

PÉTER AND ERZSÉBET BERGMANN



FOUNDERS, BERGMANN CORPORATE GROUP



BACKGROUND INFO

Péter Bergmann and his wife Erzsébet have been together since 1976 and were married in 1978. Both received their college degrees from the Systems Analysis Department of the College of Finance and Accountancy in Budapest, Hungary. Erzsébet went on to earn her university degree as a teacher of accountancy and statistics at Corvinus University Budapest, while Péter gained his at the Finance Department of the same university. The pair have raised three children: Krisztina (40) is a lawyer, Péter (35) is a composer and performer, and Ádám (23) is a fourth-year medical student at Semmelweis University. While raising their children, both gained their tax advisor qualifications, followed by their certified auditor qualifications in 1995.

Besides their pride in their children, they are also proud of their “fourth child,” the Bergmann Corporate Group, which they have built over the last 31 years. The group is comprised of Bergmann Könyvelő Iroda és Pénzügyi Szolgáltató Kft., established in 1990, Bergmann Könyvszakértő és Adótanácsadó Kft., in operation since 1995, and Bergmann Vagyonkezelő Kft., which is responsible for providing the working environment of the 140 staff employed by the companies.

“Everyone needs to grow their knowledge of finances from childhood. Financial discipline, planning and measuring, and the ability to analyze and thus obtain alternative options should be elevated to the status of critical tools.”

The group’s clientele comprises around 800 companies, ranging from small- and medium-sized businesses to large corporations, and taking in sectors from almost the entire span of the national economy. Their main customers are in construction, the energy industry and the art trade. As for the near future, they see themselves in education and training through the recently acquired Bergmann Oktatási Stúdió. They regularly return to the former College of Finance and Accountancy, where they sit on the graduation examination boards for accountancy students. The group prioritizes donations to the Budapest Zoo Foundation and the St Martin Pediatric Emergency Service, for which they are also “running ambassadors,” thanks to employees who are also at the forefront of volunteering for blood donations.

OF WHICH PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS ARE YOU MOST PROUD?
Our greatest pride is that we have been able to keep our businesses going for more than 31 years, created a genuine second home for our 140 colleagues, and, with their help, are operating a professional working environment where they can work as a community with reliability and consistency. We are considered one of the leading firms

Business Name	Bergmann Accounting and Auditing Group
Top Executive	Erzsébet Bergmann, Péter Bergmann
In Charge of Position Since	1990
Description of Business or Services	Accounting, payroll, audit, tax advisory, controlling services
Year Founded in Hungary	1990
Total Turnover in 2020 (HUF mln)	1,509
HQ in Hungary	1138 Budapest, Váci út 186.

in traditional accountancy services; in professional circles, our name stands for reliability and solid professionalism. For 15 years, we have been a member of the international Urbach Hacker Young (UHY) organization; as its Hungarian member, we offer our clients the opportunity to find reassuring answers to their technical questions with international aspects. We are also proud of the significant efforts (and investments) we are mobilizing to adopt new technologies; we want to be among the first to meet the challenges of this shift to the digital era.

WHAT DREW YOU TO THE FINANCIAL SECTOR AS A CAREER?
While neither of us had family members active in this field, it was not an accident that we both chose the College of Finance and Accountancy 45 years ago. We were attracted by the systematic approaches, the closed nature and the complexity and controllability of the financial world. Yet we owe it to an interplay of coincidences that we have remained in this field; after all, we spent the first 12 years of our working lives pursuing separate careers and only started to build our family business afterward. For decades now, we have experienced together the beauty of the tasks involved in our shared work, in our family obligations, and in raising children. We can honestly say that it is not easy to balance private and professional duties with the role of business owner and manager.

As accountancy experts and tax consultants, we bear special responsibility for our clients’ safe and secure operations. It is an exciting task to create order and the required level of transparency. And as auditors, we can gain an insight into the lives, problems and successes of one interesting company after another and support them with our findings and comments in creating and maintaining operational conditions that are compliant with the law. Thanks to the idiosyncrasies of the tax system, we appear to have selected a profession that demands permanent

readiness and up-to-date knowledge at all times. It follows from our roles that sometimes we are on the regulatory side, while at other times we act in our supervisory and control function; our field will never become boring or plain. We often say that change in legislation is our best friend: it generates excitement for us and creates the opportunity and the need to keep learning all the time.

WHAT WOULD YOU CHANGE TO IMPROVE THE NATION’S FINANCIAL EDUCATION AND THE MARKET ENVIRONMENT IN HUNGARY?
In our opinion, it is not simply education and the financial system that require change. Everyone needs to grow their knowledge of finances from childhood. Financial discipline, planning and measuring, and the ability to analyze and thus obtain alternative options should be elevated to the status of critical tools. These are things we all need to learn with the help of the educational system. A successful society needs these capabilities to build on, so that it can grow in a predictable manner. It is a great honor and joy for us to work towards that goal.

