

# *EU & Antitrust*

## *Overview*

Our EU & Antitrust team is one of the largest dedicated practices in Ireland. Members of the team have acted in some of the most high-profile Irish, UK and EU merger control and antitrust cases in recent years.

Merger control is a particular strength, with our team having advised on the first, and only, successful challenge to a Competition Authority prohibition decision in the jurisdiction.

We have also advised on two recent Phase II investigations by the Irish Competition Authority. Phase II investigations are quite rare and we helped to secure the unconditional clearance of both transactions.

In short, we have developed a reputation for obtaining the best outcomes for clients in difficult cases.

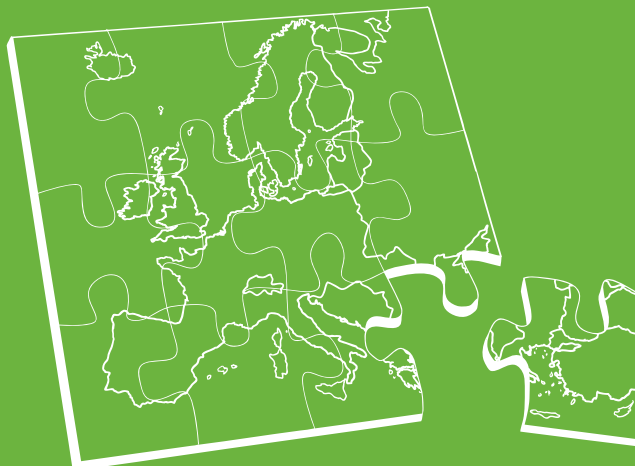
Our standing in EU law was also recently enhanced through our successful challenge to a decision of the European Parliament before the General Court.

## *About Us*

Our EU & Antitrust team is dedicated to providing pragmatic advice and business-focused solutions for our clients and frequently advises corporate and government clients on:

- Irish and EU merger control notifications
- Joint ventures, horizontal cooperation agreements and strategic alliances
- State aid and the grant of special/exclusive rights to public undertakings
- The prohibition on anti-competitive arrangements and cartels
- Abuse of dominance
- EU law
- Public procurement
- General compliance issues and training and compliance programmes
- Dawn raids
- Drafting and reviewing competition law compliant commercial agreements

*Dublin, London  
& New York*



## Merger Control

Most recently, we have acted in European/Irish merger control cases including advising:

- **Discovery/Setanta** first media merger notified to Department of Communications
- **The Carlyle Group** in connection with various Irish merger control matters
- **BT Communications Ireland** in connection with the European Commission's investigation into the acquisition of O2 Ireland by Hutchison Whampoa
- **Brookfield Asset Management** in connection with its acquisition of the renewable energy business of Bord Gáis Éireann
- **Toshiba** in connection with its acquisition of OCZ Technology

## Irish/EU Antitrust Law

We regularly advise clients in connection with Irish and EU antitrust law matters and have a particular expertise in the area of regulated markets across all industry sectors. More recently, we have advised the following:

- Department of Communications
- Bord Gáis Networks, Gaslink and Irish Water
- Nest Labs Inc.
- Commission for Communications Regulation

*For more advice and information on EU & Antitrust please contact one of our team:*



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## Public Procurement

Our team has significant expertise in public procurement law. In particular, we have advised on a number of high profile procurement projects such as the procurement of major IT systems for the Law Society of Ireland, the Passport Office, the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions and other public bodies.

## EU Law

We have developed broad and diverse expertise in the area of EU law and are frequently instructed on EU law matters including matters relating to free movement, parallel importing and intellectual property/competition interface issues.

## What others say about us...

### Our EU & Antitrust team

*"effective and collaborative team"*

Legal 500, 2015

### Our Competition team

*"the advice is very practical and commercial"*

Chambers & Partners Europe, 2015

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