

GCR

GLOBAL COMPETITION REVIEW



SURVEY: FRANCE • BRUNO LASSERRE INTERVIEW

What competition trends are developing in your country?

There is a perception that the US antitrust agencies are increasingly aggressive in reviewing mergers – in terms of both their tolerance of concentrations and their tactical approaches to investigation and enforcement. But we also see enforcement actions that embrace flexible, creative remedies.

Aside from competition law, what do you enjoy doing?

I enjoy spending time with my daughters, reading, carpentry and good bourbon.

THOMAS GRAF

Age: 40
 Age became partner: 37
 Firm: Cleary Gottlieb
 Steen & Hamilton
 City: Brussels

**Past employment?**

I worked at Waldmann Faesch & Partner and Wenger Plattner in Basel, Switzerland.

Why competition?

Each case is different and there are no textbook solutions. Competition law cases are like multi-dimensional chess games involving law, economics, policy, business and technology.

What competition trends are developing in your country?

Cases are becoming bigger and more complex. Regulators are demanding more internal documents and more sophisticated economic evidence. Investigations can take place in parallel in several jurisdictions and involve multiple parties.

Who would you like to thank?

My partners and colleagues at Cleary for their support and my wife for her infinite patience.

GÖNENÇ GÜRKAYNAK

Age: 35
 Age became partner: 28
 Firm: ELİG
 City: Istanbul

**Past employment?**

I was with White & Case, working at their Istanbul, New York and Brussels offices.

What competition trends are developing in your jurisdiction?

The Turkish Competition Authority has adopted a new secondary legislation on merger control issues, bringing about closer parallelism with EU merger control rules. The authority strengthened its track record in 2011 in enforcing competition law with numerous landmark cases, especially in the banking and automotive sectors. Information exchange between competing undertakings is another trending topic

in Turkish competition law, as the Turkish Competition Board is adopting a stricter approach to information exchanges that facilitate concerted practices.

Where is competition law heading?

Deregulation and less intrusion in non-cartel areas, hopefully. Competition enforcement is now better perceived and understood by the public, and has penetrated very well into the career objectives of bright students everywhere in the world, which I think is one of the most important indications that competition enforcement is heading in the right direction.

CASEY HALLADAY

Age: 38
 Age became partner: 38
 Firm: McMillan
 City: Toronto

**Past employment?**

I worked for McMillan Binch, Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr, Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton and Studio Legale Amorese.

Why competition?

I originally intended to become a pure litigator but found that I enjoyed working on deals, and so competition offered the rare opportunity to pursue both transactional and litigation matters. I particularly enjoy the daily exposure to many diverse industries and the consequent need to immerse oneself in and master the facts of those industries in order to convince courts or regulators to reach the desired outcome.

Who are the most impressive figures in competition today?

There are so many impressive figures in our business: for instance, *The International Who's Who of Competition Lawyers and Economists* features over 900 competition lawyers. I admire them all as I appreciate the amount of hard work and effort that goes into achieving that level of recognition. In particular though, I would say that I especially admire those practitioners who are regarded as leaders in all aspects of practice – both as competition litigators and as transactional lawyers – given the different skill sets required.