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Global Competition Law

Centre



European Economic and Social Committee



European Committee  
of the Regions

## Sustainability and Competition Policy: Bridging two Worlds to Enable a Fairer Economy

24 October 2019

European Committee of the Regions / European Economic and Social Committee  
Jacques Delors Building – JDE 52, Rue Belliard 99/101, Brussels

- 08:30 – 09:00      **Registration**
- 09:00 – 09:10      **Welcome**  
- Luca Jahier, President of the European Economic and Social Committee
- 09:10 – 09:25      **Presentation of the Conference**  
- Dario Soto Abril, CEO at Fairtrade International  
- Alec Burnside, Dechert LLP (counsel to the FTAO)
- 09:25 – 09:50      **Keynote Speech**  
Margrethe Vestager, EU Commissioner for Competition
- 09:50 – 11:05      **Consumer Welfare under Pressure: Time for a Restatement?**  
*Chair:* Michael Weiner, Dechert LLP (counsel to the FTAO)  
  
*Speakers:*  
- Jonathan Baker, American University  
- Cristina Caffarra, Charles River Associates  
- Lina Khan, U.S. House Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial and Administrative Law  
- Assimakis Komninos, GCLC/White & Case LLP
- 11:05 – 11:20      **Coffee break**

- 11:20 – 12:35      **Antitrust Challenges to Lawfully Pursuing Sustainability Goals: the example of the cocoa supply chain and beyond**  
*Chair:* Alec Burnside, Dechert LLP (counsel to the FTAO)
- Speakers:*
- Logan Breed (Hogan Lovells LLP), for the World Cocoa Foundation
  - Dirk Middelschulte, Unilever
  - Martin Oesch, Barry Callebaut
  - Christoph Leibenath, Nestlé
- 12:35 – 14:05      **Lunch**
- 14:05 – 15:15      **Sustainability Goals: How to Factor them into Competition Assessments?**  
*Chair:* Simon Holmes, UK Competition Appeals Tribunal
- Speakers:*
- Tembinkosi Bonakale, Competition Authority of South Africa
  - Maria Jaspers, DG COMP
  - Felix Engelsing, Competition Authority of Germany (BkartA)
  - Martijn Snoep, Competition Authority of The Netherlands (ACM)
- 15:15 – 15:30      **Coffee break**
- 15:30 – 16:40      **Allowing for an Antitrust Exemption for Sustainability: a (False) Good Idea?**  
*Chair:* Ioannis Lianos, Hellenic Competition Authority/UCLondon
- Speakers:*
- Kevin Coates, Covington & Burling LLP
  - Anna Gerbrandy, University of Utrecht
  - Maarten Pieter Schinkel, University of Amsterdam
  - Ben Smulders, Head of cabinet of EU Commissioner Timmermans
- 16:40 – 17:50      **The Way Forward: How Can Competition Policy Enable Rather Than Obstruct Sustainability?**  
*Chair:* Damien Gerard, GCLC/University of Louvain
- Speakers:*
- Suzanne Kingston, University College Dublin
  - Ioannis Lianos, Hellenic Competition Authority/UCLondon
  - Damien Neven, Graduate Institute Geneva
  - Geert Van Calster, University of Leuven
- Closing remarks**
- 17:50 – 18:00      Arnoldas Abramavičius, First Vice-President, European Committee of the Regions Commission for Economic Policy
- 18:00 – 18:05      Sergi Corbalán, Executive Director of the FTAO

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