

## **MARCHFELD DECLARATION**

### **Memorandum of Understanding**

The competent competition authorities of the EU Member States Austria, Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, and the European Commission, who together form the European Competition Network on the one hand, and the national competition authorities of Croatia and Switzerland on the other (hereinafter referred to as “the Parties”),

emphasising the importance of cooperation and coordination among competition authorities to further effective competition law enforcement,

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

based on the principles of equality and mutual benefit,

have adopted the following declaration:

1. The Parties will promote and strengthen cooperation in the field of competition law enforcement and policy.
2. To achieve the above objectives, the Parties' cooperation can be based on the following main means:
  - i) “Marchfeld Competition Forum”: annual meeting between representatives of the Parties to discuss competition policy issues of mutual interest,
  - ii) high-level training and education initiatives,
  - iii) facilitating the exchange of information on new developments

as to national, European and international competition law and enforcement of competition law, e.g. by building up a data base or the like,

- iv) setting up working groups on topical issues in the field of competition policy and law as well as regards related education and training,
  - v) exchanging views on international competition policy initiatives under consideration, including the composition of joint statements.
3. Cooperation between the Parties under this Memorandum of Understanding is subject to the respective laws of each Party, in particular those protecting confidential information.
  4. The working language will be English. Each Party will cover its own travel expenses.
  5. The present Memorandum of Understanding will come into effect on the date of signature by all Parties and will be effective until 2 months after the date of the written notification by one Side to the other of its intention to terminate it. Termination by one or more of the Parties shall not affect the validity of the understanding as to the remaining Parties.
  6. Termination will not affect any ongoing activities started under this Memorandum of Understanding before termination.
  7. This Memorandum shall not be considered as an international treaty and does not establish any rights or obligations for the Parties, which are regulated by international law.

Signed at Schloss Hof, Austria, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of July 2008 in the English language.

FOR THE AUSTRIAN  
FEDERAL COMPETITION  
AUTHORITY



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FOR THE CZECH OFFICE FOR  
THE PROTECTION OF  
COMPETITION



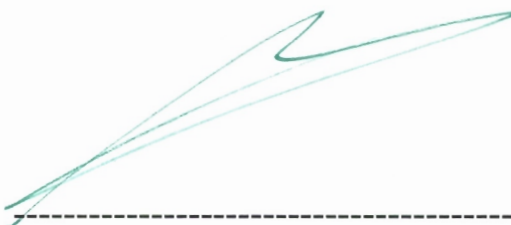
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FOR THE BULGARIAN  
COMMISSION ON  
PROTECTION OF  
COMPETITION



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FOR THE ESTONIAN  
COMPETITION AUTHORITY



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FOR THE HUNGARIAN  
COMPETITION  
AUTHORITY

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FOR THE LATVIAN  
COMPETITION COUNCIL



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FOR THE LITHUANIAN  
COMPETITION COUNCIL



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FOR THE POLISH OFFICE OF  
COMPETITION AND  
CONSUMER PROTECTION



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FOR THE ROMANIAN  
COMPETITION COUNCIL



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FOR THE ANTIMONOPOLY  
OFFICE OF THE SLOVAK  
REPUBLIC



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FOR THE SLOVENIAN  
COMPETITION  
PROTECTION OFFICE

FOR THE CROATIAN  
COMPETITION AGENCY

FOR THE COMPETITION  
COMMISSION OF  
SWITZERLAND



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FOR THE EUROPEAN  
COMMISSION, DIRECTORATE  
GENERAL COMPETITION



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