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INTERNATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE 2025

A conference presented by the IBA Antitrust Section

29th Annual Competition Conference

12–13 September 2025, The St Regis Florence, Florence, Italy

Working programme

Headline conference sponsors



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All speaker materials and biographies can be found at www.ibanet.org/conference-details/conf2350

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Kyriakos Fountoukakos *HSF Kramer, Brussels; Co-Chair, IBA Antitrust Section*

Catriona Hatton *Baker Botts, Brussels; Senior Vice Chair, IBA Antitrust Section*

Kristina Nordlander *Senior antitrust lawyer, London; Conference Quality Officer, IBA Antitrust Section*

Julian Peña *Allende & Brea, Buenos Aires; Co-Chair, IBA Antitrust Section*

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Andrew Ward *Stott Gómez-Acebo & Pombo, Madrid; Working Group Officer, IBA Antitrust Section*

Rein Wesseling *Stibbe, Amsterdam; Vice Chair, IBA Antitrust Section*

Chen Yang *JunHe, Beijing; Social Media and Website Officer, IBA Antitrust Section*

Friday 12 September

Registration will be held in the Montebello foyer
Coffee/tea breaks will take place in the Salone delle feste foyer
Working sessions will be held in the Salone delle feste ballroom
Lunch will be held in the Winter Garden restaurant

0800 – 1800

Registration

0800 – 0910

Welcome tea/coffee

0910 – 0915

Opening remarks

Speaker

Amir Singh Pasrich *International Law Affiliates, New Delhi, Delhi; LPD Secretary-Treasurer / IBA Treasurer*

0915 – 0930

Welcome remarks

Conference Co-Chairs

Kyriakos Fountoukakos *HSF Kramer, Brussels; Co-Chair, IBA Antitrust Section*

Julian Peña *Allende & Brea, Buenos Aires; Co-Chair, IBA Antitrust Section*

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Headline social event sponsors



Friday continued

0930 – 1000

Keynote address

Keynote speaker

Teresa Ribera *Executive Vice-President for a Clean, Just and Competitive Transition, Commissioner for Competition, European Commission, Brussels*

1000 – 1115

SESSION ONE

Enforcers roundtable

Heads of leading agencies will together discuss recent developments, what they are prioritising today and what they expect the focus of competition law to be going forward. They will also talk about how they coordinate their work and what international cooperation among the world's antitrust agencies will look like in the coming years.

Moderators

Kyriakos Fountoukakos *HSF Kramer, Brussels; Co-Chair, IBA Antitrust Section*

Julian Peña *Allende & Brea, Buenos Aires; Co-Chair, IBA Antitrust Section*

Speakers

Benoît Coeuré *President, Autorité de la concurrence, Paris*

Nuno Cunha Rodrigues *President, Autoridade da Concorrência, Lisbon*

Juliette Enser *Executive Director, Competition Enforcement, Capital Markets Authority, London*

Cani Fernández *President, Comisión Nacional de los Mercados y la Competencia, Madrid*

Linsey McCallum *Acting Director-General and Deputy Director-General for Antitrust, Directorate-General for Competition, European Commission, Brussels*

1115 – 1145

Coffee/tea break

1145 – 1300

SESSION TWO

Damages actions: the state of play and impact on the competition enforcement landscape

Leading antitrust practitioners will discuss the latest trends, challenges, and opportunities in antitrust damages litigation worldwide, including the impact of recent legislative and judicial developments, the role of collective actions and class proceedings, the increasing influence of litigation funding in enabling claims, and the changing role of antitrust damages litigation as a form of enforcement.

Moderators

Andrew Ward *Gómez-Acebo & Pombo, Madrid; Working Group Officer, IBA Antitrust Section*

Rein Wesseling *Stibbe, Amsterdam; Vice Chair, IBA Antitrust Section*

Speakers

Steven Cernak *Bona Law, Detroit, Michigan*

Anthony Maton *Hausfeld, London*

Simon McCarthy *General Counsel, Strategic Litigation, Iveco Group, London*

Elizabeth Richmond *Clifford Chance, Sydney; New South Wales*

1300 – 1500

Lunch

Speaker

Ariel Ezrachi *Professor of Competition Law, Director, Centre for Competition Law and Policy, University of Oxford, Oxford*

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Conference reception sponsor



1500 – 1630

SESSION THREE

Access terms and interoperability in digital platforms

As digital platforms increasingly function as essential gateways to online markets and consumers, ensuring fair access and effective interoperability has become a central concern for competition enforcement and regulation. This panel will explore the evolving legal and economic dimensions of access terms—particularly how dominant platforms set conditions for business users, third-party developers, and competitors. Key topics include the tension between privacy and data portability, self-preferencing and discriminatory access, the role of APIs and technical standards in enabling (or impeding) interoperability, and how the Digital Markets Act (DMA) reshapes obligations for gatekeepers in this context. With recent enforcement actions and legislative developments across the EU and globally, the discussion will assess how regulators and courts are balancing innovation incentives with the need to prevent digital foreclosure and preserve open digital ecosystems.

