



COMPETITION NEWSLETTER

Competition Council of Latvia Newsletter

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The Chairwoman of the CC S. Ābrama: Protecting the Public Interest Through Competition

Dynamic and full of novelties – this is how the operation of the Competition Council of Latvia (the CC) in 2016 can be described. We adopted several important decisions, examined complicated merger transactions, continued to implement diverse competition culture activities, and also prepared soil for processes of internal changes within the authority in order to be able to ensure even higher professional performance of the authority in the future.

In parallel to adoption of significant decisions on infringements we have also worked actively on prevention of infringements. Thus we expressed warnings to 21 persons in cases of smaller scale alleged prohibited agreements, whereas in five cases we settled company disputes through negotiations.

In addition to investigation activities, we also promoted the competition culture by educating entrepreneurs, procurement organizers, students, associations and judges. It has allowed us to become more recognizable – in 2016, we received almost 300 applications, which is twice as many as in 2015, which confirms the increasing role of competition protection.

We are particularly glad, that the long awaited amendments to the Competition Law at last came into effect in the previous year, extending rights and opportunities of entrepreneurs, and increasing powers of the Competition Council. The authority also acquired new powers, for example, to consult public persons before they engage into entrepreneurship, and give opinions on whether fined participants of bid-rigging may participate in procurements also during the one-year prohibition period.

By using the newly-acquired powers and experience gained in the previous year, we will continue to strengthen our operation and strive for observing of principles of equal competition for the benefit of the entire public.



GlobalCompetitionReview

The CC for the second time has been awarded 3-star rating in the annual ranking of the World's top competition authorities, by the Global Competition Review.

The factors contributing to the CC's rating include a significant progress in the detection of competition law infringements during the past year, as well as promotion of the competition culture in Latvia and improvements in internal processes.

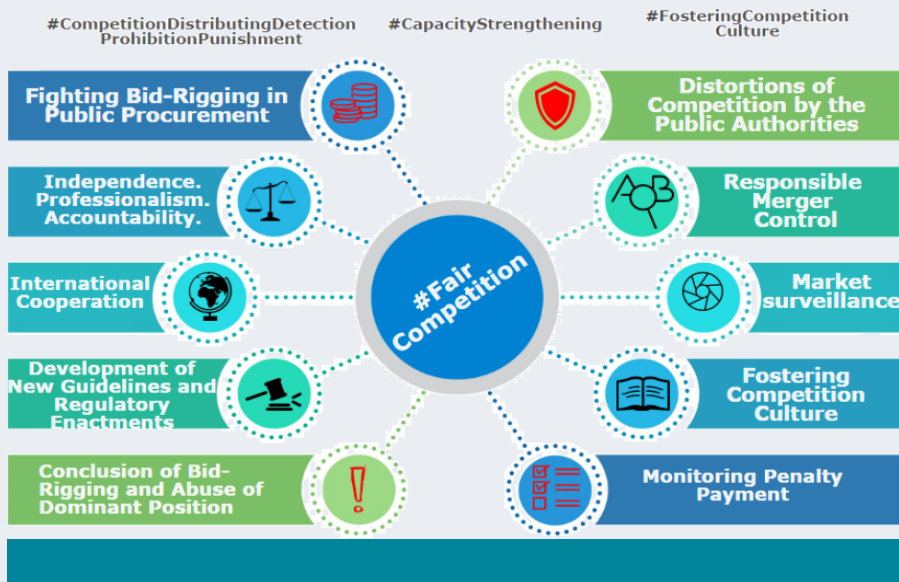
The maximum rating is 5-stars, which has been given to the developed agencies of the world such as France's Competition Authority, Germany's Federal Cartel Office, Korea's Fair Trade Commission, US Department of Justice Antitrust Division, and the US Federal Trade Commission.

Currently the competition authorities are in more than 140 countries around the world.

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The Priorities of the Competition Council of Latvia in 2017



The priority of the CC in 2017 – promotion of competition neutrality and prevention of bid-rigging

The main aim of the CC is to ensure possibility to every market participant to perform his economic activities in free and fair competition environment. Of course today's market is dynamic and constantly adapting to new circumstances therefore taking into account limited resources it is necessary to determine priorities, which are beneficial in all sectors of the economy.

