

# Paris Antitrust Conference to Address Mergers, State Aid, and the Politics of Competition Regulation

## **AntitrustConnect Blog**

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Antitrust Connect Editor

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The “New Frontiers of Antitrust 2017” competition law conference organized by Concurrences Review will be held in Paris on June 26, 2017. This year the conference, held each year since 2009, will focus on Competition Authorities, Mergers and Innovation, State Aid and Tax Ruling, and the Politics of Competition Regulation.

The “Competition Authorities: Towards More Independence and Prioritization?” segment, chaired by Laurence Idot, Professor at University Paris II Pantheon-Assas, will include as speakers Wouter Wils, European Commission Hearing Officer and Visiting Professor at King’s College London; Eric Barbier de La Serre, Partner at Jones Day; and Frank Maier-Rigaud, Professor at IESEG School of Management in Paris and Head of Competition Economics Europe, NERA.

The “Mergers and Innovation: Do Mergers Foster Innovation?” segment, chaired by Isabelle de Silva, Chairperson of Autorite de la concurrence, will include as speakers Andrea Coscelli, Acting Chief Executive of the Competition & Markets Authority; Carles Esteve Mosso, Deputy Director-General for mergers, DG COMP; Justus Haucap, Director of the Institute for Competition Economics; and Cristina Caffarra, Vice President, Head of European Competition Practice.

The “State Aid and Tax Ruling: Is There Really a Competition Issue?” segment will include as speakers Gert-Jan Koopman, Deputy Director-General State aid, DG COMP; Damien Neven, Senior Consultant at Compass Lexecon; and Jacques Derenne, Partner at Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton.

The “Exploring the Politics of Competition Regulation: How Political is Competition Law?” segment, chaired by Robert McLeod, Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer of MLex, will include as speakers Cecilio Madero, Deputy Director-General Antitrust, DG COMP; Kaarli Eichhorn, Global Executive Counsel – Competition Law & Policy at General Electric; Mathew Heim, Vice President and Counsel of Qualcomm; David Spector of the Paris School of Economics; and Melanie Thill-Tayara, Partner at Dechert.

Frederic Jenny, Chairman of the OECD Competition Committee, and Marc van der Woude, Judge of the General Court of the European Union, are scheduled to present the introductory remarks and keynote speeches respectively.

Registration information is available at <https://www.eventbrite.fr/e/new-frontiers-of-antitrust-2017-tickets-32401786616>.