### COMISIÓN NACIONAL DE LOS MERCADOS Y LA COMPETENCIA

# Creating a competition culture

Joaquín López Vallés

Director, Advocacy Department

Workshop on Competition Advocacy Lima, 3 March 2020 "Competition advocacy... refers to... the promotion of a competitive environment by means of non-enforcement mechanisms, mainly through its <u>relationships</u> with other **governmental entities** and by increasing **public awareness** in regard to the <u>benefits of</u> <u>competition."</u>

www.internationalcompetitionnetwork.org/advocacy



### Who are the stakeholders?

### Consumers

### Businesses

### Government



### What are the challenges?

### Consumers

They are the main beneficiaries of competition, but:

- Indirect benefits, sometimes at a cost
- Complexity to understand the links

### **Businesses**

They too benefit from competition, but:

- Some benefit from breaching the rules (prisoners' dilemma)
- May feel as the usual suspects

### Government

They should embrace competition, but:

- May be concerned by costs
- May have other objectives (agency problem)
- May be convinced by businesses



### Why do we want to engage them?

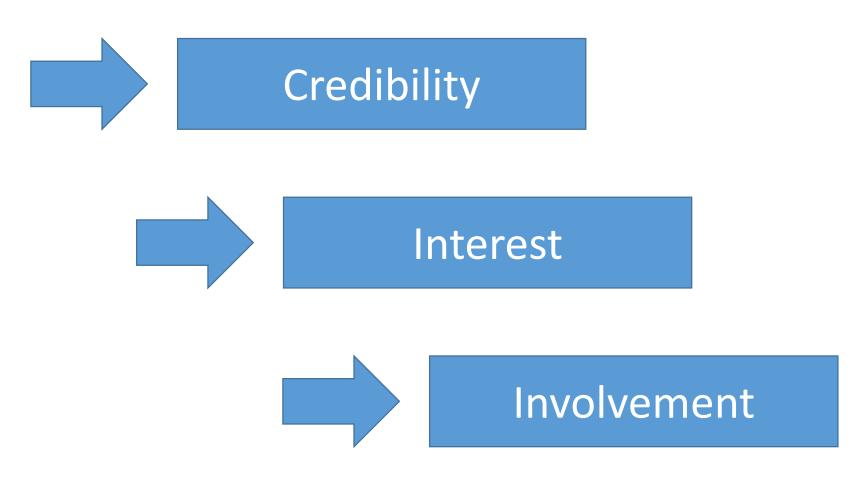


### Government

- Adopt legislation
- Resources for competition policy



# The key ingredients to engage consumers





# Tip 1 – "Open your kitchen"

- Strategic plan vs annual plan long-term goals and commitments vs annual objectives
- ✓ **Publish all decisions** e.g. Law 3/2013 on the CNMC:

Article 37. Publicity of actions.

1. The CNMC shall make public all provisions, resolutions, decisions and reports adopted, once they have been notified to interested parties [...]

✓ Explain them – website, press releases, blog, social media

✓ Make all external contacts public – registry of lobbyists

# Tip 2 – Be subject to evaluation and control

- ✓ Parliament/Congress control of activity
- ✓ Self-evaluation



# Tip 3 – Find good allies

- ✓ Academy
- ✓ Media
- ✓ Other competition authorities
- ✓ Other regulators

# *Tip 4 – Convey the right message to consumers*

### + Competition benefits consumers

- ✓ By keeping low prices and high quality and choice of goods and services
- ✓ Stimulates growth by productivity gains and innovation
- Growth contributes to poverty reduction

### - Lack of competition harms consumers

- ✓ Enforcement protects consumers from anticompetitive behavior
- ✓ Advocacy protects consumers from regulations that limit competition.
- ✓ Consumers can help competition authorities
  - ✓ Reporting anti-competitive behaviors
  - ✓ Identifying regulations that limit competition



### *Tip 5 – Adapt to the audience*

- Target specific groups e.g. professionals, consumers, academics, media, students
- ✓ Adapt language, examples, and tools to the specific audience



## *Tip 6 – Be entertaining*

✓ Pictorial illustrations, videos, or interactive digital media are more effective



#### **Competition and Consumer Commission of Singapore – Competition concepts**





#### **CNMC** – FINTECH Market study presentation





#### Autoridade da Concorrência (Portugal)

#### Guide for business Associations podcast



**CNMC Podcast** 



#### Federal Economic Competition Commission (Mexico)

#### **Poster Contest**



# *Tip 7 – Do day-to-day communication*

- $\checkmark$  Explain what you do on a regular basis
- ✓ **Press releases** for media, lawyers
- ✓ **Blog entries** for professionals, academics
- ✓ **Social media** for professionals, general public



