which impede the effective and efficient flow of information <sup>(5)</sup>. The Proposal therefore seeks to establish a legal framework ensuring a convergence of national practices and allowing a better monitoring and enforcement of rules at EU and national levels. In addition, the Proposal seeks to approximate minimum standards ensuring an efficient and effective functioning of the Single Points of Contacts ('SPOCs'). These common minimum requirements cover the composition, structures, responsibilities, staffing and technical capabilities.
4. The Proposal, and more generally the EU Police Cooperation Code, is linked to the policy goals of several EU strategic documents in the area of Justice and Home Affairs, in particular the EU Security Union Strategy <sup>(6)</sup>, the EU Strategy to tackle Organised Crime 2021-2025 <sup>(7)</sup> and the 2021 Strategy towards a fully functioning and resilient Schengen area <sup>(8)</sup>. Moreover, the Proposals establishing the Police Cooperation Code should be considered in the light of the ongoing reform of Europol and the growing role of the Agency as a central criminal information hub of the Union, collecting and processing ever-increasing amounts of data <sup>(9)</sup>.
5. The Commission consulted the EDPS on the Proposal for a Directive on information exchange between law enforcement authorities on 7 January 2022, pursuant to Article 42(1) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725. The comments and recommendations in this Opinion are limited to the provisions in the Proposal that are most relevant from a data protection perspective.

#### 4. CONCLUSIONS

33. In light of the above, the EDPS makes the following main recommendations:
  - The relationship with the existing legal framework on data protection should be more clearly explained in the Recitals. In addition, the Proposal should refrain from references to the GDPR, as it does not appear to be relevant in the context of the personal data processing envisaged by the Proposal.
  - The Proposal should clearly define the personal scope of the envisaged information exchanges and limit the categories of personal data that could be exchanged about witnesses and victims, in line with Article 6 of the LED and similarly to the approach taken by Annex II of the Europol Regulation (EU).
  - The EDPS considers that, in line with the principle of storage limitation, the Proposal should explicitly lay down that the personal data may only be stored in the CMS of the SPOC for a very short period of time, which should generally correspond to the time limits for provision of information stipulated in Article 5 of the Proposal.

<sup>(2)</sup> COM(2021) 784 final.

<sup>(3)</sup> COM(2021) 780 final.

<sup>(4)</sup> Explanatory Memorandum, p. 2.

<sup>(5)</sup> Explanatory Memorandum, p. 3.

<sup>(6)</sup> Communication from the Commission on the EU Security Union Strategy, COM/2020/605 final.

<sup>(7)</sup> Communication from the Commission on the EU Strategy to tackle Organised Crime 2021-2025, COM/2021/170 final

<sup>(8)</sup> Communication from the Commission 'A strategy towards a fully functioning and resilient Schengen area', COM/2021/277 final.

<sup>(9)</sup> For more information see the EDPS Opinion 4/2021, [https://edps.europa.eu/system/files/2021-03/21-03-08\\_opinion\\_europol\\_reform\\_en.pdf](https://edps.europa.eu/system/files/2021-03/21-03-08_opinion_europol_reform_en.pdf)

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- The EDPS considers that the Proposal should explicitly require the Member States to assess on a case-by-case basis whether to send a copy of the exchanged information to Europol, and for what purpose. The Proposal should also explicitly provide for that this purpose, together with the possible restrictions pursuant to Article 19 of the Europol Regulation, are communicated to Europol. The EDPS also recommends to delete the last sentence of Recital 18.

Brussels, 7 March 2022.

Wojciech Rafał WIEWIÓROWSKI

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## NOTICES FROM MEMBER STATES

**List of Member States and their competent authorities concerning Articles 15(2), 17(8) and 21(3) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008; List of competent authorities in Northern Ireland concerning Article 17(8) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008 in accordance with the Protocol on Ireland/Northern Ireland of the Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community**

(2022/C 154/06)

The publication of this list is in accordance with Article 22(2) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008 of 29 September 2008 <sup>(1)</sup>. The competent authorities have been notified in accordance with the following articles of that Regulation:

- a) Article 15(1): The exportation of catches made by fishing vessels flying the flag of a Member State shall be subject to the validation of a catch certificate by the competent authorities of the flag Member State, as established in Article 12(4), if required within the framework of the cooperation laid down in Article 20(4).

Article 15(2): Flag Member States shall notify to the Commission their competent authorities for the validation of the catch certificates referred to in paragraph 1.

- b) Article 17(8): Member States shall notify to the Commission their competent authorities for the checks and verifications of the catch certificates in accordance with Article 16 and paragraphs (1) to (6) of this Article.

- c) Article 21(3): Member States shall notify to the Commission their competent authorities for the validation and the verification of the section 're-export' of catch certificates in accordance with the procedure defined in Article 15.

Member State	Competent authorities
Belgium	(a), (b), (c): — Vlaamse Overheid; Dienst Zeevisserij (Flemish Government; Agriculture and Fisheries Agency, Seafisheries Authority)
Bulgaria	(a), (b), (c): — Изпълнителна Агенция по Рибарство и Аквакултури (National Agency for Fisheries and Aquaculture)
Czechia	(a): — not applicable (b), (c): — Celní úřad pro Středočeský kraj (Customs Office of Central Bohemian Region) — Celní úřad pro hlavní město Prahu (Customs Office of Capital City Prague) — Celní úřad Praha Ruzyně (Customs Office of Prague Ruzyně) — Celní úřad pro Jihočeský kraj (Customs Office of South Bohemian Region) — Celní úřad pro Plzeňský kraj (Customs Office of Pilsen Region) — Celní úřad pro Karlovarský kraj (Customs Office of Karlovy Vary Region) — Celní úřad pro Ústecký kraj (Customs Office of Ústí nad Labem Region)

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 286, 29.10.2008, p. 1.

Member State	Competent authorities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Celní úřad pro Liberecký kraj (Customs Office of Liberec Region)</li> <li>— Celní úřad pro Královéhradecký kraj (Customs Office of Hradec Králové Region)</li> <li>— Celní úřad pro Pardubický kraj (Customs Office of Pardubice Region)</li> <li>— Celní úřad pro Kraj Vysočina (Customs Office of Vysočina Region)</li> <li>— Celní úřad pro Jihomoravský kraj (Customs Office of South Moravian Region)</li> <li>— Celní úřad pro Olomoucký kraj (Customs Office of Olomouc Region)</li> <li>— Celní úřad pro Moravskoslezský kraj (Customs Office of Moravian-Silesian Region)</li> <li>— Celní úřad pro Zlínský kraj (Customs Office of Zlín Region)</li> </ul>
Denmark	<p>(a):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Fiskeristyrelsen (The Danish Fisheries Agency)</li> </ul> <p>(b):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Fiskeristyrelsen – kun direkte landinger (The Danish Fisheries Agency – direct landings only)</li> <li>— Fødevarestyrelsen – anden import (The Danish Veterinary and Food Administration – other imports)</li> </ul> <p>(c):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Fødevarestyrelsen (The Danish Veterinary and Food Administration)</li> </ul>
Germany	<p>(a), (b), (c):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Bundesanstalt für Landwirtschaft und Ernährung (Federal Office for Agriculture and Food)</li> </ul>
Estonia	<p>(a):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Veterinaar- ja Toiduamet Kalapüügikorralduse büroo (Veterinary and Food Board Fishing Regulation Office)</li> </ul> <p>(b):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Maksu-ja Tolliamet; Veterinaar-ja Toiduamet; Keskkonnaministerium (Estonian Tax and Customs Board; Veterinary and Food Board; Ministry of Environment)</li> </ul> <p>(c):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Maksu-ja Tolliamet (Estonian Tax and Customs Board)</li> </ul>
Ireland	<p>(a), (b), (c):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— The Sea Fisheries Protection Authority</li> </ul>
Greece	<p>(a):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Υπουργείο Αγροτικής Ανάπτυξης και Τροφίμων, Γενική Διεύθυνση Αλιείας, Διεύθυνση Ελέγχου Αλιευτικών Δραστηριοτήτων και Προϊόντων, Τμήμα Καταπολέμησης Παράνομης, Λαθραίας και Άναρχης Αλιείας (Ministry of Rural Development and Food, Directorate General for Fisheries, Directorate of Fishing Activities and Products Control, IUU Department)</li> </ul>