Defining the priorities and tasks for 2017, the CC relied on the results of the public opinion survey, which was carried out in the last autumn, the authority's vision about the current processes in sectors and on markets of Latvia, as well as on the accumulated knowledge about strategic progress of the competition policy and law application issues in the European Union and worldwide.

Taking into consideration the survey results, received applications and discussions organized at various levels, the CC sets addressing distortions of competition caused by public persons, i.e., the state and local governments, as the priority. Currently, in such cases the CC is entitled to give its opinion. In order to be able to prevent such distortions most efficiently, thus ensuring equal opportunities both for the private and public sectors, amendments to the Competition Law are drafted.

The CC also sets as an absolute priority detection and prevention of the most severe infringement of competition law – bid-rigging and abuse of dominant position. Taking into consideration, that bid-rigging is the most frequently detected competition law infringement, the CC will continue to work on promotion of the competition culture by educating entrepreneurs on how to avoid confusion of prohibited agreements during cooperation, and organizers of procurements on how to detect prohibited agreements in tenderers.

In order to analyse the competition situation on markets comprehensively, the CC will study as a priority such sectors as energy, digital economy, pharmacy, banking, public procurements, as well as cooperation of retailers and suppliers of food products. These are sectors, where obstacles for efficient development of competition can be observed or where the interaction of regulation and market functioning is not clear enough, or where complaints on alleged infringements of competition law are received frequently in recent years.

Also in this year the CC calls companies and their associations, as well as each inhabitant of Latvia for cooperation, support and communication, in order to improve competition law, make the authority operation more efficient and to clarify the issues of application of competition law.

Competition protection in Latvia: year 2016 in numbers and facts

In the year 2016, the CC adopted in total six decisions, imposing fines in total amount of 1 657 196.70 euros on 16 undertakings.

3 Bid-rigging in public procurements

Abuse of market power by dominant companies **2**

1 Failure to execute lawful requests of the CC



4.8 million euros of fines were paid into the state budget for competition law infringements in 2016

The companies are obliged to pay fines when court proceedings are finished concerning the CC decision, if it has been appealed, or the authority concludes an administrative agreement with the offender.

Thus the offenders of the competition law not only partially compensate to the state a share of their unlawfully gained profit but also it helps to reduce the desire to repeat the infringement.

Previously imposed fines in the amount of EUR 4,867,133.87 were paid into the state budget in 2016

Mergers and cooperation agreements in 2016

In the last year, the CC assessed 12 mergers, all of which were authorized without revealing risks for future competition in the relevant market. The CC also authorized two notified cooperation agreements finding that efficiencies expected outweighed the possible harm to competition.

Since the amendments to the Competition Law, supervision of mergers was improved. Namely, notification criteria for large merger transactions were changed, excluding the market share criterion, and also a state fee for examination of mergers was introduced. As a result, merger participants paid EUR 44,000 into the state budget.



Court proceedings in 2016

12 court proceedings concerning appealed decisions of the CC were terminated in the previous year, where in ten cases the decision of the CC was upheld, including after conclusion of administrative agreements or settlement with a company.

Among the most significant court judgments shall be mentioned the Supreme Court judgment to leave effective the decision of the CC in AS "Latvijas Gāze" case.

In 2013, the CC found that AS „Latvijas Gāze” has abused its dominant position by refusing to conclude natural gas vendor contracts with new clients before debts accumulated by previous clients were paid.



Research on behalf of the CC was carried out by the research provider Factum from 1 September to 7 October, 2016.

Public Bodies involvement into commercial activities is named as the Most Significant Competition Issue

Public bodies' involvement into commercial activities is named as the most significant competition issue by more than half of respondents of public opinion poll carried out by the CC. Meanwhile, the most frequently detected competition law infringement in Latvia – bid-rigging – ranks in the second place.

The CC carries out public opinion poll every two years since 2012 to assess awareness of competition issues in various social groups and thus the CC can improve its performance as the competition policy enforcer. This year, the CC besides entrepreneurs, associations, law offices also included municipalities as a respondent group.

As the most significant competition concern, 61 % of entrepreneurs and 50 % of associations named involvement into businesses by public bodies – state and municipality undertakings. Meanwhile, 68 % of entrepreneurs indicated that the main issue which should be averted by the CC are competition distortions created by decisions of public bodies. Such opinion expressed 80 % of associations and 57 % of municipalities.

