

COMPETITION & CONSUMER PROTECTION

CONFERENCE

COMPETITION AND CONSUMER PROTECTION - First International Conference

Time

November 16, 2022

09:30 - 10:00 Registration

Coffee/Tea

Location:

10:00 - 11:00 Opening Ceremony / Welcome Speech

- **Davit Songulashvili** - Chairperson of the committee of sector economy and economic policy at Parliament of Georgia
- **Mikheil Sarjveladze** - Chairman of the Human Rights and Civil Integration Committee
- **Alexander Khvtisiashvili** - Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia
- **Guram Guramishvili** - Deputy Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia
- **Teresa Moreira** Head of Competition & Consumer Policies, UNCTAD

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11:00 - 12:00 Opening session of the event

Moderator - **Giorgi Abashishvili**, Director on Economic Policy, Geocase,
Professor, Dean at CIU Business Faculty

Panelists:

- **Irakli Lekvinadze** - Chairman of the National Competition Agency of Georgia
- **Koba Gvenetadze** - Governor of the National Bank of Georgia
- **Davit Narmania** - Chairman of the National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission of Georgia
- **Davit Onoprishvili** - Head of the State Insurance Supervision Service of Georgia
- **Vakhtang abashidze** - Commissioner, Communications Commission

Location:

12:30 - 13:15 IMPACT OF COMPETITION AND CONSUMER RIGHTS PROTECTION ON
WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT (with a focus on emerging economies)

- Keynote speech - **Teresa Moreira**, Head of Competition & Consumer Policies, UNCTAD

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14:00 - 15:15 Competition Policy and Sustainable Development

Moderator - **Bakar Palavandishvili**, Deputy Chair and the chief legal officer at Geocase

Panelists:

- **María Pilar Canedo Arrillaga** Commissioner of the Spanish National Markets and Competition Commission
- **Mammad Abbasbeyli** Head of The State Service for Antimonopoly and Consumer Market Control under the Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Azerbaijan
- **Levan Kalandadze** First Deputy Chairman of the Georgian National Competition Agency
- **Giorgi Pertaia** President of Georgian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- **Teona Zhizhiashvili** Legal Manager, PwC Georgia

Location:

14:00 - 15:15 Competition policy on regulated markets/inter-agency cooperation

Moderator - **Renato Ferrandi**, Senior Competition Expert and Coordinator of the OECD-GVH Regional Centre for Competition at OECD

Panelists:

- **Šarūnas Keserauskas** Chairman of Competition Council of the Republic of Lithuania, Project leader in the Twinning Project in Georgia – “Strengthening Capacity of the Competition Agency of Georgia”
- **Alexei GHERȚESCU** Chairman of Competition Council of the Republic of Moldova
- **Daniel Mańkowski** the Director of the Legal Department, Office of Competition and Consumer Protection of Poland (UOKiK)
- **Levan Vepkhvadze** Executive Director of BAG
- **Renato Ferrandi** Senior Competition Expert and Coordinator of the OECD-GVH Regional Centre for Competition at OECD

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14:00 - 15:15 Legal guarantees of consumer rights protection and features of the enforcement

Moderator - **Salome Janelidze**, Director of Legal Department. Georgian National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission (GNERC)

Panelists:

- **Goda Aleksaite** Head of State Consumer Rights Protection Authority, Lithuania (tbc)
- **Mariam Shaishmelashvili** Deputy of Consumer Rights Protection Department, GNCA
- **Alexander Margishvili** Managing Partner, General Director · Kudos Georgia LLC
- **Lasha Gzirishvili** Head of Consumer Protection and Financial Education Department at National Bank of Georgia
- **Salome Janelidze** Director of Legal Department. Georgian National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission (GNERC)

Location:

15:30 - 16:45 Indirect mechanisms of enforcement - Competition advocacy, sectoral inquiries and monitorings, recommendations, trade policy

Moderator - **Nika Sergia**, Head of Department for Anti-dumping Measures, GNCA

Panelists:

- **Vladimir Naumovski** President of the Commission for Protection of Competition of North Macedonia
- **Olga Nechytailo** State Commissioner of the Antimonopoly Committee of Ukraine
- **Steffen Sirries** Professor at Kutaisi International University and Equity Partner at Lademann & Associates GmbH
- **Giorgi Kedelidze** Deputy Head of Market Monitoring and Analysis Department, GNCA
- **Medea Akolashvili** Deputy Head of Legal Department, GNCA

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15:30 - 16:45 Essential Facility and Refusal to Supply, Theory and Practice - Abuse of Dominant, Theoretical Approaches and Practical Cases, Essential Trading Partner

Moderator - **Giorgi Isakadze**, Editor in Chief of FORBES GEORGIA

Panelists:

- **Denar Biba** Chairman of the Albanian Competition Authority
- **George Svanadze** Chair of the Legal Committee of the European Business Association
- **Nikoloz Sumbadze** Director of Market Monitoring Department, GNERC
- **Sopio Momtselidze** Head of Legal Department, GNCA
- **Levan Maisuradze** Lawyer at the Georgian national regulatory authority for the broadcasting and telecommunications

Location:

15:30 - 16:45 European and Georgian practice in Consumer protection

Moderator - **Nika Nanuashvili**, Legal Director of the Business Association of Georgia

Panelists:

- **Tamar Lakerbaia** Consumer rights protection expert, judge
- **Eka Sepashvili** First Deputy Chairperson of the Sector Economy and Economic Policy Committee, Parliament of Georgia
- **Neringa Ulbaite** Former Director of State Consumer Rights Protection Service of Lithuania; Expert/Consultant of Consumer Protection component in TWINNING Project in Georgia – “Strengthening Capacity of the Competition Agency of Georgia”.
- **Sopio Japaridze** Acting Public Defender for Protection of Consumer Rights, Communications Commission
- **Nino Niavadze** Head of Legal Department, Insurance State Supervision Service

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Time

November 17, 2022

09:30 - 10:00 Registration

Welcome Coffee

Location:

10:00 - 11:00 Closing Remarks

- **Irakli Lekvinadze** Chairman of the National Competition Agency of Georgia
- **Koba Gvenetadze** President of the National Bank of Georgia
- **Davit Narmania** Chairman of the National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission of Georgia
- **Davit Onoprishvili** Head of the State Insurance Supervision Service of Georgia
- **Vakhtang Abashidze** Commissioner, National Communications Commission of Georgia

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11:00 - 12:00 Memorandum Signing Ceremony between the Counterpart Agencies of the Competition and Consumer Rights Protection

Georgia – Uzbekistan

Georgia – Azerbaijan

Georgia - Lithuania

Georgia – Poland

Georgia – North Macedonia

Georgia- Albania

GNCA and Grigol Robakidze University

GNCA and Caucasus International University

Location:
