

**Book Review: *European Competition Law: A Case Commentary*, Edited by Weijer VerLoren van Themaat and Berend Reuder (Elgar Commentaries, Edward Elgar Publishing 2018, ISBN 978-1-78643-546-0), 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, lxiii+945 pp, index, £225.00 hb.**

EU competition law has constantly been developing and has done so at a different pace, especially through case law starting with the fundamental judgments of the ECJ from the 1960s and 1970s and the decisions of the European Commission. The development quickened with the introduction of Regulation 1/2003. With the mass of decisions of the CJEU and the European Commission, it has become ever more important to clarify interpretation of the continually evolving and emerging concepts of competition law.

This book offers an explanation of competition law concepts and an interpretation of competition rules through carefully selected explanatory passages from European Commission decisions and from the judgments of the Court of Justice of the European Union and the European Court of Human Rights. There are no explanations or comments given by the authors themselves. The book is divided into two parts: Part 1 covers the relevant provisions of the Treaty on European Union (TEU) (Section 1), the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) (Section 2), and the relevant regulations in their entirety (Section 3); Part 2 treats relevant provisions of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) (Section 1), and of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union (Charter) (Section 2). The relevant regulations in Part 1, Section 3, include Regulation (EC) No 1/2003 on the implementation of the rules of competition, Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 on the control of concentrations between undertakings, Regulation (EC) No 330/2010 on vertical agreements in the motor vehicles sector, and Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 establishing a common organisation of the markets in agricultural products repealing Council Regulations (EEC) No 922/72, (EEC) No 234/79, (EC) No 1037/2001 and (EC) No 1234/2007.

The book is very well structured, since each chapter deals with one relevant provision of a treaty/charter, except in Section 3 of Part 1 in which each chapter is devoted to the entire text of the concrete regulation. The chapters begin with the citation of the provision in question, usually followed by a short overview in which the relevant legal concepts deriving from that provision are listed, along with the corresponding paragraphs of the book where they are explained. This short overview is then followed by a series of case extracts relating to the legal concepts

developed through decades of jurisprudence. The extracts are clearly divided by subtitles indicating the relevant concept being discussed, so the reader can easily manoeuvre through the book and quickly find the information needed. All the case extracts are concise, carefully chosen and are put in chronological order to enable the reader not only to grasp a certain competition law concept but also, in particular cases, to gain an idea of the development of certain aspects of competition law. There is no reiteration in the selected extracts but rather each extract builds upon the previous one to form an entire picture. Besides this, there is an index which is comprehensive and clear, making the book even easier to use.

This second edition that comes four years after the first offers an update of the documents and cases up to 31 August 2016 but, as the editors point out, in some instances even more recent cases are included (eg Case T-472/13 *H Lundbeck A/S and others v Commission* of 8 September 2016 for the pay-for-delay concept that was not covered in the previous edition). Through the provision of relevant, precise and short case extracts, this unique book offers quick understanding of competition law concepts and provides excellent guidance for further study. It enables the reader to swiftly obtain real insight into the interpretation of competition rules and thus is very useful for any undergraduate and graduate student interested in competition law, as well as for practitioners in the field, competition authorities, and academia. It will be of particular value to all those who find it burdensome to create their own database of relevant cases.

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