

PRESS RELEASE

The CNMC initiates disciplinary proceedings against the Catalan National Assembly.

- It investigates potentially unfair practices involving the launch of the “Strategic Consumption” campaign.
- This campaign encourages consumers not to buy certain products for reasons unrelated to competition between companies.

Madrid, 21 December 2020 - The CNMC has initiated disciplinary proceedings against the Catalan National Assembly (ANC) for potentially unfair practices that seriously distort competition in the market and that stem from its “Strategic Consumption” campaign. ([S/0014/20: CONSUMO ESTRATEGICO](#))

These practices, which could violate Article 3 of Law 15/2007, involve the launch and development of the “Strategic Consumption” campaign, which urges consumers and companies to refrain from buying products or services offered by certain companies.

The reasons for this campaign are allegedly based on reasons other than merit-based competition, and could significantly distort the economic behaviour of consumers and the competitive structure of the market.

The CNMC started the investigation after the complaint filed by Fomento del Trabajo Nacional, the main business association in Catalonia, and after the Constitutional Court, in its [Ruling of 22 October 2020](#), determined that this issue falls under the purview of the CNMC.

Previously, there was a conflict involving the jurisdiction of the CNMC and the Catalan Competition Authority (ACCO), which was resolved by the Advisory Board on conflicts through a report issued on 21 February 2020. These findings were confirmed by the Constitutional Court in the aforementioned October ruling.

This initiation does not prejudice the final result of the investigation. A maximum period of 18 months is now open for the CNMC to investigate and resolve the case.

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