Member State	Competent authorities
	<p>(b), (c):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Υπουργείο Αγροτικής Ανάπτυξης και Τροφίμων, Γενική Διεύθυνση Αλιείας, Διεύθυνση Ελέγχου Αλιευτικών Δραστηριοτήτων και Προϊόντων, Τμήμα Καταπολέμησης Παράνομης, Λαθραϊας και Άναρχης Αλιείας (Ministry of Rural Development and Food, Directorate General for Fisheries, Directorate of Fishing Activities and Products Control, IUU Department)</li> <li>— Υπουργείο Αγροτικής Ανάπτυξης και Τροφίμων, Γενική Διεύθυνση Αλιείας, Διεύθυνση Ελέγχου Αλιευτικών Δραστηριοτήτων και Προϊόντων, Τμήμα Καταπολέμησης Παράνομης, Λαθραϊας και Άναρχης Αλιείας, Γραφείο Ελέγχου Αλιευτικών Προϊόντων (Ministry of Rural Development and Food, Directorate General for Fisheries, Directorate of Fishing Activities and Products Control, IUU Department, Control Unit of Fishery Products – located at Athens International Airport)</li> </ul>
Spain	<p>(a), (b), (c):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— MINISTERIO DE AGRICULTURA, PESCA Y ALIMENTACIÓN SECRETARÍA GENERAL DE PESCA</li> </ul> <p>Dirección General de Ordenación Pesquera y Acuicultura Subdirección General de Control e Inspección (Directorate-General of Fisheries and Aquaculture Management Subdirectorato General of Control and Inspection)</p>
France	<p>(a):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Les directions départementales des territoires et de la mer – délégations à la mer et au littoral; direction de la mer Guadeloupe; direction de la mer Martinique; direction de la mer Guyane; direction de la mer Sud Océan Indien (Departmental Directorates of territories and the sea - Delegations to the sea and the coastline; Directorate of the sea Guadeloupe; Directorate of the sea Martinique; Directorate of the sea French Guiana; Directorate of the sea South Indian Ocean)</li> <li>— Le Centre national de surveillance des pêches (National Fisheries Surveillance Center)</li> </ul> <p>(b):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Les bureaux de douane des directions régionales (Regional Directorates' Customs Offices)</li> <li>— La Direction des Pêches Maritimes et de l'Aquaculture (Directorate for Sea Fisheries and Aquaculture)</li> </ul> <p>(c):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Les bureaux de douane des directions régionales (Regional Directorates' Customs Offices)</li> </ul>
Croatia	<p>(a):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Ministarstvo poljoprivrede; Uprava ribarstva (Ministry of Agriculture; Directorate of Fisheries)</li> </ul> <p>(b), (c):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Ministarstvo financija; Carinska uprava (Ministry of Finance; Customs Service)</li> </ul>
Italy	<p>(a), (c):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Autorità Marittime (Guardia Costiera) (Maritime Authority (Coast Guard))</li> </ul> <p>(b):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Agenzia delle Dogane (Customs Agency)</li> <li>— Ministero della Salute (Ministry of Health)</li> </ul>
Cyprus	<p>(a), (b), (c):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Υπουργείο Γεωργίας, Αγροτικής Ανάπτυξης και Περιβάλλοντος; Τμήματος Αλιείας και Θαλασσιών Ερευνών (Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment; Department of Fisheries and Marine Research)</li> </ul>

Member State	Competent authorities
Latvia	<p>(a):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Zemkopības ministrijas Zivsaimniecības departaments (Ministry of Agriculture; Fisheries Department)</li> </ul> <p>(b):</p> <p><i>Nozvejas sertifikātu pārbaudes un verificācijas procedūras (for the check and verification procedures of the catch certificates):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Valsts vides dienesta Zvejas kontroles departaments (State Environmental Service; Fisheries Control Department);</li> </ul> <p><i>Muitas kontroles (for the customs control):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Valsts ieņēmumu dienesta Muitas pārvalde (National Customs Board; State Revenue Service).</li> </ul> <p>(c):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Valsts vides dienesta Zvejas kontroles departaments (State Environmental Service; Fisheries Control Department).</li> </ul>
Lithuania	<p>(a):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Žuvininkystės tarnyba prie Lietuvos Respublikos žemės ūkio ministerijos (Fisheries Service under the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania)</li> </ul> <p>(b), (c):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Muitinės departamentas prie Lietuvos Respublikos finansų ministerijos (Customs Department under the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Lithuania)</li> </ul>
Luxembourg	<p>(a):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— not applicable</li> </ul> <p>(b), (c):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Administration des services vétérinaires (Veterinary Services Administration)</li> </ul>
Hungary	<p>(a):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— not applicable</li> </ul> <p>(b), (c):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Nemzeti Élelmiszerlánc-biztonsági Hivatal (National Food Chain Safety Office)</li> </ul>
Malta	<p>(a), (b), (c):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Dipartiment tas-Sajd u l-Akwakultura; Ministeru għall-Iżvilupp Sostenibbli, l-Ambjent u l-bidla fil-klima (Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture; Ministry for Sustainable Development, the Environment and Climate Change)</li> </ul>
Netherlands	<p>(a), (c):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Nederlandse Voedsel en Waren Autoriteit (Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority)</li> </ul> <p>(b):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Douane (Customs Department)</li> <li>— Nederlandse Voedsel - en Warenautoriteit (Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority)</li> </ul>

Member State	Competent authorities
Austria	<p>(a):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— not applicable</li> </ul> <p>(b), (c):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— The Federal Office for Food Safety (Bundesamt für Ernährungssicherheit).</li> </ul>
Poland	<p>(a):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Ministerstwo Rolnictwa i Rozwoju Wsi – Departament Rybołówstwa (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development; Fisheries Department)</li> </ul> <p>(b):</p> <p>w przypadku importu drogą lądową i lotniczą (in case of imports by land or air):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Ministerstwo Rolnictwa i Rozwoju Wsi – Departament Rybołówstwa (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development; Fisheries Department)</li> </ul> <p>w przypadku importu drogą morską (in case of imports by sea):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Główny Inspektorat Rybołówstwa Morskiego Ośrodek Zamiejskowy w Gdyni (Main Sea Fisheries Inspectorate Regional Center in Gdynia)</li> <li>— Główny Inspektorat Rybołówstwa Morskiego Ośrodek Zamiejskowy w Szczecinie (Main Sea Fisheries Inspectorate Regional Center in Szczecin)</li> </ul> <p>(c):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Ministerstwo Rolnictwa i Rozwoju Wsi – Departament Rybołówstwa (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development; Fisheries Department) Główny Inspektorat Rybołówstwa Morskiego Ośrodek Zamiejskowy w Gdyni (Main Sea Fisheries Inspectorate Regional Center in Gdynia)</li> <li>— Główny Inspektorat Rybołówstwa Morskiego Ośrodek Zamiejskowy w Szczecinie (Main Sea Fisheries Inspectorate Regional Center in Szczecin)</li> </ul>
Portugal	<p>(a), (c):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Continente: Direção-Geral de Recursos Naturais, Segurança e Serviços Marítimos; Autoridade Nacional de Pesca (Mainland: Directorate General of Natural Resources, Security and Maritime Services; National Fishing Authority)</li> <li>— Açores: Secretaria Regional do Ambiente e do Mar; Gabinete do Subsecretário Regional das Pescas (Azores: Regional Secretariat for the Environment and the Sea; Regional Office of the Undersecretary of Fisheries)</li> <li>— Açores: Inspeção Regional das Pescas (Azores: Regional Fisheries Inspection)</li> <li>— Madeira: Direção Regional de Pescas (Madeira: Regional Fisheries Directorate)</li> </ul> <p>(b):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Continente: Direção-Geral de Recursos Naturais, Segurança e Serviços Marítimos; Autoridade Nacional de Pesca; Direção de Serviços de Inspeção (Mainland: Directorate General of Natural Resources, Security and Maritime Services; National Fishing Authority; Directorate of Inspection Services)</li> <li>— Açores: Direção Regional das Pescas (Azores: Fisheries Directorate)</li> <li>— Madeira: Direção Regional de Pescas (Madeira: Regional Fisheries Directorate)</li> <li>— Alfândega de Viana do Castelo (Customs office of Viana do Castelo)</li> <li>— Alfândega de Leixões (Customs office of Leixões)</li> <li>— Alfândega do Aeroporto do Porto (Customs office of Porto airport)</li> <li>— Alfândega de Aveiro (Customs office of Aveiro)</li> </ul>

