



European Bank
for Reconstruction and Development



Republic of Serbia
**COMMISSION FOR PROTECTION
OF COMPETITION**

CONFERENCE ON INSTITUTION BUILDING OF THE COMPETITION AUTHORITIES IN SOUTH-EAST EUROPE

2nd and 3rd June 2016

Hotel Metropol Palace, Belgrade
Bulevar Kralja Aleksandra 69

Program and timing

Thursday, 2nd June: Institutional design session: Experience and the best practices

13:30 – Registration

14:00 – Opening of the Conference

Introductory notes

1. Miloje Obradović, President, Serbian Commission for Protection of Competition
2. Daniel Berg, Director, Head of Serbia, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

14:15 – First panel

The design of a competition agency and its dependence on local economic and legal circumstances. Moderator: Dušan Popović, University of Belgrade, School of Law

1. Paolo Buccirossi, LEAR: **"The design of the effective competition policy on SEE countries: what is special?"**
2. Veljko Milutinović, Serbian Commission for Protection of Competition: **"Influence of and Influence on the Executive Branch: Cooperation and Independence"**
3. Boris Begović, University of Belgrade, School of Law: **"SEE countries: middle income convergence trap and the role of competition policy"**

15:45 – Coffee break

16:00 – Second panel

The pros and cons of having multiple functions (state aid & consumer protection) of competition authorities. Moderator: Vladimir Pavić, University of Belgrade, School of Law

1. Dušan Popović, University of Belgrade, School of Law: **“State aid control in the Western Balkans: Would a different institutional design improve the enforcement record?”**
2. Andrej Plahutnik, European Centre for Dispute Resolution: **“Antitrust, Mergers, State Aid and consumer policy under the same umbrella - does a political compromise prevails an expert approach?”**
3. Lorenzo Ciari, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development: **“Consumer protection: should it be allocated to competition authorities?”**
4. Russell Pitman, US Department of Justice: **“Multiple functions of competition authorities: a view from the other side of Atlantic”**

17:30 – Coffee break

17:45 – Third panel

The structure of the advocacy function of the Competition Authorities. Moderator: Lorenzo Ciari, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

1. Sabine Zigelski, OECD-GVH Regional Centre for Competition: **“Implementation of OECD Advocacy Tools for Competition Authorities in South-East Europe”**
2. Dimitri Loukas, Hellenic Competition Commission: **“Greece: The advocacy role of the Competition Commission in the context of Greece’s economic adjustment programme and beyond”**.
3. Dimitar Iliev, Bulgarian Commission for Protection of Competition: **“Competition advocacy in Bulgaria”**
4. Čedomir Kraljevski, Macedonian Commission for Protection of Competition: **“The structure the advocacy function of Competition Authorities”**

19:15 – End of day one

Friday, 3rd June: Role of economics in competition law enforcement session: Experience and the best practices

09:30 – First panel

General issues regarding the role of economics/econometrics in competition law enforcement. Moderator: Aleksandra Nojković, University of Belgrade, School of Economics

1. Yannis Katsoulacos, Athens University of Economics and Business: **“Legal standards and the role of economics on the competition law enforcement”**
2. Gregor Langus, European Commission, DG Competition: **“Economic analysis – an essential tool for effective competition policy”**
3. Jelena Grahovac, Serbian Commission for Protection of Competition: **“Economic and Econometric training of the Serbian CPC: first experience”**

11:00 – Coffee break

11:15 – Second panel

The role of economics/econometrics in relevant market definition. Moderator: Bojan Ristić, University of Belgrade, School of Economics

1. Russell Pittman, US Department of Justice: "**A Non-Economist's Guide to Three Economist's Tools**"
2. Siniša Milošević, Serbian Commission for Protection of Competition: "**Pricing benchmark in market definition: theoretical background and practical application**"
3. Dajana Muženič-Abramovič, Slovenian Competition Protection Agency: "**The relevance of applying quantitative economic tests in the definition of the relevant market**"

12:45 – Lunch break

14:30 – Third panel

The role of economics/econometrics in specification of dominant position and its abuse. Moderator: Dejan Trifunović, University of Belgrade, School of Economics

1. Radu Paun, Romanian Competition Council: "**Economic instrument to evaluate the (pro) competitive nature of industries**"
2. Gazmir Mani, Albanian Competition Authority: "**Abuse of Dominant Position – Case of Albanian Mobile Phone Market**"
3. Paolo Buccirosi, LEAR: "**Theories of harm and efficiency justifications in abuse of dominance cases**"

16:00 – Coffee break

16:15 – Fourth panel

The role of economics/econometrics in merger control. Moderator: Boris Begović, University of Belgrade, School of Law

1. Bojan Ristić, University of Belgrade, School of Economics: "**The Role of Calibrated Models of Competition in Merger Control**"
2. Lucian Alexa, Romanian Competition Council: "**Ex-post analysis of an approved merger in the Romanian market**"
3. Lilia Oglindă, Moldovan Competition Council: "**The role of the Moldovan Competition Authority in merger control: recent experience**"
4. Kim O'Sullivan, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development: "**The role of economics in the enforcement of competition law – a lawyer's view**"

17:45 – Closing remarks

18:00 – End of the Conference