

Competition & EU

Competitive Edge

Keeping you up to date on Competition & EU law developments in Europe and beyond

In Focus



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The ever-closer cooperation between Competition, Data Protection and other regulatory authorities in the UK and EU: what it means for businesses

Concurrence between regulators is a phenomenon increasing across many sectors. In this article, we explore the trajectory of these trends across jurisdictions and sectors, and review what the cooperation could mean for you and your business, including risks and pitfalls to be aware of.

[Read the full story](#)

Supply & Distribution eLearning course

Reflecting the new EU competition rules for distribution – in effect from 1 June 2022

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



Updated eLearning course on competition rules for Supply and Distribution

On June 1st the [new competition regime for distribution in the EU](#) came into force, affecting businesses that distribute products in the EU. If your company needs training on the new regime, we would be happy to help.

Our eLearning course on Supply & Distribution competition rules has been updated to reflect the new regime. [Watch a short demo video of the eLearning course here.](#)

[Get in touch](#) with your local Bird & Bird Competition & EU lawyer if you have specific questions or would like to explore opportunities that the new regime may open up for your business.

Updates from our jurisdictions

EU

The Canon-case: gun jumping before acquiring control

[Read the full story](#)

For more information contact [Pauline Kuipers](#) or [Joost van Roosmalen](#)

Data Act - Horizontal regulation designed to unlock the value of data across all economic sectors

[Read the full story](#)

For more information contact [Francine Cunningham](#) or [Lluís Girbau Cabanas](#)

Belgium

Competition Authority sets out key priorities for 2022

[Read the full story](#)

For more information contact [Hein Hobbelen](#) or [Samuel Berneman](#)

Czech Republic

Cinema digitalisation fee dropped following an investigation into potential abuse of a dominant position

[Read the full story](#)

For more information contact [Vojtěch Chloupek](#), [Jiri Švejda](#) and [Martin Talmr](#)

Denmark

Important limitations to the protection afforded “business secrets”

[Read the full story](#)

For more information contact [Morten Nissen](#) or [Alexander Brochner](#)

Finland

Finland introduces new merger control thresholds

[Read the full story](#)

For more information contact [Petteri Metsä-Tokila](#) or [Katia Duncker](#)

France

French Competition Authority publishes new Framework Document on Compliance Programs

[Read the full story](#)

For more information contact [Thomas Oster](#) or [Claire Burlin](#)

Hungary

Amended rules of accelerated sector inquiry: from a temporary to a permanent procedure

[Read the full story](#)

For more information contact [Dániel Arányi](#), [Gábor Kutai](#) or [Rebeka Szopkó](#)

Italy

Italian Council of State partially dismisses bid-rigging fines, setting relevant legal principles in cartel investigations

[Read the full story](#)

For more information contact [Federico Marini Balestra](#), [Lucia Antonazzi](#), [Irene Miniq](#) or [Chiara Horgan](#).

Netherlands

Competition authorities hold the key to avoid the drastic consequences of climate change, according to ACM Chairman

[Read the full story](#)

For more information contact [Pauline Kuipers](#) or [Daniëlle van de Vijver](#)

Poland

Court reverses Polish Competition Authority decision prohibiting a merger between two media groups

[Read the full story](#)

For more information contact [Piotr Dynowski](#) or [Szymon Golebiowski](#)

Polish Competition Authority investigates wage-fixing practices of the Polish speedway federation and league

[Read the full story](#)

For more information contact [Marcin Alberski](#) or [Szymon Golebiowski](#)

Spain

CNMC’s fines the Royal Canine Society for abuse of dominance

[Read the full story](#)

For more information contact [Candela Sotés](#)

UK

UK confirms its new Digital Markets Competition regime

[Read the full story](#)

For more information contact [Anthony Rosen](#) or [Amy Donlevy](#)

Bird & Bird news and publications



Reconnecting at our Competition & EU Group retreat

Bird & Bird’s international Competition & EU team got a chance to reconnect and get to know each other (even) better during our two-day retreat in the Netherlands last week. In groups we discussed hot topics in competition law and compared notes from our various jurisdictions. We also listened to insights from our guests on the in-house counsel panel, biked to the beach together and just enjoyed some great evenings socialising with our colleagues from around the world! Everyone came back energised and ready to tackle even more cutting edge, multi-jurisdictional matters for our clients in the coming year, working together seamlessly as one team.