Member State	Competent authorities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Alfândega de Peniche (Customs office of Peniche)</li> <li>— Alfândega Marítima de Lisboa (Maritime customs office of Lisbon)</li> <li>— Alfândega do Aeroporto de Lisboa (Customs office of Lisbon airport)</li> <li>— Alfândega de Setúbal (Customs office of Setúbal)</li> <li>— Delegação Aduaneira de Sines; Alfândega de Setúbal (Customs delegation to Sines, Customs office of Setúbal)</li> <li>— Delegação Aduaneira do Aeroporto de Faro (Customs delegation to Faro airport)</li> <li>— Alfândega de Ponta Delgada (Customs office of Ponta Delgada)</li> <li>— Delegação Aduaneira da Horta (Customs delegation to Horta)</li> <li>— Alfândega do Funchal (Customs office of Funchal)</li> <li>— Delegação Aduaneira do Aeroporto da Madeira (Customs delegation to Madeira Airport)</li> </ul>
Romania	<p>(a), (b), (c):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Agenția Națională pentru Pescuit și Acvacultură (National Agency for Fisheries and Aquaculture)</li> </ul>
Slovenia	<p>(a):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Finančni urad Koper (Koper Financial Office)</li> </ul> <p>(b), (c):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Finančni urad Celje (Celje Financial Office)</li> <li>— Finančni urad Koper (Koper Financial Office)</li> <li>— Finančni urad Kranj (Kranj Financial Office)</li> <li>— Finančni urad Ljubljana (Ljubljana Financial Office)</li> <li>— Finančni urad Maribor (Maribor Financial Office)</li> <li>— Finančni urad Murska Sobota (Murska Sobota Financial Office)</li> <li>— Finančni urad Nova Gorica (Nova Gorica Financial Office)</li> <li>— Finančni urad Novo mesto (Novo Mesto Financial Office)</li> </ul>
Slovakia	<p>(a):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— not applicable</li> </ul> <p>(b), (c):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Štátna veterinárna a potravinová správa Slovenskej republiky (State Veterinary and Food Administration of the Slovak Republic)</li> </ul>
Finland	<p>(a), (b), (c):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Varsinais-Suomen elinkeino-, liikenne- ja ympäristökeskus (Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment for Southwest Finland)</li> </ul>
Sweden	<p>(a), (b), (c):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Havs- och vattenmyndigheten (Agency for Marine and Water Management)</li> </ul>

**List of competent authorities in Northern Ireland concerning Article 17(8) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008 and in accordance with the Protocol on Ireland/Northern Ireland of the Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community**

Protocol on Ireland/Northern Ireland of the Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community	Competent authorities for the checks and verifications of the catch certificates in accordance with Article 16 and paragraphs (1) to (6) of Article 17 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008
Northern Ireland	Department for Agriculture, the Environment and Rural Affairs  UK Port Health Authorities: Belfast, Warrenpoint, Larne and Foyle

## V

(Announcements)

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION  
POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

**Prior notification of a concentration**

**(Case M.10691 – CDP GROUP / FOMAS GROUP / PUNCH GROUP / JV)**

**Candidate case for simplified procedure**

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2022/C 154/07)

1. On 4 April 2022, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 <sup>(1)</sup>.

This notification concerns the following undertakings:

- CDP Venture Capital SGR S.p.A. ('CDP VC', Italy), ultimately controlled by Cassa Depositi e Prestiti S.p.A. (Italy),
- MIMETE S.r.l. ('MIMETE', Italy), ultimately controlled by FOMAS HOP S.p.A. (Italy),
- PUNCH Torino S.p.A. ('PUNCH', Italy), part of the PUNCH Group, ultimately controlled by two physical persons,
- A newly created company ('NewCo', Italy)

