

Promotion of Competition culture

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A significant role alongside investigation activities of the Competition Council of Latvia (the CC) will be allocated to a range of various promotion events of competition culture, to prevent the possibility of occurrence of infringements.

These promotion events of competition culture will comprise both educational and information activities for entrepreneurs, employees of local governments and public authorities, organizers of public procurements and university students. There are many topical issues, that have to be discussed, for example, practical application of the Competition Law, opportunities for allowed and prohibited cooperation among entrepreneurs, competition neutrality, basic principles that have to be observed by local governments in commercial activity, and other issues.

One of such topical issues was disclosed by the results of the public opinion study conducted by the CC. Namely, 76% of surveyed entrepreneurs in Latvia have not been informed about the leniency programme. Maybe it is one of the reasons, why the opportunities offered by the leniency programme are still rarely used in Latvia – for companies, that are involved in a prohibited agreement, to be the first to notify the CC about such an infringement and be eligible for both release from the fine and the one-year prohibition to participate in public procurements.

It should be noted that the CC contributes to the prevention of distortions of competition in regulatory frameworks and in the activities of public administrative bodies, using competition advocacy or defence instruments – discussions, objections, persuasion, proposals. The CC will also continue consultations of public administrative bodies – the state and local governments, as well as their capital companies, on compliance of commercial activity with standards mentioned in section 88 of the State Administration Structure Law. Also supervision and promotion of correct relations among retailers and suppliers will be continued, efficiently applying the Unfair Retail Trade Practices Prohibition Law, and also if requested the CC will provide an opinion in the court cases related to the compensation of loss, that has resulted from infringements of the Competition Law.

For consumers

For pupils and students

Seminars

Campaign "The most absurd obstacle to competition"

<https://www.kp.gov.lv/en/promotion-competition-culture>