Currently, public bodies are obligated to consult the CC before they get involved into commercial activities and the CC gives recommending opinion. In order to prevent competition distortions created by public bodies, amendment project to the Competition Law has been drafted.

Furthermore, 73 % of municipalities as the most significant competition issue name bid-rigging cartels. Similar opinion expressed 49 % entrepreneurs and 30 % of associations, ranking bid-rigging in the second place.

Comparing to previous public opinion polls, this year there is a significant increase of the number of respondents believing that the CC's decisions influence markets positively – 82 %. This year, similarly as previous years, respondents who have faced the CC, most appreciate the fact that the CC is easy to communicate with and employees of the CC are responsive. In 2016, entrepreneurs more often has given the higher ranking to aspect that "Employees of the CC listen to and take into account the views of entrepreneurs."

Similarly to the previous public opinion polls, this year respondents have named energy, construction, medicine, finances and insurances as the industries which the CC should pay more attention to.



Restoration of credibility – a possibility for bid-rigging participants to restore their trust and to participate in procurement

Since the amendments to the Public Procurements Law, the CC launched a new practice in the last year – giving its opinion on whether a company may have regained its credibility and may be allowed to participate in procurements also when having a one-year prohibition to do so.

When giving such an opinion, the CC considers several criteria, for example, what has been previous cooperation of the company with the authority within the investigation process of the relevant case, whether the company has paid the fine imposed by the CC, what measures the company has implemented to mitigate the risk of infringements of the Competition Law in the company, for example, whether any structural changes have been made, guidelines for compliance with competition law are developed, etc.

The CC has no objections to participation of applicant in a procurement before the expiration of prohibition period, if it has concluded, that the company has implemented all necessary measures for restoration of credibility and preventing occurrence of equivalent or similar infringements in the future. However, the decision on non-exclusion of the company from procurement is made by the procurement organizer.

In the last year, the CC gave a positive opinion in total to eight companies.

The decision, that a company has implemented all necessary measures for restoration of credibility and is entitled to participate in a procurement of public services, is made by the procurement organizer.

The CC prohibits RIMI from opening a shop on the premises of "DOMINA SHOPPING"

On 12 January 2017, the CC adopted a decision to prohibit SIA "RIMI LATVIA" (RIMI) from using retail premises on the shopping centre "DOMINA Shopping" in Riga, the capital of Latvia.

The CC concluded, that this transaction would cause significant harm to competition, strengthening the retailer's position on the market, therefore, this transaction shall be prohibited.

Currently, RIMI operates in seven shopping centres out of ten on the relevant market. Since the number of shopping centres is limited, other retailers have limited possibilities to enter this segment and develop efficiently.

After assessment of the circumstances, the CC detected, that implementation of this transaction would increase the market power and strengthen position of RIMI in market of daily consumption goods retail trade in particular in the segment of shopping centres.

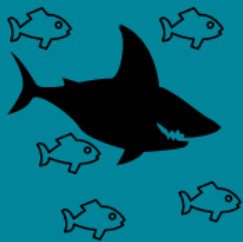
At the same time, such a transaction would increase the market power of RIMI on the daily consumption goods procurement market of Latvia, acquiring more favourable conditions from suppliers than their competitors. The CC also concluded, that the transaction would even further reduce possibilities to exercise a long-term competitive pressure exercised by competitors and, consequently, also reduce the choice of consumers.

Abuse of market power by dominant companies

In 2016, the CC adopted two decisions on abuse of dominant position by three companies, imposing fines in the total amount of EUR 1,349,187.90.

Also in the case of alleged abusive conduct by dominant companies the authority is entitled not to initiate an infringement case and eliminate smaller infringements through the negotiations procedure. By using this method the CC eliminated four cases of abuse of market power by dominant companies in the previous year, and in one case settled an alleged infringement of the Advertising Law.

The company has a dominant position, if it is able to considerably deform competition on the market for a sufficiently long period of time, operating fully or partially independent from competitors, customers, suppliers or consumers.