CDP VC, MIMETE and PUNCH will acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) and 3(4) of the Merger Regulation joint control of NewCo.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares in a newly created company constituting a joint venture.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned and the newly set-up joint venture are the following:

- CDP VC promotes and manages investment funds in support of start-ups,
- MIMETE is a supplier of metal powders for additive manufacturing,
- PUNCH provides engineering consulting services for the development, manufacturing, and integration of technologies, systems, and processes for the realization of turnkey solutions,
- NewCo will operate in the sector of additive manufacturing/3D printing.

3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified transaction could fall within the scope of the Merger Regulation. However, the final decision on this point is reserved.

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').

Pursuant to the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 <sup>(?)</sup> it should be noted that this case is a candidate for treatment under the procedure set out in the Notice.

4. The Commission invites interested third parties to submit their possible observations on the proposed operation to the Commission.

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. The following reference should always be specified:

M.10691– CDP GROUP / FOMAS GROUP / PUNCH GROUP / JV

Observations can be sent to the Commission by email, by fax, or by post. Please use the contact details below:

Email: COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu

Fax +32 22964301

Postal address:

European Commission  
Directorate-General for Competition  
Merger Registry  
1049 Bruxelles/Brussel  
BELGIQUE/BELGIË

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<sup>(?)</sup> OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.

## OTHER ACTS

## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

**Publication of an application for registration of a name pursuant to Article 50(2)(a) of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs**

(2022/C 154/08)

This publication confers the right to oppose the application pursuant to Article 51 of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council <sup>(1)</sup> within three months from the date of this publication.

## SINGLE DOCUMENT

**'Hrušovský lepník'****EU No: PGI-SK-02474 – 8.6.2018**

PDO ( ) PGI (x)

**1. Name(s) [of PDO or PGI]**

'Hrušovský lepník'

**2. Member State or Third Country**

Slovakia

**3. Description of the agricultural product or foodstuff****3.1. Type of product**

Class 2.3. Bread, pastry, cakes, confectionery, biscuits and other baker's wares

**3.2. Description of the product to which the name in (1) applies**

Hrušovský lepník is a pie that is round or folded in half with a diameter of 25-35 cm, made of sour bread-and-potato dough with a filling or a topping, baked in a stone oven.

Types of Hrušovský lepník:

Savoury Hrušovský lepník smeared with melted butter, vegetable oil or animal fat with a garlic filling.

Sweet Hrušovský lepník smeared with melted butter, vegetable oil or animal fat with a jam filling (plum or cherry).

Hrušovský lepník with a sauerkraut filling and with melted butter, vegetable oil or animal fat smeared on top.

Hrušovský lepník with a topping, with melted butter, vegetable oil or animal fat smeared on top and with a curd and potato topping sprinkled with ground cinnamon and sugar, vanilla sugar, vanillin sugar or cinnamon sugar.

Characteristics:

Visual appearance: A round pie with a diameter of 25-35 cm, or folded in half

(<sup>1</sup>) OJ L 343, 14.12.2012, p. 1.

Colour:	golden baked
Aroma:	with a delicate aroma of sourdough, wood and ash, slightly smoky
Taste:	an intense yet delicate blend of the individual ingredients, due to being oven-baked, and a flavour specific to the filling or topping
Consistency:	the dough is soft, dense and smooth, with a delicate texture, and is moist, not dry

The weight of the uncooked dough: 350–450 g

Thickness of dough after baking: at least 0,5 cm

The following ingredients are used to produce the sour bread-and-potato dough:

Wheat, rye or spelt flour, boiled potatoes, salt, raising agent. Around 100 g of boiled mashed potato is used per 1 kg of flour.

Raising agent: baker's yeast, tepid water, milk, granulated sugar.

The following ingredients are used to produce the fillings and toppings:

butter, vegetable oil or animal fat (pork, duck, goose), garlic, jam (plum, cherry), sauerkraut, onion, ground black pepper, salt, pork greaves or roasted smoked pork back fat, boiled mashed potato, curd, eggs, ground cinnamon, granulated sugar, vanilla sugar or vanillin sugar, or cinnamon sugar.

