

Seminar on European Competition Law

Funded by the Single Market Programme of the European Commission

COMPETITION LAB FOR JUDGES

Vertical Agreements and Vertical Restraints

📍 Budapest, Hungary

📅 19-20 January 2026

Seminar objectives

The seminar will focus on **vertical agreements** and **vertical restraints**. It will focus on the **economic rationale** of **vertical agreements** and touch on the **general analytical framework for assessing such agreements**. It will define vertical restraints by examining **key concepts**, such as **agreement**, **restriction by object**, and **restriction by effect**. The seminar will also introduce the **Block Exemption Agreement (BER)** on Vertical Agreements and outline the analytical framework adopted in the Regulation. Moreover, it will explore specific forms of vertical restraints, including *resale price maintenance (PRM)*, *restrictions on sales*, *restrictions in the context of online distribution* and *non-compete arrangements*.

Agenda

Monday, 19 January 2026

09.30-10.00	Welcome remarks, Group photo
10.00-10.15	Questionnaire exercise – What do you know?
10.15-11.15	Economics of vertical agreements
11.15-11.30	Coffee break
11.30-12.30	Collusion in distribution networks
12.30-14.00	Lunch
14.00-15.00	Vertical agreements – Analytical framework
15.00-15.15	Coffee Break
15.15-16.15	Price restrictions in distribution networks – Analytical framework and case studies
16.15-17.30	Hypothetical Case Exercise
19.00-22.00	Welcome dinner



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Tuesday, 20 January 2026

09.15-10.15	Territorial restrictions in distribution networks – Analytical framework and case studies
10.15-10.30	Coffee break
10.30-11.30	Product restrictions in distribution networks – Analytical framework and case studies
11.30-12.45	Hypothetical Case Exercise
12.45-14.00	Lunch
14.00-15.15	Vertical restraints in a digital environment – Analytical framework and case studies
15.15-15.30	Coffee break
15.30-16.45	Hypothetical Case Exercise
16.45-17.15	Kahoot game!
17.15-17.30	Questionnaire exercise – What do you know now?