Companies having the dominant position are not allowed to implement:

- Groundless restriction of operation
- Groundless non-cooperation
- Imposing of unfair prices
- Tying of goods
- Unequal conditions for equivalent transactions



The CC fines with EUR 1.3 million two Plasterboard Suppliers of Knauf Group

On 30 September 2016, the CC fined SIA Knauf and Norgips sp. z o. o. (Poland), a parent company of SIA Norgips that is also a part of a Knauf Group, for abusing their market power by creating and implementing anti-competitive loyalty rebates system. A fine was imposed on both companies at the amount of EUR 1 345 161.42.

The CC opened a formal case investigation after commencing sector inquiry into the market of plasterboard manufacturing and distribution in 2013. During the inquiry, the CC obtained information on alleged abuse of market power by dominant plasterboard manufacturer and distributor in Latvia SIA Knauf and SIA Norgips.

During the case investigation, the CC concluded that SIA Knauf and SIA Norgips had created and at least from 2009 to 2014 implemented anti-competitive loyalty rebate system to their clients which are the largest Latvian retailers of building materials. The system laid down conditions of receiving individualized, retroactive loyalty rebates. For at least five years these anti-competitive conditions motivated retailers to purchase plasterboard together with other building materials primarily and at the maximum possible capacity from the Knauf Group companies.

The CC points that discount systems themselves are not anti-competitive if economically justified and based on economies of scale and scope. While in this case loyalty rebate system was designed as a reward in case retailers refrained for purchasing plasterboard and other building materials from alternative sources. This way, SIA Knauf and SIA Norgips in fact established exclusive dealing conditions with the largest Latvian retailers of building materials.

Thus, anti-competitive loyalty rebate system applied by SIA Knauf and SIA Norgips restricted retailers' choice and access to other suppliers of plasterboard in Latvia. Furthermore, both companies created high entry barriers in Latvian market for its competitors, and hindered the competition development in the market as a whole. Meanwhile, SIA Knauf and SIA Norgips were able to protect and to hold their position and dominance in the market.

The CC for the first time analysed whether loyalty rebate systems designed and implemented by a dominant undertaking constituted a competition law infringement. In the case investigation, the CC followed the practice of the European Court of Justice which has repeatedly emphasized – if contracts concluded by the dominant company provides or unilaterally applies rebates that are decent on whether all or part of the purchase is made from the dominant undertaking, the dominant undertaking violates prohibition of abuse of dominance.



Leniency programme - an opportunity for an undertaking to gain immunity



Māris Spička, the CC Executive Director: It is never too late to confess involvement in a cartel

As the year 2017 has just started, the CC, as usual, implements active work, carrying out research and supervision of competition on various markets.

Among other things, the CC investigates possible infringements of the Competition Law, imposing fines on large and small companies.

Among infringements of the Competition law there are prohibited agreements of companies, where the most severe of them are cartel agreements – agreements of competitors on, for example, submission of mutually coordinated offers in procurements, division of customers and markets, or prices of goods and services, offered by these companies. Examples of prohibited agreements in a non-exhaustive way are listed in section 11(1) of the Competition Law.

If the CC detects a cartel infringement, the fines imposed on participants of cartel agreements are quite severe – they can reach even 10% of net turnover of the company in the last year at the moment of detecting the infringement. Moreover, if a company actively participates in public procurements, a decision of the CC also means exclusion of the company from participation in these procurements for one year. It should be kept in mind, that a fine may be imposed also on the company that has promoted this cartel, for example, the company that has acted as an intermediary or supporter, facilitating the cartel activities.

At the same time, it is important to remember, that even when the CC already investigates the alleged suspicion of infringement, companies should not passively watch and wait the inevitable, criticizing the system and stubbornly believing, that it is a conspiracy in order to ruin companies. The goal of the CC is to protect fair competition and eliminate its distortions, and one method to achieve it is to hold liable those companies that operate against fair competition. And in such moments, although a fine for an infringement may be inevitable, companies can always try to reduce it (or even become fully exempted from a fine) by actively and timely cooperating with the CC.

Types of cooperation with the CC during investigation of a case can be different, for example, provision of information for mitigating responsibility, or settlement offer; however, cooperation of a company within the framework of the leniency programme has to be emphasized as the most favourable of all legal solutions in the case of cartel agreement.

What is the leniency programme?

Participation in bid-rigging is the most severe infringement of the Competition Law; therefore a fine for this infringement can reach up to 10% of the company turnover in the previous financial year, and also participation in public procurements is prohibited for one year.