Fillings and toppings:

Garlic filling/topping: crushed garlic, salt, water

Jam filling/topping: jam (plum, cherry)

Curd and potato filling/topping: curd, boiled mashed potatoes, eggs, granulated sugar, and ground cinnamon with granulated sugar, cinnamon sugar, vanilla sugar or vanillin sugar, for sprinkling. The ratio of curd to potatoes is 1:2. The raw weight of the filling/topping is 30 %-45 % of the weight of the dough, which means that the product weight is increased by the weight of the filling/topping.

Cabbage topping/filling: vegetable oil or animal fat, onion, granulated sugar, sauerkraut, salt, ground black pepper, pork greaves or roasted smoked pork back fat. The raw weight of the filling/topping is 15 %-25 % of the weight of the dough, which means that the product weight is increased by the weight of the filling/topping.

The following is used for smearing each lepník immediately after baking: melted butter or vegetable oil, or animal fat.

### 3.3. *Feed (for products of animal origin only) and raw materials (for processed products only)*

There are no restrictions on the origin of the raw materials.

### 3.4. *Specific steps in production that must take place in the identified geographical area*

The production process takes place in the following stages:

- preparation of the dough by hand,
- preparation of the fillings/toppings by hand,
- baking in a stone oven made from quarried stone,
- smearing with melted butter or vegetable oil, or with animal fat,
- subsequent smearing of the topping onto the top of the pie.

### 3.5. *Specific rules concerning slicing, grating, packaging, etc. of the product the registered name refers to*

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3.6. *Specific rules concerning labelling of the product the registered name refers to*

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4. **Concise definition of the geographical area**

The geographical area comprises the municipality of Hrušov. The village of Hrušov is in the Banská Bystrica region on the southern raised edge of the Krupinská Planina plateau near the towns of Veľký Krtíš, Krupina and Šahy, in what used to be known as Hont County.

5. **Link with the geographical area**

The causal link is based on the know-how of the producers from the geographical area, and on the reputation and traditions of the Hrušovský lepník.

The defined geographical area is characterised by its sparsely scattered farmstead settlements. The isolated nature of the area and the remoteness of the villages and farmsteads compelled the local people to be self-sufficient. People made everything they needed themselves from natural materials. They built stone ovens from the quarried stone, in which they burnt wood that they found in their environment (locust, beech, oak, hornbeam). They fashioned tools for their basic needs from the available materials, for example wooden peels for placing the dough in the oven, goose or duck wings for sweeping the ash, a tool known as an '*ohrablo*' (the traditional name for a type of shovel used to move embers around an oven) for checking the oven temperature (when the *ohrablo* produces sparks, the oven is at the correct temperature) and for moving the coals aside, and a brush (corn husk tied with wire to a longer stick) for wiping the oven.

The dough and fillings/toppings for making Hrušovský lepník are prepared exclusively by hand. Rolling out the dough into a round shape makes it thin, compact and smooth after baking, and gives it a delicate structure. The size of the pie depends on the size of the peel, its entire surface area being used.

Originally, the raw materials used to make lepník were locally sourced, because of the remoteness of the villages and farmsteads. Nowadays the emphasis is on the dough and fillings/toppings being produced exclusively by hand and on the product being baked in a stone oven.

Hrušovský lepník is baked in a stone oven at a temperature of above 300 °C. The oven is heated using hard wood (locust, beech, oak, hornbeam). The oven has reached the correct temperature when the stone produces sparks when raked. After the wood burns down, the coals are raked to the back of the oven and, using a wet brush, the ash is wiped away in the rest of the oven. Individual Hrušovský lepník pies are baked side by side while being moved around with a rake so that they cook properly on all sides. Hrušovský lepník without a topping or filling is baked in the oven for around 5 minutes, and with a topping or filling for around 7-10 minutes.

Given that the dough and fillings/toppings are produced by hand and that baking takes place in stone ovens at a high temperature, the dough does not dry out – it remains soft, smooth and moist, with a delicate aroma of sourdough, wood and ash, which blend together during the baking. The characteristic flavour of the product is complemented by the filling/topping, which is either sweet or savoury.

