

The CNMC sanctions the cartel formed by the two main radio taxi companies in the Region of Murcia

- Cooperativa Radio Taxi Murcia and Asociación Teletaxi Ciudad de Murcia agreed to penalise and even expel taxi drivers who offered their services through other platforms.
- Offering their services over the phone is one of the main sources of income for these professionals.
- Several taxi drivers reported these practices to the Competition Authority of the Region of Murcia.

Madrid, 23 February 2023.- Radio Taxi Murcia and Tele Taxi Ciudad de Murcia, the main platforms for hiring taxi services by phone in the Region of Murcia, made a coordinated commitment to penalise taxi drivers who provided services to other intermediary companies and to not readmit taxi drivers expelled for breaching the agreement for a period of 3 years ([SAMUR/02/22](#)).

This agreement remained in force from 1 December 2016 until 2 July 2019, when Teletaxi Ciudad de Murcia was dissolved. As a consequence of the agreement, Radio Taxi Murcia penalised several of its partners and even expelled one of them.

Through the collective agreement, both entities eliminated the independence of action that is required in competitive markets and did so with the clear objective of preventing their taxi drivers from providing services to third companies that they deemed to be intruders in the market. The CNMC considers that these practices were disproportionate and used a repressive and dissuasive system.

The power of these two companies in the market was decisive for the agreement to be effective, as together they held almost all the taxi licences during the infringement period (92.38% of the total). As a result, taxi drivers who did not comply with the agreed conditions would be excluded from the system for requesting taxis by telephone in the city of Murcia, which is the source of a significant part of their income.

The CNMC has concluded that this is an agreement between competitors with a clear anti-competitive object prohibited by Article 1 of Law 15/2007 of 3 July 2007 on the Defence of Competition.

Sanctions imposed

Given all the above, the CNMC has imposed the following fines:

Radio Taxi Murcia: €31,174, equivalent to 5.5% of the organisation's turnover in 2022.

The dissolution of TeleTaxi de Murcia in 2019 prevents it from being sanctioned for participating in the cartel.

Investigation and resolution of the proceedings

The proceedings were initiated following several complaints filed by taxi professionals in the Region of Murcia. Pursuant to Law 1/2002 of 21 February 2002 on the Coordination of the Powers of the State and the Autonomous Communities in Competition Matters, the investigation was conducted by the Competition Authority of the Region of Murcia, whereas the decision-making and the imposition of the sanctions correspond to the CNMC.