

Short report on International Conference ON THE HARMONISATION OF PRIVATE ANTITRUST ENFORCEMENT: A CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN PERSPECTIVE

On 2-4 July 2015 in Supraśl the International Conference ON THE HARMONISATION OF PRIVATE ANTITRUST ENFORCEMENT: A CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN PERSPECTIVE organized by University of Białystok Faculty of Law (Department of Public Commercial Law) and Centre for Antitrust and Regulatory Studies (CARS) was held. The Conference was devoted in particular to issues related to the necessity of implementation by the EU member states of the directive 2014/104/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 November 2014 on certain rules governing actions for damages under national law for infringements of the competition law provisions of the Member States and of the European Union (hereinafter referred to as Directive on Antitrust Damages Actions).

The Conference had been preceded by Competition Law and Regulation. Academic Network. Europe – Visegrad, Balkan Baltic, East (CRANE) Meeting during which CARS Director prof. dr hab. Tadeusz Skoczny introduced preliminary assumptions and aims of CRANE.

Subsequently the Conference was opened by dr. hab. Anna Piszcz (University of Białystok). The Conference participants were welcomed by the Dean of Faculty of Law of University of Białystok prof. dr. hab. Emil W. Pływaczewski, Vice-President of the Office of Competition and Consumer Protection Bernadeta Kasztelan-Świetlik and CARS Director prof. dr hab. Tadeusz Skoczny. Prof. Sofia O. Pais from Catholic University of Portugal, Porto Law School delivered a keynote address presenting the Portuguese model of a private enforcement of competition law and the most important issues arising from the necessity of implementation of Directive on Antitrust Damages Actions by Portugal. After the paper presented by prof. Sofia O. Pais the discussion was held. The first day of the Conference was ended with a buffet, which created a great opportunity to integrate the participants of the Conference.

On the second day there were four sessions. The first one was moderated by prof. Sofia O. Pais and was dedicated to the substantive challenges related to the harmonization of private antitrust enforcement. In this panel the papers were delivered by prof. Alexandr Svetlicinii (University of Macau, Makau, China) and prof. Marco Botta (University of Vienna, Austria), prof. Agata Jurkowska-Gomułka (University of Information Technology and Management, Rzeszów, Poland) and dr hab. Anna Piszcz. In the following session that was moderated by dr Maciej Bernatt

(University of Warsaw) the procedural challenges related to the implementation of Directive on Antitrust Damages Actions were presented. In this part the papers were given by prof. Aleš Galič (University of Ljubljana, Slovenia), prof. Vlatka Butorac Malnar (University of Rijeka, Croatia) and Anna Gulińska (legal advisor, Dentons Europe Oleszczuk sp.k., Warsaw). The third session moderated by dr hab. Anna Piszcz was focused on the benefits for consumers arising from the implementation of Directive on Antitrust Damages Actions. In this panel the papers were presented by prof. Rafał Sikorski (University of Adam Mickiewicz, Poznań, Poland) and dr Raimundas Moisejevas (Mykolas Romeris University, Vilnius, Lithuania). In the last session held on that day moderated by prof. Tadeusz Skoczny issues related to the private antitrust enforcement in CEE non-members of the European Union were presented. In this part the papers were delivered by Ermal Nazifi (PhD candidate, University of Tirana, Albania), prof. Anzhelika Gerasymenko and prof. Nataliia Mazaraki (Kyiv National University of Trade and Economics, Ukraine) and Zurab Gvelesiani (PhD candidate, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary). Each session was ended by the discussion on the issues related to the presented papers.

Second Conference day was ended with a visit to the Museum of Icons in Supraśl and official dinner.

On the third day there was a session relating to the private antitrust enforcement in the Central and Eastern European EU Member States which was moderated by prof. Agata Jurkowska-Gomułka. In this part the papers were delivered by prof. Rimantas Antanas Stanikunas (Vilnius University, Lithuania) and Arunas Burinskas (PhD candidate, Vilnius University, Lithuania), dr Ondrej Blažo (PhD, Comenius University in Bratislava, Faculty of Law, Slovakia) and Katarzyna Lis-Zarrias (judge, Ministry of Justice, Poland). At the end of this session and the entire Conference a discussion on the issues covered by the subjects of the Conferences was held.

The Conference was ended with a trip to Białowieża and sightseeing of the strict nature reserve in the Białowieża National Park.

The Conference was attended by the scientific community representatives associated with competition mainly from countries of Central and Eastern Europe. The language of Conference was English.

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