The skills of the people from the defined geographical area producing 'Hrušovský lepník' have developed on the basis of knowledge and experience passed from one generation to the next, which is reflected in the quality of the final product. The preparation of the rising agent, the dough, the fillings and toppings and the time taken to heat the stone oven to the correct temperature, as well as the use of traditional implements such as goose or duck wings, a rake and a broom, all lend Hrušovský lepník its characteristic aroma and flavour.

Because of its exceptional qualities as a result of being prepared by hand and the way in which it is baked, the product has become highly popular and sought-after. Organisers of food events and exhibitions invite the producers to their events to demonstrate the authentic preparation of the product's dough, fillings and toppings and how it is baked. Hrušovský lepník is prepared and produced in the defined geographical area, to which it is historically linked.

Testament to Hrušovský lepník's reputation and 300-year tradition is the fact that it was awarded a certificate in 2014 to use the label 'HONT regional product', as a unique regional product made using traditional methods, many of which are applied by hand.

Since 1996, Hrušov has regularly hosted the 'Hontianska paráda' folk festival. The festival is a celebration of long-forgotten farming methods and the baking of bread and Hrušovský lepník [https://sk.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hontianska\\_par%C3%A1da](https://sk.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hontianska_par%C3%A1da).

References to the product's reputation can also be found on television programmes, for example 'Nebíčko v papuľke' (Heaven in your mouth) and 'Slovensko v obrazoch' (Slovakia in pictures).

An edition of the *Živnostenské noviny* newspaper from 2015 featured traditional Slovak crafts, mentioning that visitors could also taste Hrušovský lepník during demonstrations of those crafts, such as at the 'Dni majstrov ÚLUV 2015' event (2015 ÚLUV [Centre for Folk Art Production] Craftsmen Days).

Hrušovský lepník is prepared on the basis of historical recipes from the defined geographical area. By living in this remote area, people have been able to preserve their distinctive way of life. In the publication *HONT Tradiície ľudovej kultúry* [HONT folk culture traditions] Professor J. Botík states the following: 'In its most original form it was kneaded from unfermented dough and baked in an oven at a low temperature for the meal on Christmas Eve.' In the early twentieth century, especially before bread-baking was widespread, this type of bread was known and regularly baked throughout the entire Hont region.

The name 'Hrušovský lepník' is derived from the name of the village of Hrušov, which is historically linked with the baking of lepník pies. The second part of the name, 'lepník' (or 'lepňík' before the standardisation of written Slovak) is the term used in the local dialect for a type of round pie baked in a stone oven. This name has been in constant use in the area since the first half of the eighteenth century. In the words of Professor J. Botík: 'Housewives from artisanal families in the village often smeared boiled potatoes, jam, curd or bryndza cheese onto lepník pies kneaded from bread dough. they then continued to call this type of pie "lepňík". The Slovak colonists who relocated to the Great Plain took this old-fashioned form of bread with them [...]'.

Hrušovský lepník was a ceremonial food in the first decades of the twentieth century. It was the most widely eaten cake. It was baked in a stone oven for the meal on Christmas Eve and each member of the family, as well as all of the family's pets, ate a piece of it. It was also served during Lent, during traditional activities such as 'páračky' (processing goose feathers) and 'priadky' (spinning yarn), and at Easter. Later, it was baked once a week before the bread-baking. Bread was always baked on a Saturday, so that it was fresh for Sunday, and it was kept in supply for the whole week. Each family would bake several loaves, from four to six, depending on the size of the family. Hrušovský lepník was baked in the remote farmstead settlements of Hrušov, where they are still made today.

Life in remote areas and on farmsteads goes hand in hand with the preservation of traditions. Hrušovský lepník was a delicacy many years ago and it still is today.

#### Reference to publication of the specification

[https://www.indprop.gov.sk/swift\\_data/source/pdf/specifikacie\\_op\\_oz/Hrusovsky%20lepnik.pdf](https://www.indprop.gov.sk/swift_data/source/pdf/specifikacie_op_oz/Hrusovsky%20lepnik.pdf)

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