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Anna Piszcz

COMPETITION LAW
IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE



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Table of contents

List of abbreviations	11
Introduction.....	13

Part 1

Introduction to competition law

1. Various systems of competition law	15
1.1. National systems of competition law.....	15
1.1.1. Introduction.....	15
1.1.2. American system of competition law.....	17
1.1.3. National systems of competition law in Europe	20
1.2. International dimension	25
1.2.1. Combined system of the Member States' and European competition laws.....	25
1.2.2. International agreements.....	27
2. Goals of competition law	29
3. Sector-specific regulation.....	32
3.1. Introduction.....	32
3.2. Communication sector	33
3.3. Postal sector	35
3.4. Energy sector	36
3.5. Transport sector	37

Part 2

Competition authorities

1. Administrative authorities.....	40
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1.1. European Union	40
1.2. EU Member States and others (classification)	42
1.2.1. The personal composition criterion	42
1.2.2. The independence criterion	42
1.2.3. The criterion of time to hold the office	44
1.2.4. The competence criterion	45
2. Courts	47
2.1. European Union	47
2.2. EU Member States and others	50
2.2.1. Administrative courts as appellate courts	50
2.2.2. Ordinary courts as appellate courts	51
2.2.3. Judicial protection of third parties in competition law....	53

Part 3

Entrepreneur in the market – basic concepts of competition law

1. Undertaking.....	60
1.1. European union	60
1.2. EU Member States and others	64
2. Relevant market	67
2.1. European Union	67
2.2. EU Member States and others	70

Part 4

Prohibition of anti-competitive agreements

1. Conditions of the prohibition	72
1.1. European Union	72
1.2. EU Member States and others	79
2. Exclusions and exemptions.....	81
2.1. European Union	81

2.1.1. De minimis rule.....	81
2.1.2. Individual and block exemptions	83
2.1.2.1. Individual exemptions.....	83
2.1.3. Conclusion.....	88
2.2. EU Member States and others	89
2.2.1. De minimis rule.....	89
2.2.2. Individual and block exemptions	91
2.2.3. Other exclusions, rule of reason and conclusion.....	94
3. Some types of prohibited practices.....	96
3.1. Price-fixing.....	96
3.2. Limiting production etc.	99
3.3. Market-sharing	101
3.4. Discriminating agreements	101
3.5. Tying agreements.....	103
3.6. Boycotts	103
3.7. Bid-rigging agreements.....	104

Part 5

Prohibition of the abuse of a dominant position

1. Conditions of the prohibition of the abuse of a dominant position	106
1.1. Concept of dominant position.....	106
1.1.1. European Union	106
1.1.2. EU member states and others.....	108
1.2. Other conditions of the prohibition of the abuse of a dominant position.....	110
1.2.1. European Union	110
1.2.2. EU Member States and others.....	112
2. The issue of exclusions and exemptions.....	116
3. Some types of prohibited practices.....	117

3.1. Unfair prices or other conditions	117
3.2. Refusal to deal	120
3.3. Discriminatory practices	120
3.4. Tying.....	122

Part 6

Legal sanctions for prohibited practices; procedures relating to prohibited practices

1. Legal sanctions for prohibited practices	123
1.1. Functions of legal sanctions.....	123
1.2. Fines and penalty payments.....	124
1.2.1. European Union	124
1.2.2. EU Member States and others.....	126
1.3. Civil sanctions	129
1.4. Criminal sanctions	130
1.5. Final remarks	132
2. Procedures relating to prohibited practices.....	133
2.1. Initiation of the procedure	133
2.2. Investigations.....	135
2.3. Decisions.....	137

Part 7

Control of concentrations

1. Concept of concentration	141
1.1. European Union.....	141
1.2. EU Member States and others	143
2. Obligation of notification and exceptions	146
2.1. European Union.....	146
2.2. EU Member States and others	149

3. Procedures and decisions	152
3.1. European Union	152
3.2. EU Member States and others	157
4. Legal sanctions.....	168

Part 8

Competition and the state

1. European Union	172
2. EU Member States and others.....	185

Bibliography	189
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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

- ACCP – Polish Act of 16.2.2007 on Competition and Consumer Protection (Journal of Laws No. 50, item 331, as amended; in English at: www.uokik.gov.pl/download.php?plik=7624 (last accessed 31.3.2011))
- APC – Czech Act No. 143/2001 of 4.4.2001 on the Protection of Competition and on Amendment to Certain Acts; in English at: http://www.compet.cz/fileadmin/user_upload/Legislativa/HS/CR/Act_143_2001_consolidated.pdf (last accessed 31.3.2011)
- CFI – Court of First Instance (currently GC)
- CJEU – Court of Justice of the European Union (before 1.12.2009 ECJ)
- EC – European Community
- ECJ – European Court of Justice (currently CJEU)
- ECN – European Competition Network
- ECR – European Court Reports
- EEC – European Economic Community
- EU – European Union
- GC – General Court (before 1.12.2009 CFI)
- NCA – National Competition Authority
- OCCP – Office of Competition and Consumer Protection
- OFT – Office of Fair Trading
- OJ – Official Journal
- TEC – Treaty establishing the European Community (EC Treaty)
- TFEU – Treaty on the functioning of the European Union
- YARS – Yearbook of Antitrust and Regulatory Studies; see <http://www.yars.wz.uw.edu.pl/> (last accessed 31.3.2011)

INTRODUCTION

This book presents and discusses a selection of major topics within various areas of competition laws. It is divided into 8 parts. The first three parts contain introductory materials, as well as reviews of competition authorities and some basic concepts of competition law. Parts 4 and 5 present the prohibition of anti-competitive agreements and the prohibition of the abuse of a dominant position. Part 6 discusses legal sanctions for prohibited practices and procedures relating to such practices. Part 7 is devoted to the control of concentrations. The last part adds some information on the relation between competition and the state.

The purpose of this study is to introduce the readers to the basic information on competition law of the European Union and national competition laws of Poland, United Kingdom, Spain and the Czech Republic. For such selection of material I take sole responsibility.

This is not the first book on competition law in comparative perspective. However, there are rarely any studies that offer such a combination of the competition laws being compared.

Although I had been working on this book for a long time, I was able to complete it owing to circumstances created for me by the Dean of the Faculty of Law, University of Bialystok. I am grateful also to fellow lecturers and students who encouraged me to develop a book in English on competition law. Without discussions with them, the completion of this work would not have been possible; they inspired me to make several corrections and improvements to the text of the book. The exchange of experience and access to various, sometimes difficult to find foreign books, were essential stages of the book's completion.

A significant range of bibliographic resources that I had access to forced me to select material. In the footnotes, however, I tried to focus

on sources in English. Those who are interested in the details thereof are referred to them for further information.

Being aware of the fact that the book is not free of errors, I kindly request your comments. I would be grateful if you could email them to piszc@uwb.edu.pl.

Anna Piszcz