

 25 February 2021

 13:00 – 19:00 CET (7:00 – 13:00 EST)

 Registration: [Here](#)

 Documentation: <https://oe.cd/gicp>

AGENDA

The fight for gender equality is one of the defining challenges of our age. While progress has been made in many areas, the relationship between gender and competition policy remains largely unexplored. Competition policy usually thinks in terms of consumers and firms, government and regulators. Traditionally, consumers have been considered only by their willingness to pay, their (rational) preferences, their ability to substitute between products offered by firms. Meanwhile, firms are treated as entities that are defined by the profit-maximising objectives of their owners, and only rarely seen as collections of people. Competition policy is therefore largely gender blind and prides itself on its objectivity. However, in 2018, the OECD began to explore whether a gender lens might in fact help deliver a more effective competition policy by identifying additional relevant features of the market, and of the behaviour of consumers and firms, as well as whether a more effective competition policy can in turn help to address gender inequality.

After producing a series of blogs, papers, interviews and discussions the OECD therefore launched its Gender Inclusive Competition Policy project in the summer of 2020 with the support of the Canadian Government. As part of the project, the OECD asked research teams from around the world to generate new evidence to inform the debate and help us to develop guidance on how to develop a more gender inclusive competition policy. This open workshop will therefore hear from seven selected research teams that are exploring these issues in order to identify practical steps that competition agencies can take. These projects are still at an early stage but will be finalised by the summer and so this is a timely opportunity to hear about the scope and progress of these projects and to discuss both their approach and their possible implications.

12:45 – 13:00 **Link open for registered participants**

13:00 – 13:05 **Welcome and Opening Remarks by Mathilde Mesnard, Deputy Director, Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs, OECD**

Introduction by Chris Pike, OECD

PART 1: Cartels and Collusion

This session will explore the relationship between collusion and the diversity of corporate boards and senior management, and ask whether a lack of diversity facilitates co-ordination and preserve cartel stability. It will look at whether there are gender differences in propensity to collude or to whistle blow and it will consider whether there are ways to improve enforcement and compliance in light of these insights.

Session Chair: Isolde Lueckenhausen (OECD & ACCC, Australia)

13:05 – 15:00 **Presentation by Justus Haucap (DICE), Christina Heldman (DICE) and Holger Rau (University of Göttingen)**

- Discussants: Jamie Smith (Senior Economist, Fijian Competition & Consumer Commission) and Michelle Cleary (Senior Consultant, The Brattle Group, USA)
- Open Q&A

Presentation by Joan-Ramon Borrell (University of Barcelona), José Manuel Ordóñez-de-Haro (University of Malaga), Carmen García & Juan-Luis Jiménez (both University of Las Palmas)

- Discussants: Lilian S. M. Severino (Deputy Chief-Economist, CADE, Brazil) and Inês Neves, (Lecturer, Faculty of Law, University of Porto, and Associate, Morais Leitão, Portugal)
- Open Q&A

Presentation by Alexis Brunelle (Autorité de la Concurrence) and Carolina Abate (OECD)

- Discussants: María Manuela Palacio (International affairs, SIC, Colombian Competition Authority) and Sarah Long (Partner, Euclid Law, UK)
- Open Q&A

15:00 – 16:00 Coffee Break

PART 2: Market Definition

This session will explore how a gender lens may affect market definition analysis in merger reviews and antitrust investigations. It will explore the potential impact of using a gender lens when designing or interpreting consumer surveys, or undertaking critical loss analysis and event studies commonly employed in market definition assessments.

16:00 – 17:15 Presentation by Lola Damstra, Gunnar Niels and Nicole Rosenboom (Oxera)

- Discussants: Alessandra Tonazzi (Director of International, AGCM, Italian Competition Authority) and Gabrielle Kohlmeier (Associate General Counsel, Verizon, US)
- Open Q&A

Presentation by Marissa Ginn and Johanna Posch (Analysis Group)

- Discussants: Javier García-Verdugo (Chief Economic Advisor, CNMC, Spanish Competition Authority) and Amanda Athayde (Co-Founder of Women in Antitrust Brazil and University of Brasília).
- Open Q&A

PART 3: Prioritisation and Public Interest approach

This session will look at how agencies with a consumer welfare focus can use budgeting, resource allocation, and project selection decisions to prioritise what they focus upon. It will also look at what lessons can be learned from South Africa's experience in using its competition law to address the country's past economic social and racial disparities by assessing effects on Historically Disadvantaged Persons.

17:15 – 18:30 Presentation by Bill Kovacic (George Washington University and CMA)

- Discussants: Natalie Harsdorf (Acting Managing Director, BWB, Austrian Competition Authority), and Michelle Meagher (Senior Policy Fellow, University College London, UK)
- Open Q&A

Presentation by Mpumelelo Tshabalala (Competition Tribunal of South Africa), Betty Mkhathswa (Gilbert & Tobin) and Sonia Phalatse (Institute for Economic Justice)

- Discussants: Marie Hélène Brière (Competition Law Officer, Canadian Competition Bureau) and Oles Andriychuk (Senior Lecturer in Competition and Internet Law, University of Strathclyde, UK)
- Open Q&A

CLOSING REMARKS

**18.30 – 19:00 Final comments from the floor
Closing remarks by Antonio Capobianco, Acting Head, Competition Division, OECD**