

COMPETITION & ANTITRUST

European and local enforcement authorities are increasing their scrutiny of companies in many sectors, particularly in matters involving competition law. Your business needs comprehensive advice to prevent unwelcome surprises down the road. **We can help you assess and improve the compliance of your operations so you can focus on what is important for you: staying competitive.**

Our track record of success in CEE/SEE means that we can make our relationships with competition authorities work for you so that even complex mergers, acquisitions and joint ventures get wrapped up smoothly. The same goes for EU merger regulation cases and notifications to national competition authorities across the region. **We advise on effective structuring solutions, and propose, negotiate and implement remedial actions to obtain the necessary regulatory clearances.**

AREAS OF SPECIALISATION

Abuse of Dominance

We can support you on a variety of allegations of abusive practices, including excessive, discriminatory and predatory pricing, discount and rebate strategies, margin squeezing, exclusive agreements, tying and bundling practices and access to essential facilities. As a dominant firm we advise you on the compliance of your commercial policies and business strategies with the special obligations you have under EU and national competition law.

Cartels

We handle the entire lifecycle of cartel investigations before the European Commission and national competition authorities for you – from the launch of an investigation by dawn raids, development of coordinated and efficient response strategies, leniency applications and settlements, to appeal and follow-on damages claims.

Competition Compliance

Trust us to develop, implement and monitor tailor-made competition compliance programmes; to conduct audits to identify and minimise legal risk early on; to prepare clear guidelines and training programmes on achieving competition compliance and the proper response to dawn raids and other investigations by the authorities.

Competition Litigation

We represent you before EU and national courts in litigation cases involving alleged abuse of a dominant position, cartels, restrictive practices and state aid. You benefit from our team's strong track record in handling large-scale or complex litigation cases in several jurisdictions across the CEE/SEE region.

Vertical & Cooperation Agreements

Covering the full spectrum of competition law issues ensuing from various commercial arrangements with suppliers, distributors, customers and other parties, our team can help you structure effective distribution systems, including franchise, agency and licensing agreements. We can also advise on and ensure competition compliance of your cooperation agreements, including research and development, production and joint purchasing agreements.

Merger Control

Our team is regularly involved in EU merger regulation cases as well as notifications to the national competition authorities across the CEE/SEE region. This means we can devise effective structuring solutions for your mergers, acquisitions and joint ventures and propose, negotiate and implement remedial actions, when needed, to obtain regulatory clearances and help you achieve your business goals.

Private Enforcement

You benefit from our substantial experience in assisting clients on damage claims relating to EU and national competition law infringements and on other claims relating to competition law before the national courts in the CEE/SEE region.

State Aid

We provide you with effective state aid support both at the EU and national level. We help you successfully navigate through complex acquisitions and disposals of state-owned assets, large-scale restructurings in the course of financial and economic turmoil, investigations by the authorities and challenging court cases, repayment of state aid and recovery procedures.



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Clients recommend the firm for its "very broad knowledge, to-the-point, clear recommendations and reliable partners."

Another client also highlights the firm's "value for money, deep antitrust capabilities and high availability."

Chambers Global