The leniency programme is a possibility for a company, which is or has been involved in bid-rigging, to voluntarily submit evidence on the relevant infringement to the CC and obtain full exemption from the fine and the prohibition to participate in public procurements.

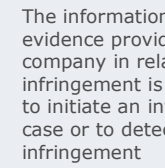
How the programme works?



A company shall first submit a written application to the CC upon its own initiative



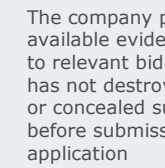
At the moment of submission of the application the CC has not sufficient evidence to be able to initiate an investigation case or to detect an infringement



The information and evidence provided by the company in relation to the infringement is sufficient to initiate an investigation case or to detect an infringement



After submission of application, the company has immediately terminated participation in bid-rigging, unless the CC has determined otherwise



The company provides all available evidence, related to relevant bid-rigging, and has not destroyed, falsified or concealed such evidence before submission of application



The company has not revealed the fact of cooperation with the CC neither to participations of bid-rigging, nor to other persons

The company has not been the initiator of respective bid-rigging and has not implemented any activities to force other companies to participate in bid-rigging



Bid-rigging schemes in public procurements – still the most widespread infringement

In the last year, the CC adopted 5 decisions on the most severe infringement of the competition law – prohibited agreements.

In 3 cases the CC detected bid-rigging agreements in public procurements and imposed fines in the total amount of EUR 294,833.45 on 12 companies.

2 bid-rigging agreements were implemented in total in 34 construction procurement procedures, and one – in 4 various medical equipment procurements.

In 2 cases the CC decided to terminate the case investigation, because the obtained evidence was not sufficient to detect infringements.

By using the rights of the CC to prioritize its activities according to the Competition Law, in 6 similar, but smaller scale or significance alleged prohibited agreement cases the CC warned 21 persons without initiating formal investigation.



**Help to detect an infringement!
Report without revealing your identity!**

Although it seems complicated, it is not so in reality. Still, a company has to be prepared to make its contribution in achieving a positive result and comply with certain conditions. Furthermore, if a company executes requirements of the leniency programme in good faith, exclusion for one year from participation in public procurements will not be applied on this company.

Clearly and formally – detailed regulation of the leniency programme is available in section 12¹ of the Competition Law and in the Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers[1]. But in more simple words – it is a method, how a company can obtain reduction of a fine or even become fully exempted from it in exchange for significant information on the cartel agreement, when the CC detects an infringement. Representatives of the CC are always open also for confidential consultations and are ready to explain all aspects of the leniency programme via phone or by meeting in person.

Looking through all small details in relation to the leniency programme, the main accent is put on two issues – when to address the CC and what will happen with the fine – will it be reduction or full exemption?

Answering the first question – a company can address the CC before it has addressed the company with news, that a case is initiated against it, or still – within the framework of initiated case. All activities of a company shall be accompanied by awareness of the company, that its conduct has resulted in competition being limited on the market, and the desire to eliminate and correct the existing situation.

Answering the second question, it depends on when a company addresses the CC, and significance of the provided information.

If a company visits the CC before it has itself obtained information on alleged suspicion of cartel agreement and the information provided by the company reveals existence and operation of cartel agreement, the company may be fully exempted from a fine, if the CC detects an infringement. However, it is not the only case – exemption from a fine still can be obtained also within an already initiated case – if the CC has information, but it is insufficient to detect an infringement. It is quite obviously confirmed also in section 12¹ of the Competition Law. It has to be considered, that only the first reporting company is entitled for full exemption. In other instances, if the provided information is significant, a company can obtain reduction up to 50% of the final fine, if an infringement is detected. However, the potential risk has to be always remembered – any other company can become the first to report, because several companies are entitled to submit leniency programme applications within one case. And, the later an application is submitted, the smaller will be reduction of a fine.

In any case – cartel agreements will always be the priority of the CC as the most severe infringements of competition law. And it seems, that cartel agreements will not disappear so soon – this is confirmed by the fact, that none of the European Union Member States has managed to eradicate cartel agreements regardless of traditions of free commercial activity in each of them. Although it is impossible to detect all concealed agreements, cartel agreements are most frequent infringements of competition law, detected by the CC each year. Therefore, by planning cooperation with the CC in a forward-looking and strategic manner, a company can only benefit in the case of existence of cartel agreement. Moreover, it is better to understand own mistakes timely instead of waiting, when the CC will start investigation. Then there will be much less possibilities to avoid a fine.

