



MERGER CONTROL IN TIMES OF UNCERTAINTY

📍 Budapest, Hungary

📅 14-16 February 2023

Seminar objectives

Merger control is a forward-looking exercise that requires a complex skill set, particularly in times of uncertainty. This seminar will focus on theories of harm for merger cases, basic economic methods, investigative steps and effective merger remedies. Special emphasis will be put on the adequate treatment of innovation. Merger control experts from OECD countries will present case studies, and participants will practise their merger skills in hypothetical exercises.

The speakers



María Pilar Canedo
Member of the Board
Spanish National Markets
and Competition
Commission (CNMC)



Ana Sofia Rodrigues
Chief Economist & Head
of the Studies and Market
Monitoring Bureau
Portuguese Competition
Authority



Ieva Jakubavičienė
Head of Mergers
Supervision Group
Lithuanian Competition
Council



Péter Decsák
Case Handler
Hungarian Competition
Authority (GVH)



Renato Ferrandi
Senior Competition Expert
& Coordinator of OECD -
GVH training activities
OECD

Agenda

Tuesday, 14 February 2023

09.00-10.00	OPENING REMARKS, GROUP PHOTO, TOUR DE TABLE Mr András Tóth, Vice-President, President of the Competition Council, GVH Mr Renato Ferrandi, Coordinator of OECD-GVH training activities
10.00-10.45	MERGER CONTROL: INTRODUCTION AND NEW CHALLENGES Navigating in uncharted waters Mr Renato Ferrandi (OECD, Paris)
10.45-11.00	Coffee break
11.00-11.45	CAPTURING THE RELEVANT MERGERS Legal notion of control, thresholds Ms María Pilar Canedo, Spain
11.45-12.30	THEORIES OF HARM Horizontal, vertical and conglomerate mergers Ms Ieva Jakubavičienė, Lithuania
12.30-14.00	Lunch
14.00-15.00	CASE STUDIES IN EASTERN EUROPE Experience and challenges in the region Participants
15.00-15.15	Illustration of a hypothetical case Mr Renato Ferrandi, Italy
15.15-15.30	Coffee break
15.30-17.00	BREAK OUT SESSION Discussion on the hypothetical case Moderated by the speakers
19.00-21.00	Welcome dinner

Wednesday, 15 February 2023

09.30-10.45	MARKET DEFINITION Traditional methods and novel issues Ms Ana Sofia Rodrigues, Portugal
10.45-11.00	Coffee break
11.00-11.45	LISTENING CAREFULLY What the merging parties do and do not say Ms Ieva Jakubavičienė, Lithuania
11.45-12.30	PROHIBITION OR REMEDIES? How to address a restrictive merger Mr Péter Decsák, Hungary
12.30-14.00	Lunch
14.00-15.00	PROCEDURAL ISSUES The key steps of an effective merger review Ms María Pilar Canedo, Spain
15.00-15.15	Illustration of a hypothetical case Mr Renato Ferrandi
15.15-15.30	Coffee break
15.30-17.00	BREAK OUT SESSION Discussion on the hypothetical case Moderated by the speakers
19.00-21.00	Dinner

Thursday, 16 February 2023

9.30-10.45	MERGERS IN DIGITAL MARKETS AND INNOVATION Specificities and cautions Ms Ana Sofia Rodrigues, Portugal and Mr Péter Decsák, Hungary
10.45-11.00	Coffee break
11.00-12.00	LESSONS LEARNED ON MERGER REVIEW Issues and solutions Mr Renato Ferrandi and speakers
12.00-13.00	CLOSING SESSION
13.00-14.00	Lunch
19.00-21.00	Dinner