

## COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE LEGAL DEFINITION OF STRATEGIC ENTERPRISES IN ROMANIA AND HUNGARY

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**ABSTRACT:** *In crisis situations, regardless of their origin, whether financial or caused by natural disasters, or even caused by exceptional health conditions, such as an epidemic, extraordinary measures must be taken. From legal point of view, on the basis of the available governmental decisions, measures are needed in order to mitigate immediately and efficiently the adverse effects and consequences of these events on communities, regardless of their size: local, regional, national or global. Strategic enterprises, whose activities are carried out in key areas of the national economy, are an easy and convenient tool for public authorities. These companies, which operate in key areas, cover among others the ensuring the access to utilities and services of public interest and are largely controlled by the state or local public authorities. This is why the identification and legal definition of the area of strategic enterprises in our country and a comparative analysis of the legal regulations in the neighboring country, Hungary, might be of interest. Present study also contains a historical retrospective on defining the enterprises that fall into the category of strategic enterprises in terms of legal regulations in our country in the previous century. Moreover, this study also aims to present the evolution of legal regulation in the field of defining economic branches and strategic enterprises beginning from the fall of the political regime in 1989 to the present, marked by the COVID-19 pandemic.*

**KEYWORDS:** *strategic enterprise; legal definition; historical retrospective; Romania; Hungary.*

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