[1] Cabinet of Ministers Regulations No. 179 "Procedures for the Determination of Fines for the Violations Provided for in Section 11, Paragraph 1 and Section 13 of the Competition Law and Sections 5, 6, 7 and 8 of the Unfair Retail Trade Practices Prohibition Law" of 29.03.2016



Global Competition Review women in antitrust 2016: Skaidrite Ābrama

The Chairwoman of the CC S. Ābrama was named as one of the Global Competition Review's top 100 women in antitrust for her contributions to the field of competition law.

The Chairwoman of the CC S. Ābrama: "I work in an institution where more than 70% of employees are women. This nomination is an acknowledgement not only for me, but also for all female employees, demonstrating the value of their contribution."

Women in Antitrust honours "elite women making their mark on the global competition community," including expert economists, attorneys, regulators, and academics around the world.

The report can be read by GCR online subscribers [here](#).

Leading Economists meet in Riga to discuss economic issues for competition policy

On 18 October 2016 Chief Competition Economist working group meeting of the European Competition Network (ECN) for the first time took place in Riga, Latvia. More than 35 chief economists from the competition authorities gathered together at the CC to discuss methodological issues of economics and econometrics in the application of competition rules.

The meeting was organised by the European Commission in cooperation with the CC and was opened by the new Chief Economist Professor Tommaso Vallett.

The meeting was honoured by the previous Chief Economist Professor Massimo Motta, who is one of the world's leading economic experts. Professor M. Motta in his presentation analysed a concept of exploitative pricing abuses by dominant undertakings. Such issues have become more topical not only in Latvia but also in many other countries in Europe. Therefore, these discussions might introduce new and more effective approaches against an exploitative abuse.

ECN has been established as a forum for discussion and cooperation of European competition authorities in cases where Articles 101 (prohibited agreements) and 102 (an abuse of dominant position) of the Treaty of the Functioning of the EU are applied. The objective of the ECN is to build an effective legal framework to enforce EC competition law against companies who engage in cross-border business practices which restrict competition and are therefore anti-consumer.

The EU Commission and competition authorities from EU member states cooperate with each other through the ECN by - informing each other of new cases and envisaged enforcement decisions, coordinating investigations, where necessary, helping each other with investigations and discussing various issues of common interest.

Dmitrijs Skoruks, Head of Economic Analysis Unit of the CC: "Competition law should be seen as more than a sticky legislation. There is always room for improvement, especially by developing new methods of economic analysis."



Changes to the composition of the CC decision-making institution

On 14 November of the last year, execution of duties of the Member of the CC was commenced by Mr Ivars Kassalis, who was approved in this position by the Cabinet of Ministers.

The competition commission, established by the Ministry of Economics, recognized Mr I. Kassalis as the most suitable candidate for the position of the Member of the CC, so his candidacy was moved forward for approval by the Cabinet of Ministers. The competition commission highly appreciated professional knowledge of I. Kassalis and previous experience in international companies – in the areas of management, business development, customer service, finance planning and administration, and also highly evaluated his acquired education – Master's degree in social sciences and PhD in economics.

The decision-making institution of the CC is composed of three officials – the Chairwoman of the CC and two Members of the Council.

Currently, the CC is managed by the Chairwoman Mrs Skaidrīte Ābrama (approved in the position on 12 June 2012), whereas duties of the second Member of the Council are performed by Mr Jānis Račko (approved in the position on 7 January 2014).



Please, tell us briefly, how your previous experience in the financial area and accumulated knowledge in various sectors could be used in the position of the Member of the Competition Council?

I have worked in the financial area for almost 15 years, a significant part of this period working with corporate customers of banks - assessing various business projects and helping to implement them. So I have acquired knowledge on various economy sectors and major challenges in these sectors. I think, that this previously mentioned experience is useful to be able to better understand economic aspects of various competition

issues, which are necessary for assessment and decision-making in competition affairs.

What have been your “relations” with competition policy until now? What was your motivation to join the team of the Competition Council?

