# RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN EU/EEA IN COMPETITION LAW

Emeritus Professor Richard Whish, KC (Hon)

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#### STRUCTURE OF PRESENTATION

- HORIZONTAL CASES UNDER ARTICLE 101
  - RECENT DEVELOPMENTS, PP 2-8
- ABUSE OF DOMINANCE CASES
  - RECENT DEVELOPMENTS, PP 9-12
- DIGITAL MARKETS ACT
  - RECENT DEVELOPMENTS, PP 13-15
- EU MERGER CONTROL
  - RECENT DEVELOPMENTS, PP 21-24
- IMPORTANT POLICY DEVELOPMENTS
  - RECENT DEVELOPMENTS, PP 17-18

- CURRENT INVESTIGATIONS ARE LISTED ON P 2
  - NOTE THE EXTENSION OF ONLINE FOOD DELIVERY TO INCLUDE NO-POACH AGREEMENTS
  - SEE ALSO THE CMA RESEARCH REPORT ON LABOUR MARKETS, 25 JANUARY 2024 AND SPEECH OF SARAH CARDELL ON THE SAME DAY
- CARTEL DECISIONS ARE LISTED ON PP 3-4
  - ONLY FOUR DECISIONS
  - NOTE THAT ETHANOL IS A STAGGERED HYBRID DECISION, AS WERE EIRD AND TRUCKS (LATER IN THE HANDOUT)

- GENERAL COURT JUDGMENTS ARE LISTED ON PP 4-5
- ETHYLENE CONTAINS INTERESTING POINTS ON FINING UPLIFTS FOR RECIDIVISM
- MODAFINIL IS OF INTEREST ON OBJECT RESTRICTIONS AND 'ECONOMIC CONTEXT'
  - ON 'ECONOMIC CONTEXT' SEE AG RANTOS IN CASE C-298/22 BANCO BPN V BIC PORTUGUÊS, RD P 19
- IN THE COURT OF JUSTICE NOTE *PORTUGUESE ENERGY* ON *POTENTIAL COMPETITION*, P 6

- THE SPORTS CASES: SEE PP 6-7
- EUROPEAN SUPER LEAGUE
  - COMPETITION LAW AND SPORT: PARAS 82-94
  - ARTICLE 165 TFEU: PARAS 95-107
  - ARTICLE 102 TFEU: PARAS 120-152
  - ARTICLE 101 TFEU: PARAS 153-179
  - JUSTIFICATION: PARAS 182-209
  - NB: WOUTERS NOT AVAILABLE FOR OBJECT RESTRICTIONS OR 'OBJECT' ABUSES
  - THIS POINT IS REPEATED IN PARA 98 OF NOTARIES, P 7
- NOTE ALSO INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION, PP 6-7

- NOTE ALSO BELGIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE
  - QUERY: MIGHT ARTICLE 101(3) TFEU BE AVAILABLE IN THAT CASE?
  - SEE PARAS 129-134 OF THE JUDGMENT

#### **ARTICLE 101: VERTICAL CASES**

- SEE PP 7-8
- FINE OF €337 MILLION ON MONDELĒZ FOR RESTRICTING PARALLEL TRADE
- NOTE THE TWO JUDGMENTS OF THE COURT OF JUSTICE ON VERTICAL AGREEMENTS AND OBJECT RESTRICTIONS
  - PC VIDEO GAMES
  - PORTUGESE DRINKS MARKET

#### ARTICLE 102: ABUSE OF DOMINANCE

- CURRENT INVESTIGATIONS ARE LISTED ON PP 9-10
  - NOTE THE DISPARAGAGEMENT CASES, TEVA AND VIFOR
  - COMMITMENTS HAVE BEEN OFFERED IN VIFOR, 19 APRIL
     2024
  - NOTE THE STATEMENT OF OBJECTIONS IN GOOGLE: MIGHT THIS CASE LEAD TO A DIVESTITURE?
  - NOTE ALSO THE ZOETIS INVESTIGATION: SEE LATER ON MERGER CONTROL
- TWO COMMISSION DECISIONS ARE LISTED ON P 10
- ON APPLE, NOTE THE COMMISSION'S DMA INVESTIGATION, P 15

### ARTICLE 102: ABUSE OF DOMINANCE

- NOTE THE COURT OF JUSTICE JUDGMENTS ON P
   12
- JUDGMENT IS AWAITED IN THE FACEBOOK V BUNDESKARTELLAMT CASE FROM THE GERMAN COURT
- JUDGMENT HAS NOW BEEN HANDED DOWN IN THE EUROPEAN SUPERLEAGUE CASE FROM THE SPANISH COURT

#### DIGITAL MARKETS ACT

- DEVELOPMENTS TO DATE ARE LISTED ON PP 13-15
- NOTE IN PARTICULAR THE APPEALS ON P 13
- AND THE COMMISSION INVESTIGATIONS ON P 15

#### **MERGER CONTROL**

- NOTE THE LATEST IN ILLUMINA: THE OPINION OF AG RANTOS IN CASE CASE C-611/22, 21 MARCH 2024
  - NOTE THAT THERE HAVE BEEN SIX DECISIONS IN ILLUMINA/GRAIL, LISTED ON PP 21-22
  - THESE INCLUDE THE FINE OF €432 MILLION FOR GUN-JUMPING
- NOTE THE REFERENCE BY AG RANTOS TO THE COURT OF JUSTICE'S JUDGMENT IN TOWERCAST V AUTORITÉ DE LA CONCURRENCE
- NOTE ALSO ARTICLE 14 DIGITAL MARKETS ACT

### **MERGER CONTROL**

- NOTE ALSO THE COMMISSION'S DECISION IN BOOKING HOLDINGS/FLUGO GROUP HOLDINGS (ETRAVELI), P 22, ON APPEAL TO THE GENERAL COURT
- AND NOTE ALSO THE COURT OF JUSTICE'S JUDGMENT IN HUTCHISON/O2, P 24, NOW REFERRED BACK TO THE GENERAL COURT

#### THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!