## Hogan Lovells

# **Spotlight on** Online Gaming

#### The next level

There is no need to say that online gaming has conquered the world and certainly will shape the future. It is an industry with one of the quickest product launches, rise of new market players and key drivers for new technology – yet it is prone to issues such as trademark infringement and money laundering in a constantly changing regulatory environment across jurisdictions. We help you succeed in our ventures and overcome legal challenges. We help you to reach the next level.

#### In our game, there is no "game over"

The regulatory environment of the gaming industry is characterized by overlapping jurisdictional oversights, different legal frameworks for different type of games and platforms and a maze of regulations to decode. In Germany, the regulation of online gaming is determined in particular by the State Treaty on Gaming. Section 4 (4) prohibits the organisation and brokerage of public games of chance on the internet. However, state authorities do not enforce the prohibition strictly. Thus, the market of online gaming continues to prosper. In order to effectively regulate the gaming industry, German states intend to agree on a new State Treaty on Gaming until 2021. Some federal states such as the State of Hessen and Schleswig-Holstein have declared to support the legalization of online gaming.

For developers, publishers or any other service provider in the online gaming world legal challenges are circumstances which impacts their success story. Helping you navigate through the regulatory jungle on both national and global level is our game – that what we do the best.

#### Area of Focus

- Video Game Development and Publishing
- Esports Team Representation and Player Regulation
- Online Games & Mobile Games
- Online Lottery/Racing Industry
- Intellectual Property Patents for various games
- Litigation and Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Legal Issues of Virtual Currency and Virtual Objects
- Legal Drafting of Gaming Contracts

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