

MORE INFORMATION ON SPEAKERS

European Competition Day

Barcelona, 17 October



PANEL ON COMPETITION AND REGULATION



Patricia Vidal, President of the Spanish Association for the Defence of Competition and Partner at Uría Menéndez.

Patricia Vidal joined Uría Menéndez in 1996 and she is a partner of the firm since 2015. Her practice mainly refers to EU law and EU and Spanish Competition Law, with special focus in competition litigation before the Spanish and the EU courts. She has a wide experience in merger control (including multijurisdictional filings) and national and international cartel cases (including leniency programs). She also has vast experience in international agreements (purchasing/selling strategic alliances), state aid issues and abuses of dominance and more prominently in the last years, in antitrust damage claim litigation in Spain.

Patricia is a regular lecturer on EU and Competition Law and has been for 10 years academic director of an LL.M. at the Instituto Superior de Derecho y Economía (ISDE). She has written several articles and books on Competition Law.

She is the President of the Spanish Association for the Defence of Competition. Patricia is considered a leading competition lawyer by the main legal international directories (Chambers, Who's who, GCR, etc.) and has won several awards (including Benchmark Litigation 2019 – Europe, category “Bestlawyer” in Spain, and was nominated in 2021 for the award of “Best Lawyer” in Spain by the newspaper Expansión).

PANEL ON COMPETITION AND REGULATION

Martijn Snoep, Chairman of the Netherlands Authority for Consumers and Markets (ACM).

Since September 1, 2018, Martijn Snoep has been the Chairman of the Netherlands Authority for Consumers and Markets (ACM). Mr. Snoep obtained his law degree from Erasmus University Rotterdam.

Until his appointment at ACM, he worked at De Brauw Blackstone Westbroek for 28 years. Operating from both their Amsterdam and Brussels locations, Mr. Snoep gave advice to businesses about the application of competition law in the Netherlands and abroad. As managing partner, he stood at the helm of the firm between 2010 and 2016.



PANEL ON COMPETITION AND REGULATION



Inge Bernaerts, Director for Strategy and Policy.

Inge Bernaerts is the Director for Strategy and Policy in the Competition Directorate. She is responsible for conceptualising and developing policy initiatives in antitrust, mergers and state aids. In line with DG Competition's objectives, Inge and her team are engaged in an unprecedented exercise to update existing competition policy instruments, including the rulebooks on vertical and horizontal agreements, the notice on market definition and a simplification of merger control procedures. Inge also led the work of DG Competition on the design and inter-institutional negotiations of the Digital Markets Act and the Foreign Subsidies Regulation

Previously, Inge held management positions in the Energy Directorate General of the Commission and was Head of Cabinet to Marianne Thyssen, Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility in the Juncker Commission. Between 2003 and 2010, Inge held different positions in the Directorate General for Competition. Before joining the Commission in 2003, she practiced competition law at the Brussels bar and she lectured European law seminars at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven. Inge holds a law degree from the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (summa cum laude) and a post-graduate degree in European law from the Universität Saarbrücken (magna cum laude).

PANEL ON COMPETITION AND REGULATION

Rita Wezenbeek, Director for Platforms Policy and Enforcement.

Rita Wezenbeek is Director of Platforms Policy and Enforcement in DG CONNECT. The Directorate is in charge of policies and regulations applicable to online intermediary services, including the supervision of the implementation and enforcement of the Digital Services Act and the Digital Markets Act (the latter jointly with DG COMP). These two new Regulations establish strong rules to ensure a safe, fair, and open platforms economy for European citizens and businesses and give the Commission significant regulatory powers over “gatekeepers” and very large platforms and search engines. Rita joined the European Commission in 2002.

Before moving to DG CONNECT in December 2020, she was the head of the units dealing with Anti-Trust and Telecommunications (2017-2020) and Retail Financial Services and Payment Systems (2010-2017) in DG Competition. Before joining the Commission, Rita worked for sixteen years as a private lawyer, specialized in European and corporate law, in a Dutch/ Belgian law firm. She also was a Member of the Commission on European Integration, an independent advisory body on foreign policy to the Dutch government and Parliament.



PANEL ON COMPETITION AND REGULATION



Massimo Motta, Professor at ICREA-Universitat Pompeu Fabra and at the Barcelona School of Economics (BSE).

Massimo Motta is Research Professor at ICREA-Universitat Pompeu Fabra and at the Barcelona School of Economics (BSE).

