



UNIVERSITEIT VAN AMSTERDAM  
*Amsterdam Center for Law & Economics*

## **WORKSHOP PREANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS**

The Amsterdam Center for Law & Economics (ACLE) organizes its fourth annual Competition & Regulation Meeting on the specialty topic of

### **DG Competition Data**

April 10-11, 2008  
University of Amsterdam  
Amsterdam, The Netherlands

### **Introduction to the topic**

Several on-going research projects study the enforcement activities of the Directorate General for Competition of the European Commission. These studies include quantitative analyses of antitrust complaints, cartel infringements and merger decisions, trends in fines, and rescuing and restructuring State aids. The projects are often based on data sets that were collected by individual researchers from public sources such as the *Official Journal* publications of the EC. Gradually, papers reporting on findings are coming out now.

The aim of this workshop is to bring scholars working in this specialty area together in an intimate setting to discuss each others work. Apart from interesting findings, various ways in which to interpret them, and further research questions and hypotheses that could be put to the data, topics to discuss in this workshop include potential issues with the quality of the data. After all, what we observe – with few exceptions – is the output of DG Competition: cases that led to a successful formal decision. We have no good and systematic way of knowing the total input of complaints, Commission suspicions or leniency applications out of which these eventual decisions were selected for production. Even less do we know about the entire population of competition law violations out there, from which the Commission's input – and therefore certainly her output – is likely to be a biased sample.

### **An intimate C&R Meeting**

The workshop will be small-scale. Therefore, participation will be on invitation only. The objective is to freely discuss work in progress and brainstorm about possible directions in which to further research. We have already involved a number of leading scholars in the Academic Program Committee. This call for papers is meant to solicit further submissions of work (in progress) by others (including PhD students) active in this area.

We will use the response to this call to produce a two-day program of invited papers. There will be ample opportunity to present and discuss. Each paper will be assigned a discussant. There will also be opportunity to work individually or in small groups on specific issues. Furthermore, we

intend to invite several experts, including experienced senior competition lawyers and Commission officials, to comment on the work presented from the floor.

### **Call for papers – Submission Procedure**

Academics, practitioners and officials working with competition law enforcement data are invited to submit their research results, as well as work in progress, to be considered for inclusion in the program. We welcome all original research of high quality that is related to this specialized workshop topic. Please note, however, that we have to limit participation in the workshop to a small and specialized group of no more than 35 scholars in total.

Submissions for inclusion in the program (full papers or abstracts) may be sent – with electronic and regular author’s address information – by email to:

[ACLE@uva.nl](mailto:ACLE@uva.nl)

Please indicate: submission for ACLE workshop ‘DG Competition Data’.

The deadline for submission is March 1st 2008. The Academic Program Committee consists of: Stephen Davies (University of East Anglia), Tomaso Duso (WZB Berlin), Martin Carree (Maastricht University), Jordi Gual (IESE Business School), Andrea Günster (Maastricht University) Christopher Harding (Aberystwyth University), Bruce Lyons (University of East Anglia), Núria Mas (IESE Business School), Francesco Russo (Bonelli Erede & Pappalardo and University of Amsterdam), Maarten Pieter Schinkel (University of Amsterdam, chair) and Floris Vogelaar (University of Amsterdam). The committee will produce a two-day program based on the response to this call. Decisions on acceptance into the program will be communicated before 15 March, when authors of selected papers will be invited to the workshop.

For further information, contact the ACLE office at +31 (0)20 525 4162 or by email at [ACLE@uva.nl](mailto:ACLE@uva.nl). Details on registration, fees and arrangements for accommodation and travel will be communicated later and kept up-to-date at <http://dgcompdata.acle.nl>

### **Note for regular ACLE conference visitors**

For several reasons, including the 10th anniversary of the NMa this year, we have decided to keep this 2008 C&R meeting small-scale. Next year, we are planning a regular conference again. It will be a two-day event on the topic “Private Information and Incentives to Enforce and Comply”. Joe Harrington (Johns Hopkins) and Giancarlo Spagnolo (University of Rome “Tor Vergata”) have already agreed to contribute. More information and a call for papers will follow soon.



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