### **CNMC press releases**



### DEPARTAMENTO De comunicación

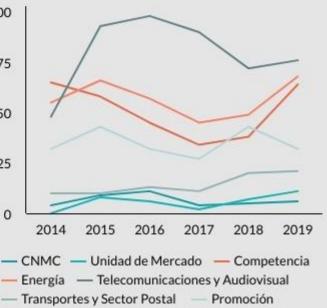
**BALANCE 2019** 

### **278 NOTAS DE PRENSA**



POR ÁMBITO DE ACTUACIÓN

EVOLUCIÓN POR AÑOS



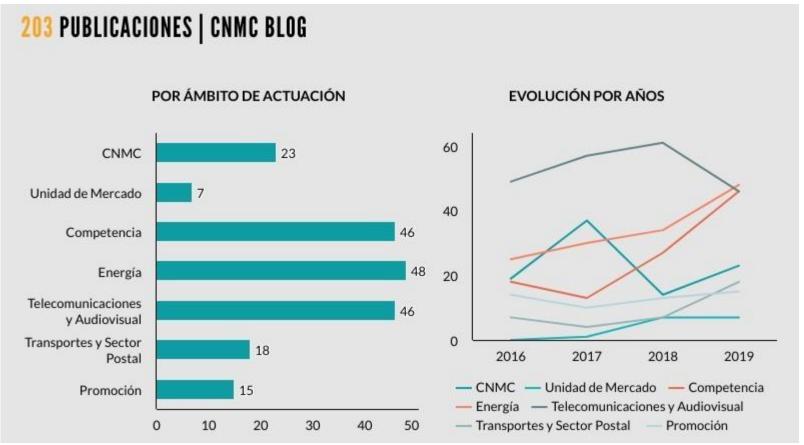


# **CNMC** blog entries



### DEPARTAMENTO De comunicación

**BALANCE 2019** 





# **CNMC** social media

COMISIÓN NACIONAL DE LOS MERCADOS Y LA COMPETENCIA

### DEPARTAMENTO De comunicación

#### **BALANCE 2019**

### + REDES SOCIALES



- Seguidores en LinkedIn (01/01/2020)
- CNMC: 10.293 (+ 69,37 % que en 2019)



#### Visualizaciones en YouTube (01/01/2020)

- CNMC: 15.761
- Energía: 56.694
- Clemencia: 9.933
- Portabilidad fija: 7.438
- Reclamaciones: 2.685
- Portabilidad móvil: 91.204
- Internet: 72.946



Seguidores en Twitter (01/01/2020)

- CNMC\_ES: 10.256 (+ 19,99%)
- CNMCcompetencia: 8.493 (+ 7,54 %)
- CNMCtelecos: 18.906 (+0,19%)



# Blog

**CNMC – Public Consultations and more** 





### Tip 8 – Use data

✓ Fines

- ✓ Savings
- ✓ Ex post studies e.g. CNMC on public procurement

TABLA 1. AHORRO TOTAL PARA LOS CONSUMIDORES POR LA INTERVENCIÓN DE LA CNMC (EN	(€)
	· •/

Año	Ahorro anual (€, expedientes del año analizado)	Ahorro anual (€, media móvil a 3 años)	Expedientes incluidos
2018	280.511.131	165.348.103	12
2017	92.630.448	844.920.346	8
2016	122.902.730	861.309.615	19
2015	2.319.227.862	889.557.927	22
2014	141.798.253	151.764.332	12
2013	207.647.667	237.427.439	22



### *Tip 9 – Involve consumers*

- $\checkmark$  Ask for help from consumers
- ✓ Make them part of the solution



# "Are you our fly on the wall?"

Autoriteit Consument & Markt (ACM, The Netherlands)





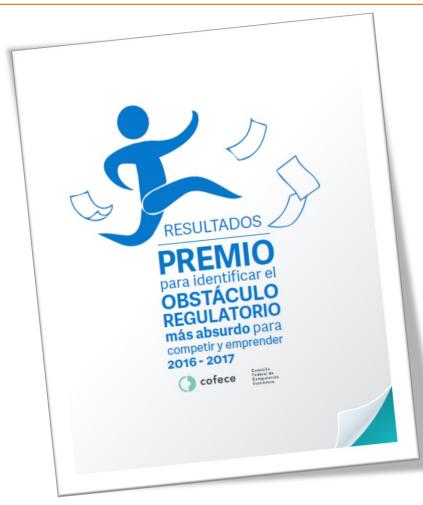
### "Cooperate with us"

**CNMC** – Cooperation mailbox





#### Federal Economic Competition Commission (Mexico)



Awards: "The most absurd regulatory barrier"

# *Tip 10 – Use the new technologies*

- ✓ Agency's website
- Audio-visual materials (e.g. pictorial illustrations, videos, podcasts)
- ✓ Guidance documents
- ✓ Press releases
- ✓ Blog
- ✓ Social media
- ✓ Workshops and public presentations
- ✓ Contests
- ✓ School visits



# Social Media

- Social media use is becoming a universal practice by competition agencies
- It supplements agencies' websites and other outreach or communication tools: new audiences, improved communication
- ✓ Agencies use a mix of social media platforms, as they offer different value propositions.
- ✓ Platforms are time- and resource- consuming
- ✓ Social media as a tool for engagement, but not enforcement

Source: ICN AEWG Social Media Survey



# Thank you!