

## The CNMC opens disciplinary proceedings against several database marketing companies

- It is investigating potential customer-sharing and price-fixing (or discount) agreements relating to certain products.
- In June, the CNMC and the Autoridade da Concorrência (AdC) carried out on-site inspections at the premises of several companies in Spain and Portugal, respectively.

**Madrid, 22 December 2021.-** The CNMC has opened disciplinary proceedings against Informa D&B, S.A.U. (S.M.E) and its parent, Compañía Española de Seguros de Crédito a la Exportación, S.M.E. (CESCE), for its joint and several liability, and against Bureau Van Dijk Publicaciones Electrónicas, S.A. and its parent, Moody's Corporation, for its joint and several liability within its Moody's Analytics line of business.

The CNMC is investigating potential anti-competitive practices, consisting of customer-sharing and price-fixing (and/or discounts) agreements that could affect the marketing of business information products in Spain.

In June, the CNMC and its Portuguese counterpart, the [Autoridade da Concorrência \(AdC\)](#), carried out simultaneous on-site inspections at the premises of several companies in their respective countries under the framework of the European Competition Network ([European Competition Network-ECN](#)) ([press release](#)).

Based on the information gathered, the CNMC has opened disciplinary proceedings. This case must now be investigated and resolved within a period of 18 months. The opening of proceedings does not prejudice the final outcome of the investigation.

Investigating cartels is one of the CNMC's top priorities, given the serious consequences they can have on consumers and on the proper functioning of the markets. To do so, the Commission has several instruments, including a [Leniency Programme](#).

This programme allows the companies involved in a cartel to receive immunity from paying fines by coming forward with evidence to help the CNMC detect cartels. Moreover, the prohibition laid down in article 72.5 of Law 9/2017 on public sector contracts would be waived for those companies if they were sanctioned.