Key takeaways of the 2021 Competition policy annual report by the European Parliament

Business Law news website **Legal Dealmaker** recently published this article in which [José Rivas](#) and [Luis Girbau Cabanas](#) provide a brief overview and [key takeaways](#) of the European Parliament’s 2021 Competition policy annual report, covering:

- General considerations and policy response to the Covid-19 pandemic
- Digital transformation and enforcement
- Data and EU Competition Law
- Way forward

[Read the full article >>](#)

Webinars & events

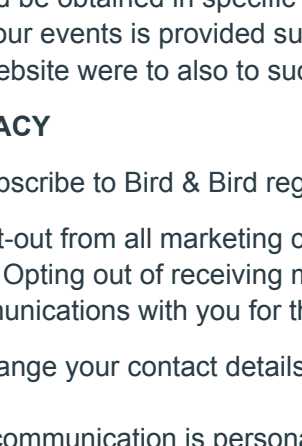


MyData 2022 Conference: Catalysing fair data solutions

21 - 22 June
Helsinki

MyData 2022 brings together stakeholders representing Business, Legal, Tech and Social perspectives, which are all equally important for accelerating the human-centric policies and approaches to personal data. Bird & Bird Legal Director [Saskia King](#) will present on *Data protection and Competition law*, while Principal Regulatory Counsel [Feyo Sickinghe](#) will focus on the *DGA (Data Governance Act)* and the *DA (Data Act)* in a session co-led with Francesco Vogelezang, Policy Analyst at the Open Future Foundation.

[Find out more >>](#)



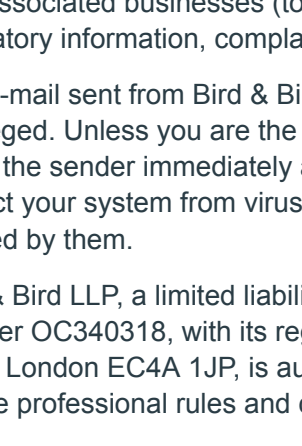
ERA Summer Course on European Antitrust Law

4 - 8 July 2022
Trier, Germany

Competition & EU partner [Hein Hobbelen](#) and senior associate [Baptist Vleeshouwers](#) will present on dawn raids and leniency at the ERA Summer Course on European Antitrust Law. They will lead the following sessions:

- The Commission’s leniency policy: a key tool in the fight against cartels
- Simulation exercise: potential procedural issues during a dawn raid.

[Find out more >>](#)



EU Competition Law Summer School 2022

8 - 12 August 2022
Downing College, Cambridge, UK

Competition & EU partners [Peter Willis](#) and [Anne Federle](#) will present at the Informa Connecting EU Competition Law Summer School, covering the topics of mergers and hard core cartels.

[Find out more >>](#)



Lear Competition Festival 2022

21 - 23 September 2022
Rome

This festival in Rome is a hub that gathers innovation, networking, and exciting opportunities for the antitrust community.

It brings together all the stakeholders of the festival – competition authorities, regulatory agencies, international organizations, universities, law firms, companies – in plenary sessions organized by Lear and in parallel sessions organized by the LCF Partners.

During the three-day festival, participants will have the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of specific antitrust issues, to acquire new tools for legal and economic analysis and to network with the main players in the competition field.

[Find out more >>](#)



Local VBER webinars / seminars

The new Vertical Block Exemption Regulation (VBER): changes in regulating distribution agreements

Our Finnish, Czech and Dutch offices recently held local webinars/seminars on this topic in the local language.

In this presentation on the new Vertical Block Exemption Regulation and accompanying Guidelines, our specialists delved into the key changes affecting distribution agreements, focusing especially on the benefits of safe harbour.

[See the slides from our Finnish seminar here >>](#)
Presented by [Katia Duncker](#), [Petteri Metsä-Tokila](#) and [Maria Karpathaki](#)

[Watch a recording of the Czech webinar here >>](#)
Presented by [Vojtěch Chloupek](#) and [Jiri Švejda](#)

[Watch a recording of the Dutch webinar here >>](#)
Presented by [Pauline Kuipers](#), [Janneke Kohlen](#) and [Tialda Beelstra](#)

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