

COMPETITION & CONSUMER PROTECTION

CONFERENCE

COMPETITION AND CONSUMER PROTECTION - 4 th International Conference

Time

November 13, 2025

09:30 - 10:00 Registration

Registration / Welcome Coffee

Location:

10:00 - 10:50 Opening Ceremony | Welcome Speeches

- **Mikheil Sarjveladze** Minister of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Health, Labour and Social Affairs of Georgia
- **David Songulashvili** Minister of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia
- **Shota Berekashvili** Chairperson of Economic Policy Committee of the Parliament of Georgia
- **Giorgi Dgebuadze** Deputy Minister of Justice of Georgia
- **Teresa Moreira** Head of Competition & Consumer Policies | UNCTAD

Location:

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10:50 - 12:20 Opening Session | Competition and Consumer Protection in a Sectoral Perspective - Results, Achievements and Challenges

Moderator:

- **Giorgi Abashishvili** Founder & CEO of Business Insider Georgia & Economic Forum Georgia

Panellists:

- **Irakli Lekvinadze** Chairman of the Georgian Competition and Consumer Agency;
- **Natia Turnava** President of the National Bank of Georgia;
- **Davit Narmania** Chairman of the National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission of Georgia;
- **Ekaterine Tsereteli** Deputy Head of the Insurance State Supervision Service of Georgia;
- **Vakhtang Abashidze** Commissioner of Communications Commission of Georgia.

Location:

13:00 - 13:45 Keynote Speakers

Competition and Consumer Protection Policies

- **Teresa Moreira** Head of Competition & Consumer Policies | UNCTAD
- **Brigitte Acoca** Head of the Consumer Policy Unit, OECD

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14:45 - 16:15 Competition Policy in Regulated Sectors | Challenges and Opportunities

Moderator

- **Levan Kalandadze** Deputy Chairman | GCCA

Panelists:

- **Shahla Eyvaz-Zada** Head of the Legal Acts Sector of the Legal Department | State Agency for Antimonopoly and Consumer Market Control of Republic of Azerbaijan;
- **Ekaterine Sitchinava** Head of Telecom Market Regulations Department | Communications Commission of Georgia;
- **Nikoloz Sumbadze** First Deputy Director of Market Monitoring Department | Georgian National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission (GNERC)
- **Medea Akolashvili** Head of Competition Division, Legal Department | National Bank of Georgia;
- **Vakhtang Charaia** Vice-Rector, Dean of the School of Business and Management | Grigol Robakidze University

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14:45 - 16:15 Building Fair Markets | Protecting Children and Vulnerable Consumers

Moderator

- **Ana Candida Muniz Cipriano** Legal Officer of Competition and Consumer Policies Branch | UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

Panelists:

- **Riccarda Weissenberger** Policy Officer, Federal Ministry for Justice and Consumer Protection | Germany;
- **Kwun Seonhwa** Head of Team, Insurance and Medical Affairs Team, Seoul Gangwon Regional Office | Korea Consumer Agency;
- **Amati Amarovi** Deputy Head of the Consumers Protection Department | GCCA;
- **Davit Bibileishvili** Board Member of the Georgian Disability Network, Head of the Services Department | Georgian Blind Union;
- **Tinatin Gujabidze** Chief Specialist of the Financial Education and Strategic Development Department | National Bank of Georgia.

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14:45 - 16:15 Consumer Protection Today | Key Developments and Challenges in Georgia and Beyond

Moderator

- **Nino Niavadze** Head of Legal Department, Insurance State Supervision Service of Georgia

Panelists:

- **Gvantsa Chkheidze** Communications Ombudsman of Georgia;
- **Tsisana Kavelashvili** First Deputy Head of the Disputes and Services Department at the Georgian National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission (GNERC);
- **Irine Ioseliani** Head of Market Conduct Supervision Division, National Bank of Georgia;
- **Mariam Nikoladze** Head of the Consumer Protection and Financial Education Division at the Insurance State Supervision Service of Georgia;
- **Levan Molashvili** E-commerce Expert, Georgia.

Location:

16:30 - 18:00 From Prevention to Enforcement | Rethinking Ex Ante and Ex Post in Competition Law

Moderator

- **Akari Yamamoto - Bonenfant** Legal Officer of Competition and Consumer Policies Branch, UN Trade and Development

Panelists:

- **Serene Seet** Director of the Enforcement Division, Competition and Consumer Commission of Singapore (CCCS);
- **Arthur Buduryan** Partner at Legelata Law Firm, Armenia;
- **Salome Kavtaradze** Head of the Legal Department | GCCA;
- **Nick Nanuashvili** Legal Director of the Business Association of Georgia;
- **Tamta Margvelashvili** Director of Competition, Capital and Financial Markets Practice | Nodia, Urumashvili & Partners.

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16:30 - 18:00 The Future of Mergers | Navigating New Global Realities

Moderator

- **Levan Vepkhvadze** Executive Director of Business Association of Georgia (BAG)

Panelists:

- **Durim Kraja** Member of the Commission | Albanian Competition Authority;
- **Cosmin Belacurencu** Member of the Board, Secretary of State at the | Romanian Competition Council;
- **Evrin Özgül KAZAK** Head of External Relations and Competition Advocacy Department | Turkish Competition Authority;
- **Giorgi Kedelidze** Head of the Strategic Markets Monitoring Department | GCCA.

Location:

16:30 - 18:00 Consumers International Panel| The Role of NGOs and Civil Society in Consumer Protection

Moderator

- **Érico de Melo** International and Government Engagement Lead, Consumers International

Panelists:

- **Ana Candida Muniz Cipriano** Legal Officer of Competition and Consumer Policies Branch, UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD);
- **Dmitriy Yanin** Chairman of the International Confederation of Consumer Societies (KONFOP);
- **Tamar Kerdzaia** Lawyer, Representative of the NGO “Women for the Future”;
- **Madona Koidze** Chairperson of the NGO “Georgian Consumers Federation”;
- **Sophie Okhanashvili** Journalist, Host of a Business Program | Rustavi 2.

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Time

November 14, 2025

11:00 - 12:15 High-Ranking Panel Discussion | Regulation and Innovation: Finding the Right Balance in Competition Policy

Moderator

- **Maria Pilar Canedo Arrillaga** Senior Expert at the OECD's Competition Division, Commissioner of the Spanish National Markets and Competition Commission

Panelists:

- **Mirta Kapural** President of the Competition Council, Croatian Competition Agency; (Online)
- **Mark Panczel** Member of the National Competition Council, Hungary;
- **Daniel Mańkowski** Vice-President of the Office of Competition and Consumer Protection, Poland (Online)
- **Akari Yamamoto - Bonenfant** Legal Officer of Competition and Consumer Policies Branch, UN Trade and Development;
- **Ettore Maria Lombardi** Professor of Private Law and Digital Society (Online) .

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12:45 - 14:15 High-Ranking Panel Discussion | The Role of International Organisations and Cross-Border Cooperation in Consumer Protection

Moderator

- **Elena Gasol Ramos** Digital Regulations and Global Knowledge Lead, World Bank Group

Panelists:

- **Teresa Moreira** Head of Competition & Consumer Policies | UNCTAD;
- **Brigitte Acoca** Head of the Consumer Policy Unit, OECD
- **Érico de Melo International and Government Engagement Lead, Consumers International**
- **Sven Gallasch** Senior Lecturer at Deakin Law School, Australia;
- **Sergo Sanikidze** Head of the Consumer Protection Department, GCCA.

Location:

14:15 - 15:00 Panel Discussion: Competition and Consumer Protection in the Healthcare Sector

Panelists:

- **Mikheil Sarjveladze** Minister of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Health, Labour and Social Affairs of Georgia
- **Irakli Lekvinadze** Chairman of the Georgian Competition and Consumer Agency

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14:15 - 15:00 Sectoral Research Presentation

Anti-Dumping Practice in Georgia: Insights from Case Experience and Sectoral Vulnerability Analysis

Presenter: **Elene Tskhomelidze** Head of the Anti-Dumping Measures Department | GCCA

Location:

16:00 - 16:15 Signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Competition Council of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Georgian Competition and Consumer Agency

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Location:

16:15 - 16:30 Signing ceremony of the Cooperation Action Plan between the State Service for Antimonopoly and Consumer Market Control of Azerbaijan and the Georgian Competition and Consumer Agency

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Location:

16:30 - 17:00 Bilateral meeting between the Georgian Competition and Consumer Agency and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

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17:00 - 17:30

Bilateral meeting between the Georgian Competition and Consumer Protection Agency and the OECD Consumer Policy Division

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Location:

Time

November 15, 2025 - Day 1

10:00 - 20:00

Closing Remarks & Cultural Tour

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Location: