



MEMORANDUM OF PARTERSHIP IN THE FIELD OF COMPETITION POLICY BETWEEN THE ALBANIAN COMPETITION AUTHORITY (ACA) AND THE HELLENIC COMPETITION COMMISSION (HCC)

The Albanian Competition Authority¹ and the Hellenic Competition Commission²,
(hereinafter referred to as “the Parties”),

Expressing the wish to promote cooperation in the field of competition policy and
competition law enforcement,

Recognising the need for broader engagement between competition authorities
internationally due to the nature of the challenges they face,

Aiming at the creation of favorable conditions for the development of bilateral
relations,

Based on principles of equality and mutual benefit,

Underlining the role of competition in the effective and sustainable development of
market economy,

HAVE AGREED as follows:

Article I

The purpose of the present Memorandum of Partnership (“the Memorandum”) is to
promote and strengthen cooperation between the Parties in the field of competition law,
enforcement and competition policy, in line with the EU Legislation.

¹ According to article 25, point 1, letter ç, of Albanian law no. 9121 dated. 28.07.2003, “On Competition Protection”, as amended, the Chairwoman of the Competition Commission represents the Authority in relations with third parties.

² According to article 19 par. 1 of law no. 3959/2011 (“Greek Competition Act”) the President of the Hellenic Competition Commission shall represent the Authority towards any third party.



Article II

In the mutual interest of the Parties, cooperation will be realized in the following basic directions subject to reasonably available resources:

- a) exchange of information on legislative and policy developments in the field of competition law enforcement;
- b) exchange of experience in the field of investigations, regarding the violation of competition rules, following the confidential rules;
- c) exchange of experience regarding the relations between competition authorities and national regulatory agencies;
- d) exchange of views on policy developments relating to international fora in the field of competition law and enforcement, including the International Competition Network (“ICN”), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (“OECD”) and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (“UNCTAD”);
- e) work towards developing shared views on regional or international competition policy developments, including enforcement policy, or best practice standards, as well as promoting said views through appropriate channels;
- f) exchange of experience in the field of competition advocacy, including the promotion of a competition culture through raising awareness of companies and the wider public about competition legislation and enforcement;
- g) provision of information and methodological assistance in preparing proposals and drafting legal acts in the field of competition.

Article III

The main forms of the Parties interaction may be as follows:

- a) exchange of non-confidential information on legislative developments and cases;
- b) organizing study visits and experts training;
- c) attendance at international conferences, workshops, symposia, seminars and other events organized by the Parties;
- d) expert meetings or consultation via e-mail between experts of the Parties



- regarding exchange of non-confidential information on specific issues of mutual interest;
- e) organization of high level-meetings/visits for discussing the perspectives and directions in which the bilateral cooperation will continue;
 - f) exchange of non-confidential documents, studies, annual reports, journals, information bulletins, books etc., which have been published by the Parties;
 - g) joint production or commissioning of non-confidential documents in the field of competition law and policy, such as policy papers, briefs or technical reports;
 - h) joint participation in research or policy projects, including in collaboration with academic institutions or policy institutes or other organisations.

Article IV

The transfer of information will be made in English language (if available English version of documents) by post, e-mail, telephone or online communication platforms, through designated general contact points or on the occasion of Parties' representatives' meetings.

Article V

Likewise, in each case, the agenda, place and other elements of the bilateral activities, shall be established by the Parties by mutual agreement, and shall be specified in the Annex referred to in Article V of the present Memorandum.

Article VI

Disputes regarding the interpretation and implementation of the present Memorandum, if any, shall be settled by the means of consultations and negotiations.

Article VII

This Memorandum is concluded with a view to enhancing and developing cooperation between the Parties and does not constitute an agreement binding upon the States of the Parties under international law. No provision of this Memorandum shall be interpreted and implemented as creating legal rights or commitments, including financial aspects, for the States of the Parties.



Article VIII

The present Memorandum shall be jointly revised by the Parties following prior consultations.

Article IX

The present Memorandum is concluded for an unlimited period of time and enters into force on the date of its signing.

Article X

This Memorandum can be terminated by either Party by submitting a written notification to the other Party.

This Memorandum will expire after three months from the date of receipt of the written notification.

Article XI

Signed in Athens and in Tirana on 7-th of September 2021, in two originals, in English language.

For the Albanian Competition Authority

For the Hellenic Competition Commission

Prof. Dr. Juliana Latifi

Prof. Ioannis Lianos

Chairwoman of the Albanian Competition
Authority

President of the Hellenic Competition
Commission