Moderators

Zoltán Marosi *DLA Piper, Budapest; Working Group Officer, IBA Antitrust Section*

Kristina Nordlander *Senior antitrust lawyer, London; Conference Quality Officer, IBA Antitrust Section*

Speakers

Alberto Bacchiega *Director for Digital Platforms, DG Competition, European Commission, Brussels*

Sarretta McDonough *Global Antitrust Counsel, Intel Corporation, Santa Clara, California; North American Regional Representative, IBA Antitrust Section*

Jorge Padilla *Chair, Compass Lexecon Europe, Madrid*

Nicolas Petit *Professor of Competition Law, European University Institute, Florence*

1630 – 1700

Coffee/tea break

1700 – 1815

SESSION FOUR

Information exchange in the digital age, signalling and algorithmic pricing

In the digital age, concerns around traditional pricing cartels are being reshaped by the rise of algorithmic pricing and automated information exchange. This session will explore the latest developments in enforcement, provide practical guidance for companies and consider the fine line between the legitimate use of data and anti-competitive behaviour.

Moderators

Alastair Mordaunt *Freshfields, London; Secretary, IBA Antitrust Section*

Mariana Tavares de Araujo *Levy & Salomão, Rio de Janeiro; Publications Officer, IBA Antitrust Section*

Speakers

Marcelo Calliari *TozziniFreire, São Paulo*

David Foster *Director, Frontier Economics, London*

Jeffrey Steven Jacobovitz *Arnall Golden Gregory, Washington DC*

Petra Linsmeier *Gleiss Lutz, Brussels; Diversity and Inclusion Officer, IBA Antitrust Section*

Gerald Miersch *Head of Unit, Cartels IV, DG Competition, European Commission, Brussels*

1830 – 2000

Conference reception

Cosimo Rooftop Terrace Bar and Restaurant

The Excelsior, a Luxury Collection Hotel

Piazza Ognissanti 1/3, 50123

Florence, Italy

All registered delegates and speakers who are registered for the full conference are welcome to attend.

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Registration will be held in the Montebello foyer
Coffee/ tea breaks will be held in the Salone delle feste foyer
Working sessions will be held in the Salone delle feste ballroom

0930 – 1245

Registration

0930 – 1000

Welcome tea/coffee

1000 – 1030

Keynote address

Keynote speaker

Chairman Eiji Chatani *Chair, Japan Fair Trade Commission, Tokyo*

1030 – 1145

SESSION FIVE

A new era for merger control: industrial policy, competitiveness and innovation

With an increasing focus on national and regional competitiveness and industrial policy agendas aimed at removing regulatory barriers to economic growth and innovation, are the rules of the game changing for merger control? The panel will discuss the impact of Europe's Draghi report, the CMA's "political reset", the new US administration, and other international developments and how these are playing out in merger enforcement.

Moderators

Samir Gandhi *Axiom5 Law Chambers, New Delhi, Delhi; Senior Vice Chair, IBA Antitrust Section*

Catriona Hatton *Baker Botts, Brussels; Senior Vice Chair, IBA Antitrust Section*

Speakers

Inge Bernaerts *Director for Strategy and Policy, DG Competition, European Commission, Brussels*

Marcio Dias Soares *Mattos Filho, Rio de Janeiro*

Fabio Falconi *A P Moller Maersk, Copenhagen*

Nicholas Levy *Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton, London*

Margaret Segall *Cravath Swaine & Moore, New York; Publications Officer, IBA Antitrust Section*

1145 – 1215

Coffee/tea break

1215 – 1300

The Michael Reynolds interview

Interviewer

Thomas Janssens *Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, Brussels; Member, IBA Antitrust Section Advisory Board*

Interviewee

Olivier Guersent *Former Director General, DG Competition, European Commission, Brussels*

1300

Closing remarks

Conference Co-Chairs

Kyriakos Fountoukakos *HSF Kramer, Brussels; Co-Chair, IBA Antitrust Section*

Julian Peña *Allende & Brea, Buenos Aires; Co-Chair, IBA Antitrust Section*

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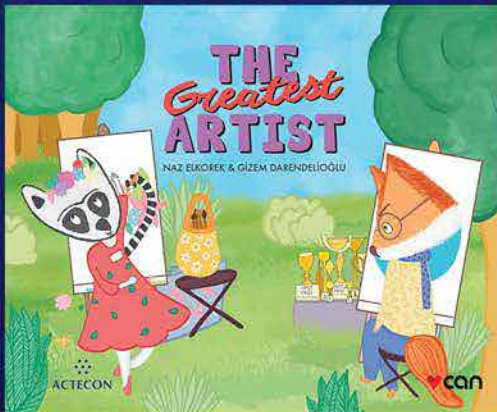
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