He served as Chief Competition Economist of the European Commission from 2013 to 2016, and he has extensive experience in advising competition and regulatory agencies from all over the world, as well as training their staff.

Massimo's research has been published in the main economic journals. His book on Competition Policy: Theory and Practice (Cambridge U.P., 2004) is the standard reference on the economics of antitrust. He also co-authored Exclusionary Practices. The Economics of Monopolisation and Abuse of Dominance (Cambridge U.P., 2018).

PANEL ON COMPETITION AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Marisa Tierno Centella, Director – General for Competition. Spanish National Markets and Competition (CNMC).

Director-General for Competition of the Spanish National Markets and Competition Commission (CNMC) from October 1st, 2021. She has worked in EU and competition law, both in private (attorney) and public practice (20 years at the European Commission, and also at the Dutch and Spanish competition authorities).

She has led cartel investigations at DG COMP, such as Forex, European Government Bonds and SSA bonds, Gas Insulated Switchgear and Animal Feed Phosphates (a record 35-year cartel). She drafted the legislative package introducing EU settlements and the 2006 Leniency Notice. She has worked in Spanish, English, French and Dutch. Marisa has a law degree (Universidad Complutense de Madrid) and a Master's degree in European law (Université Libre de Bruxelles). She authors numerous international publications on competition, among other matters.



PANEL ON COMPETITION AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE



Gerard Giménez Adsuar, Economist and Data Scientist, Catalan Competition Authority (ACCO).

Economist (University of Barcelona) and Data Scientist (Polytechnic University of Catalonia) with over 4 years of experience building machine learning applications, working mainly in the healthcare and financial sectors, including a period in the Public Health Department during the pandemic.

Lately he has been focused on applying statistical and machine learning models for bid rigging detection in the public procurement process at the Catalan Competition Authority.

PANEL ON COMPETITION AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Martin Huber, Professor in the Economics Department at the University of Fribourg.

Martin Huber is a Professor in the Economics Department at the University of Fribourg, Switzerland. His research focuses on data-based methodologies in statistics, econometrics, causal analysis, and artificial intelligence (AI), with practical applications in empirical economics and business analytics. One of his areas of expertise is the development of AI algorithms to identify bid-rigging cartels in public tenders by scrutinizing suspicious pricing patterns among bidders. His work in this domain has been published in international scientific journals such as the *International Journal of Industrial Organization* and the *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society Series A*.

Martin Huber earned his Ph.D. in Economics and Finance, specializing in econometrics, from the University of St. Gallen (Switzerland) in 2010. Following his doctoral studies, he held the position of Assistant Professor of Quantitative Methods in Economics at the same institution. He conducted a visiting fellowship at Harvard University in 2011–2012 and assumed the role of Professor of Applied Econometrics and Policy Evaluation at the University of Fribourg (Switzerland) in 2014.



PANEL ON COMPETITION AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE



Brice Allibert, Head of Unit, Antitrust: IT, Internet and Consumer electronics.

Brice Allibert holds a degree in engineering and a PhD in mathematics from the Ecole Polytechnique, in Paris.

After a first position as a specialist of aircraft electromagnetics in the French Ministry of Defence, Brice joined the European Commission in 2000.

He was first a case handler in the unit in charge of the control of state aid for R&D and to the energy sector.

Brice joined antitrust in 2007, in the unit responsible for antitrust enforcement in IT, Internet and consumer microelectronics.

He worked in particular on the Intel, Google (Shopping, Android and AdSense) and Qualcomm cases. He was appointed deputy to the Head of Unit in 2015, and Head of Unit in 2022.

PANEL ON COMPETITION AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Manuel J. García Rodríguez, Data Engineer, NTT Data.

Telecommunications Engineer, Master in Project Management and PhD with a thesis on data analysis in public procurement applying Big Data and Artificial Intelligence, carried out at the University of Oviedo (Spain).

He has more than 15 publications on how digital technologies support to public procurement challenges, such as competition. The European Commission has included him in its list of experts in public procurement and he has given conferences at universities and public bodies. He has been awarded for his works in public procurement by the European Commission and Public Administrations from Spain (Basque Government, the Court of Accounts of Galicia and the Government of Andalusia).

He has 14 years of work experience in the private sector. He currently works at the consulting firm NTT Data, in the Business Analytics department as a data engineer developing projects for public bodies, including The Spanish National Markets and Competition Commission (CNMC).





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