I have faced competition issues indirectly also while working in the financial area. This experience was more related through the prism of companies – mergers of companies in projects financed by the bank, also a permit of the CC was necessary. Thereby, I had a good opportunity to understand attitude and activities of companies in relation to competition issues.

How would you assess competition in Latvia in general? Are there any new sectors, where problems are observed?

I think, that the competition culture in Latvia improves and increasingly more companies pay attention to competition issues and do their best to ensure, that potential infringements of the competition law are prevented in their operation. I think, that a significant role in normalisation of the competition environment was played also by active operation of the CC in recent years.

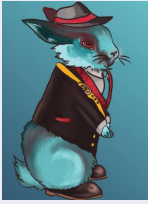
In many areas in Latvia public and municipal capital companies compete with private companies. How “healthy” it is?

I hold a view, that public and municipal capital companies should not engage in areas, where the private business can function good enough. This situation distorts competition, because in the process of competing public and municipal capital companies frequently use their administrative power and resources, moreover, they can afford be inefficient in their operation, because an option to receive additional grant from the state budget will be available. A private entrepreneur has to think about efficiency and innovations more, as a result of which the consumer could receive more competitive goods or services.

Riga City Council recently made a decision on initiation of the process of public and private partnership for selection of the manager of household waste. This decision is substantiated with economic benefits. How do you assess such a decision, will it be economically beneficial for residents of Riga?

Now it is too early to make strict conclusions, while the competition regulations are in the development stage. I don't see anything bad in the fact, that the model of public and private partnership is chosen. This form of cooperation is used already for many years also in other Member States of the European Union. Concerns arise in relation to separate provisions of the developed regulations, specifically, the 20-year term, which may cause competition problems in the sector and negatively influence tariffs for residents of Riga in the long-term perspective.

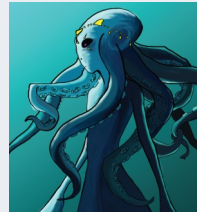
Open Doors Day: an insight to the work of the CC



On 30 September 2016, the CC together with the Ministry of Economics of Latvia and the Consumer Rights Protection Centre of Latvia welcomed school students from Riga and Salacgrīvas municipality, as well as other visitors interested in getting an insight into the work all three government institutions.

During the Open Doors day, visitors had an opportunity to meet experts in an informal atmosphere, discuss topicalities and find answers to questions, learn about the work of institutions.

Meanwhile school students (5th and 6th grade) had an opportunity to participate in an education orientation game "Catch Economic Pokémon" as a creative way to understand the work of all institutions. Like in a real orienteering competitions, the school groups had to find Pokémon and solve many educational tasks.



The Open Doors Day is a one-day event for the public to learn more about the work of state institutions. This year more than 100 state institutions and their regional structures opened their doors for the public.

CROSS COUNTRY SEMINARS "FAIR ENTREPRENEURSHIP"

Educational seminars for entrepreneurs and procurement specialists 2017./2018.

Rīga
Liepāja
Ventspils
Valmiera
Jelgava
Jēkabpils
Bauska
Rēzekne
Daugavpils
Jūrmala
Kuldīga



#FairEntrepreneurship #FairCompetition #CrossCountrySeminars

The CC launches cross country education seminars "Fair Entrepreneurship"

The CC in cooperation with the Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau (the KNAB) and the Procurement Monitoring Bureau (the PMB) launches cross country education seminars "Fair Entrepreneurship".

The objective of these seminars is to educate two target groups – representatives of public and municipal authorities, whose daily work is related to the procurement area, and entrepreneurs.

The CC in cooperation with the KNAB and the PMB will allow organizers of public and municipal procurements to raise their knowledge on the procurement area and promote their operational efficiency.

At the same time, entrepreneurs will have a chance to expand their knowledge about their rights in order to be able to successfully use the cooperation opportunities allowed by the law, to defend their interests, if the law is violated by another company, and to avoid law infringements due to lack of knowledge.

The educational seminars are organized in all largest cities of Latvia in 2017 and 2018.

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To get involved...

In order to make the newsletter according to your interests and needs, we invite you to suggest topics about which you would like to read in any of the next newsletter issues.

We also call you to apply for receiving the electronic version of the newsletter by completing an application on the homepage of the CC.

Help to detect an infringement!



Report without revealing your identity!

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