



College of Europe
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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 62, Rue Belliard 99/101, Brussels

- 08:30 – 09:00 **Registration**
- 09:00 – 09:10 **Welcome**
- Maurizio Reale, President of the NAT Section
- 09:10 – 09:25 **Presentation of the Conference**
- Dario Soto Abril, CEO at Fairtrade International
- Alec Burnside, Dechert LLP (counsel to the Fair Trade Advocacy Office, 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
 - Simon Holmes, UK Competition Appeals Tribunal
 - 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:*
- Véronique Thirion, Belgian Competition Authority
 - 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 Commission/UCLondon
- Speakers:*
- Kevin Coates, Covington & Burling LLP
 - Anna Gerbrandy, University of Utrecht
 - Maarten Pieter Schinkel, University of Amsterdam
 - Julian Nowag, Lund University and Oxford Centre for Competition Policy
- 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 Commission/UCLondon
 - Damien Neven, Graduate Institute Geneva
 - Geert Van Calster, University of Leuven
- Closing remarks**
- 17:50 – 18:00 Thomas Wobben, European Committee of the Regions
- 18:00 – 18:05 Sergi Corbalán, Executive Director of the Fair Trade Advocacy Office

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