The Role of 'Big Data' in Competition and Privacy Law

In the digital economy ‘big data’ are becoming increasingly valuable as they reveal patterns of information that enable companies to target their products and services accordingly. According to the European Commission, the availability of ‘big data’ can be a significant competitive advantage for companies active in online advertising, online search, social networking services and software products. Yet some believe that ‘big data’ is not an antitrust concern. This event considers what role - if any - ‘big data’ plays in the competition law. This event will address the following questions:

- The interplay between data protection, competition law and consumer protection.
- Can and should competition law be applied with privacy in mind?
- Can a dominant undertaking’s breach of privacy rules constitute an abuse of dominance under Article 102?
- What do we mean by ‘big data’? and what is the difference between ‘a lot of data’ and ‘big data’?
- What is the problem with ‘big data’ (if any)? Having data is not an abuse.
- Can ‘big data’ be a barrier to entry?
- Is ‘big data’ a product that can create too much market power in a merged company?
- Does ‘big data’ create anticompetitive price discrimination?
- Should privacy even play a role in competitive analysis?
- How best to deal with ‘big data’ through antitrust or regulation?

Speakers

- Alec Burnside (Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP)
- Giovanni Buttarelli (European data protection supervisor)
- Cristina Caffarra (Charles River Associates)
- Miranda Cole (Covington)
- Christian D'Cunha (Policy assistant EDPS)
- Maurits Dolmans (Cleary Gottlieb)
- Professor Ariel Ezrachi (University of Oxford)
- John Fingleton (Fingleton Associates)
- Mark Giles (AlixPartners)
- Mat Hughes (AlixPartners)
- David Lawsy (Fipra International)
- Munesh Mahtani (Google)
- Thomas Vinje (Clifford Chance)

Pricing and Registration

This event is free for members of the Competition Law Forum (CLF)

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N.B. The Academic rate also applies to staff of government and non-profit organisations.

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