



Case No.: SZE-1-2/2024

To Alexander Barnes-Ross

editor@scientologybusiness.com

Dear Sir,

In your electronic mail to the National Authority for Data Protection and Freedom of Information (hereinafter "the Authority") you asked for information from the Authority in connection with the scientology church, related to an article to be written by you.

In your letter you asked whether the fine imposed in the authority proceedings for data protection against the Hungarian Scientology Church (hereinafter „HSC”) has been paid, and if yes, who, which organisation exactly has fulfilled the payment obligation.

Your second question refers to whether there occurred any further subsequent investigation or proceedings in order to control if the scientology church has complied with the measures prescribed by the decision taken in the authority proceedings for data protection.

In connection to your questions the Authority informs you that with regard to the HSC the Authority has conducted two authority proceedings for data protection in the framework of official proceedings.

In one of the proceedings the Authority has investigated the data processing practices of the HSC and the Scientology Church Central Organisation (hereinafter: „the Central Organisation”), and concluded in its decision that the processing of personal data was unlawful, therefore imposed fines in the amount of HUF 20 million on the two organisations each.

The decision is available on the following links:

- <https://naih.hu/gdpr-elotti-hatarozatok-vegzesek> (in Hungarian)
- <https://naih.hu/data-protection/decisions> (in English)

In the other proceedings the Authority has investigated the data processing of the HSC and the Scientology Church XVIII Mission (hereinafter „the Mission”), and concluded in its decision that the processing of personal data was unlawful, therefore imposed fines in the amount of HUF 12 million on the two organisations each.

The decision is available on the following link:

- <https://naih.hu/gdpr-elotti-hatarozatok-vegzesek> (in Hungarian)

The fines has been paid in the proceedings against the HSC and the Central Organisation by the law firm representing these organisations, and in the proceedings against HSC and the Mission paid by the HSC and the Mission.

Rules of the Hungarian administrative procedures allow the legal remedy against the administrative decisions in judicial proceedings, which the controllers applied to, in a way that

they have challenged besides the above mentioned two decisions several rulings of the Authority, but they have lost all proceedings.

This review procedure which ended with the success of the Authority has been followed by the enforcement proceedings for the enforcement of the actions prescribed by the decision relating to the HSC and the Central Organisation, which proceedings are currently in progress. With regard to the enforcement proceeding being in progress, the Authority may not share further information.

Budapest, signed electronically

Best regards,

Tamás BENDIK LL.M.
general vice-president