

COMPETITION & CONSUMER PROTECTION

CONFERENCE

COMPETITION AND CONSUMER PROTECTION - 3rd International Conference

Time

November 20, 2024

09:30 - 10:00 Registration

Welcome Coffee

Location:

10:00 - 10:40 Opening Ceremony | Welcome Speech

- **Mikheil Sarjveladze** Minister of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labor, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia
- **David Songulashvili** Chairman of the Sectoral Economy and Economic Policy Committee of the Parliament of Georgia
- **Maka Botchorishvili** Chair of the EU Integration Committee of the Parliament of Georgia
- **Genadi Arveladze** Deputy Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia
- **Andreas Mundt** President of the Bundeskartellamt, Steering Group Chair of the International Competition Network | ICN (video)

Location:

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10:40 - 12:00 Opening Session | Competition and Consumer Rights in a Sectoral Perspective - Results, Achievements and Challenges

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

Panelists:

- **Irakli Lekvinadze** Chairman of the Georgian Competition and Consumer Agency
- **Davit Narmania** Chairman of the National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission of Georgia
- **David Onoprishvili** Head of the Insurance State Supervision Service of Georgia
- **Ekaterine Galdava** Member of the Board of the National Bank of Georgia, Vice President
- **Vakhtang Abashidze** Commissioner, Communications Commission

Location:

12:30 - 14:00 Keynote Speakers

Competition Policy and Consumer Protection

- **Teresa Moreira** Head of Competition & Consumer Policies | UNCTAD
- **Isabelle Perignon**, Director Consumers -Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers of European Commission (Online)
- **Cristina Caffarra** Deputy Director of the CEPR Competition Research Network (online)
- **Andreas Mundt** President of the Bundeskartellamt, Steering Group Chair of the International Competition Network | ICN (video)

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14:45 - 16:15 Recent Developments and Key Challenges in Mergers Control

Moderator - Giorgi Isakadze, Host & Editor at BMG, TV Host and Producer

Panelists:

- **Denar Biba** Chairman of the Albanian Competition Authority
- **Elonas Šatas** Competition Council of the Republic of Lithuania
- **Shamsi Rzali** Head of the State Control over Natural Monopolies Department - The State Service for Antimonopoly and Consumer Market Control under the Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Azerbaijan
- **Giorgi Kedelidze** Head of the Strategic Markets Monitoring Department | GCCA
- **Johannes Giacomuzzi** Senior Case Handler Austrian Federal Competition Authority

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14:45 - 16:15 Consumer Protection in the Digital E-Commerce Landscape

Moderator - Ana Cândida Muniz Cipriano Legal Officer at the Competition and Consumer Policies Branch | UNCTAD

Panelists:

- **Tamar Lakerbaia** Consumer Rights Protection Expert, Judge
- **Levan Molashvili** E-commerce Expert
- **Amati Amarovi** Deputy Head of the Consumer Rights Protection Department | GCCA
- **Ekaterine Kokichaishvili** Senior Associate at MKD Law, Co-founder of the digital legal platform "LawPort"
- **Aida Gasiūnaitė-Stavginskienė** Deputy Director of State Consumer Rights Protection Authority of Lithuania (online)

Location:

14:45 - 16:15 Competition Enforcement Policy in Regulated Markets | Key Trends and Challenges

Moderator - Levan Kalandadze Deputy Chairman | GCCA

Panelists:

- **Sopio Momtselidze** Head of the Competition Division of the Legal Department of the National Bank of Georgia
- **Nikoloz Sumbadze** Director of Market Monitoring Department at Georgian National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission | GNERC
- **Daniel Mankowski** Vice-President of the Office of Competition and Consumer Protection of Poland
- **Eter Papiashvili** Head Of License and Registration Division at Insurance State Supervision Service of Georgia
- **Ekaterine Sichinava** Head of the Competition and Market Regulation Department | Communications Commission

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16:30 - 18:00 Combating Cartels in Vulnerable Markets | Evaluating Outcomes and Best Practices

Moderator - Akari Yamamoto-Bonenfant Legal Officer at the Competition and Consumer Policies Branch of UNCTAD

Panelists:

- **Steffen Sirries** Professor at Kutaisi International University
- **Tamta Margvelashvili** CCFM Practice Director | Nodia, Urumashvili & Partners
- **Gvantsa Chaduneli** - Deputy Head of Economic Competition Department | GCCA
- **Levan Maisuradze** Head of Legal Support Group at the Legal Department of the Communications Commission
- **Salome Kavtaradze** Head of the Legal Department | GCCA

Location:

16:30 - 18:00 Consumer Rights Protection in Regulated Markets | Key Trends and Challenges

Moderator - Lasha Gzirishvili Head of the Consumer Rights Protection Department of the National Bank of Georgia

Panelists:

- **Mariam Koshoridze** Head of Consumer Protection and Financial Education Division, Insurance State Supervision Service of Georgia
- **Nino Guleishvili** Acting Public Defender of Consumers Interests | Energy Ombudsman
- **Giorgi Didebashvili** First Deputy Director of Consumers Disputes Department of Georgian National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission (GNERC)
- **Gvantsa Chkheidze** Public Defender of Consumer Interests (Communications Ombudsman)
- **Natia Chkonია** Head of Market Conduct Supervision Division of National Bank of Georgia

Location:

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16:30 - 18:00 Implementing Effective Anti-Dumping Policies | Practical Enforcement and Future Perspectives

Moderator - Vakhtang Charaia Vice Rector at Grigol Robakidze University | Dean of the School of Business and Management

Panelists:

- **Elene Tskhomelidze** Head of the Anti-dumping Measures Department | GCCA
- **Mariana Morgoshia** Executive Director of the “Georgian Manufacturers’ Association”
- **Mikheil Chelidze** President of the Georgian Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) Association
- **Tatia Nikvashvili** Deputy Head of Department for Anti-dumping Measures | GCCA
- **Mariam Gabunia** Head of the Foreign Trade Policy Department | Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia

Location:

Time

November 21, 2024

10:30 - 11:00 Registration

Welcome Coffee

Location:

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11:00 - 12:15 Panel Discussion: Competition Policy Enforcement in Digital Markets | Challenges and Best Practices

Moderator - Levan Vepkhvadze, Executive Director of BAG

Panelists:

- **Lukas Cavada** Executive Coordinator for International Affairs at the Austrian Federal Competition Authority
- **Peter Hoeltzenbein** Senior Case Manager at the Bundeskartellamt
- **Cosmin Belacurencu** Member of the Board, Secretary of State at the Romanian Competition Council
- **Bülent Açma** Anadolu University Professor

Location:

12:45 - 14:00 Panel Discussion: Consumer Education | Empowering Vulnerable Consumers in the Digital E-Commerce Landscape

Moderator - Teresa Moreira Head of the Competition and Consumer Policies Branch of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

Panelists:

- **Christine Riefa** Professor, University of Reading (UK) | UNCTAD E-Commerce Working Group Expert (online)
- **Daniel Mankowski** Vice-President of the Office of Competition and Consumer Protection of Poland
- **Derya Güngör Özcelebi** Head of Department of Ministry of Trade of Türkiye
- **Sergo Sanikidze** Head of the Consumer Rights Protection Department | GCCA

Location:

Time

November 22, 2024 - Day 1

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10:00 - 20:00 Closing Remarks & Cultural Tour in Mtskheta

Location:
