

University of Mila Mohamed Boussouf

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# Business of law

Competition law

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# Competition Law

## 1. Introduction

Competition Law—also known as Antitrust Law—is a set of legal rules that aim to promote fair competition in the market and prevent monopolies or unfair business practices. It ensures that businesses compete honestly, which benefits consumers with better prices, quality, and innovation.

## 2. Definition

Competition Law is the branch of law that regulates market behavior by prohibiting companies from engaging in actions that limit or distort competition, such as price fixing, cartels, or abuse of dominant position.

## 3. Objectives of Competition Law:

- Protect free and fair competition in the market.
- Prevent monopolies and dominant market control.
- Encourage innovation and economic efficiency.
- Protect consumers from unfair prices or limited choices.
- Ensure equal opportunities for all businesses.

## 4. Main Principles:

- Prohibition of anti-competitive agreements: Companies cannot agree to fix prices or divide markets.
- Control of dominant positions: Firms with large market power must not abuse it to eliminate competitors.
- Merger control: Governments may block mergers that would reduce competition.
- Transparency and fairness: Businesses must operate openly and honestly in the market.

## 5. Enforcement:

Competition laws are enforced by national competition authorities or antitrust agencies, such as the European Commission, the U.S. Federal Trade Commission (FTC), or local Competition Councils.

These authorities can investigate, fine, or dissolve companies that violate competition rules.

## 6. Importance

Competition Law is essential for a healthy economy. It protects small and medium businesses, encourages innovation, and guarantees that consumers enjoy lower prices and higher quality. Without it, markets could be controlled by a few powerful corporations.

## 7. Conclusion

Competition Law is a cornerstone of the modern economy. It promotes fairness, efficiency, and innovation, ensuring that no single company can dominate the market. Strong competition laws help build economic justice and sustainable growth.

### Key Terms Glossary – Competition Law

المصطلحات الأساسية – قانون المنافسة

#### Competition المنافسة:

The rivalry between companies to attract customers by offering better goods or services.

التنافس بين الشركات لجذب الزبائن من خلال تقديم منتجات أو خدمات أفضل.

#### Monopoly الاحتكار:

A situation where one company controls the entire market for a product or service.

حالة تسيطر فيها شركة واحدة على السوق بالكامل لمنتج أو خدمة.

#### Antitrust Law قانون مكافحة الاحتكار:

Another name for competition law; it prevents unfair monopolies and market abuse.

اسم آخر لقانون المنافسة، يمنع الاحتكار وسوء استغلال السوق.

#### Market Dominance الهيمنة السوقية:

When a company has major control or influence over a market.

امتلاك شركة نفوذاً كبيراً أو سيطرة على سوق معين.

#### Price Fixing تثبيت الأسعار:

An illegal agreement between competitors to set or maintain prices at a certain level.

اتفاق غير قانوني بين المنافسين لتحديد الأسعار عند مستوى معين.

#### Cartel الكارتل:

A group of companies that secretly agree to restrict competition.

مجموعة شركات تتفق سراً على الحد من المنافسة.

### الاندماج Merger:

The joining of two or more companies into one entity.

اتحاد شركتين أو أكثر في كيان واحد.

### الاستحواذ Acquisition:

When one company buys another company.

عملية شراء شركة لشركة أخرى.

### إساءة استغلال المركز المهيمن Abuse of Dominant Position:

When a dominant company uses its power to harm competitors or consumers.

استخدام الشركة المهيمنة قوتها لإيذاء المنافسين أو المستهلكين.

### رفاهية المستهلك Consumer Welfare:

The benefit that consumers gain from fair competition, such as lower prices and better quality.

الفائدة التي يحصل عليها المستهلكون من المنافسة العادلة مثل الأسعار المنخفضة والجودة العالية.

### السوق الحرة Free Market:

An economic system where prices are determined by supply and demand without interference.

نظام اقتصادي تحدد فيه الأسعار بناءً على العرض والطلب دون تدخل.

### الكفاءة الاقتصادية Economic Efficiency:

The optimal use of resources to produce goods and services.

الاستخدام الأمثل للموارد لإنتاج السلع والخدمات.

### الهيئة التنظيمية Regulatory Authority:

A government body responsible for enforcing competition laws.

هيئة حكومية مكلفة بتطبيق قوانين المنافسة.

### التجارة العادلة Fair Trade:

Trade conducted according to ethical standards ensuring fairness for all parties.

تجارة تتم وفق معايير أخلاقية تضمن العدالة لجميع الأطراف.