



EU & UK Competition Practice



McGUIREWOODS LLP

Avenue Louise 250, bte 64
1050 Brussels Belgium
32 (0)2 629 42 11
F: 32 (0)2 629 42 22

Matthew Hall
Brussels

T: + 32 (0) 2 629 4211
mhall@mcguirewoods.com

Robert Rakison
London

T: +44 (0)20 7632 1620
rrakison@mcguirewoods.com

www.mcguirewoods.com

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PRACTICE OVERVIEW

McGuireWoods' competition practice provides advice on all aspects of EU and UK competition law from our offices in Brussels and London. In addition, full coverage of other national competition laws throughout the EU is provided directly by these offices or through a network of strong relationships with correspondent law firms developed over many years.

The competition law team is a multilingual and multinational cross-departmental practice group drawn from the offices' corporate and litigation departments. It includes four partners and some 10 associates.

Our lawyers appear before the European Commission in Brussels and the various national competition and utility regulators across the EU, as well as the EU courts in Luxembourg and national courts. We are experienced in co-ordinating regulatory clearances of cross-border transactions and trans-national competition and cartel investigations.

The practice works closely with McGuireWoods' US antitrust practice, which numbers some 40 lawyers across our 15 offices in the US. We also have competition law experience in our office in Almaty.

WHY MCGUIREWOODS?

We offer top competition law expertise at fees which are excellent value for money compared with our competitors at EU and UK level.

We operate in small, fully-functional teams, which further reduces costs.

Our partners are fully-involved in the detail of all matters.

Our lawyers work closely with our US-antitrust colleagues, allowing for immediate access to US advice and a viewpoint from the world's leading competition jurisdiction.

We have strong litigation departments in London and Brussels, which include several individuals with significant competition law experience.

EXPERTISE

The members of the EU & UK competition law practice have extensive experience of merger control, cartels, trading agreements and practices, including abuse of dominance and distribution, and State aid. Economic principles underpin competition law in the EU and we are well-versed in the practical application of these principles to competition law matters. Our services at EU and national level include:

- Merger control (mergers, acquisitions, joint ventures and other alliances), including phase two investigations requiring remedies, multi-jurisdictional transactions and complaints by third parties
- Commercial agreements including franchising, selective and exclusive distribution and supply agreements and related issues, including parallel imports
- The interface between intellectual property and competition law, including in relation to licensing issues
- Abuse of dominance, including acting for complainants
- Handling of cartel investigations
- State aid, including acting for complainants, providers and potential recipients
- Compliance programmes, including undertaking audits and compliance training
- Private enforcement of competition law, including in relation to damages actions in the national courts for claimants and defendants
- Utilities regulation
- Trade
- Advice on lobbying strategies before the EU and national institutions
- Client training

We also have significant experience in relation to EU and UK public procurement law, a related discipline to competition law in the EU. A member of the EU & UK competition practice is on the steering group of the Procurement Lawyers' Association (UK).