



Seventh EU Competition Law Conference

BIOGRAPHIES

Brussels – 8 October 2026

KEYNOTE SPEECH

MARK MEADOR

COMMISSIONER OF THE U.S. FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

Mark R. Meador was sworn in April 16, 2025, as a Commissioner of the Federal Trade Commission. Meador most recently worked in private practice and as a visiting fellow at the Heritage Foundation Tech Policy Center. Prior to that, he served as Deputy Chief Counsel for Antitrust and Competition Policy for Sen. Mike Lee, R-Utah. During the first Trump Administration, Meador worked as a trial attorney in the Department of Justice's Antitrust Division. He began his career as an attorney in the FTC's Bureau of Competition. Meador earned his law degree from the University of Houston Law Center and his undergraduate degree in philosophy from the University of Chicago.

PANEL 1: THE INVISIBLE CARTEL: DETECTING AND PROSECUTING TECHNOLOGY-ENABLED

ALISON JONES

PROFESSOR OF LAW, KING'S COLLEGE LONDON

Alison Jones is Professor of Law at King's College London and a solicitor at Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP. Alison teaches and researches in the sphere of competition law. She is the co-author of *Jones and Sufrin's EU Competition Law: Text, Cases, and Materials* (OUP, 8th ed, 2023), author of a monograph on *Restitution and European Community Law* (LLP, 2000), a co-author of *Combating Corruption and Collusion in Public Procurement: A Challenge for Governments Worldwide* (OUP, 2024), and has published in leading academic and specialist competition journals and a number of edited collections.

JASON MURRAY

PARTNER, CROWELL & MORING

Jason is Co-Chair of Crowell's Antitrust and Competition Practice. Based in Los Angeles, Jason was recently recognized by *Daily Journal* as one of California's "Top Antitrust Lawyers" and is perennially listed in *Chambers USA*. Clients turn to Jason for antitrust litigation and counseling when it matters most to their company. His practice focuses primarily on antitrust litigation for both plaintiffs and defendants; antitrust counseling and defense in connection with state attorneys general, DOJ, and Federal Trade Commission investigations; and business advice on avoiding antitrust risks in transactions, distribution practices, and competitor collaborations. Jason has tried or arbitrated numerous matters as first chair and has successfully argued before state and federal courts of appeals. He also routinely handles arbitrations before the American Arbitration Association, International Chamber of Commerce, and International Centre for Dispute Resolution.

Jason has handled a wide variety of litigation and antitrust counseling, with a particular emphasis on antitrust cartel litigation and monopolization and exclusive dealing cases for companies in the health care, technology, transportation, and entertainment, and telecommunications areas, among others.

ILARIA FANTON

PRINCIPAL AT OXERA CONSULTING

Ilaria is a member of Oxera's Competition and Modelling teams. She has advised clients in cases involving mergers, horizontal agreements, and abuse of dominance, including in the context of private litigation and investigations by the European Commission and other competition authorities in Europe and South America. She has worked on these issues across a broad range of sectors including communications, retail and financial services.

Before joining Oxera, Ilaria worked for two years at the UK Office of Fair Trading (now the Competition and Markets Authority, CMA). There, she was part of the Econometrics Team, where she focused on quantitative analysis in a range of competition cases. This included the fuel and energy market investigations, and a number of mergers.

RENATO NAZZINI KC

BARRISTER, MONCKTON CHAMBERS AND PROFESSOR OF LAW, KING'S COLLEGE LONDON

Renato is a barrister at Monckton Chambers and Professor of Law at King's College London. In 2025, he was appointed Honorary King's Counsel for his major contribution to English law, and particularly to the development of the UK class actions regime and a more effects-based approach to abuse of dominance. Renato's practice focuses on competition litigation in the UK and the EU courts and on arbitration with a competition, EU or regulatory angle. He also often advises on cases and investigations in other jurisdictions with local counsel. Renato benefits from having worked for eight years at the UK competition authority where

he advised on investigations, appeals, mergers and policy work across all industry sectors. Before joining Monckton Chambers, Renato practiced for 15 years as a solicitor and advised on multi-billion mergers, investigations by competition authorities on cartels and abuses of dominant position and damages claims. He acted as counsel in cases before the General Court and the Court of Justice of the European Union in cartel and State Aid cases. He also developed substantial expertise in information exchanges, joint ventures, complex distribution arrangements, and the intersection of IP law and competition. He has been a non-governmental adviser to the ICN for 10 years and has published three books on competition procedure and abuse of dominance as well as more than 100 articles and book chapters. Renato is also qualified as an Italian advocate and has been a visiting professor at the University of Zurich, the University of Turin, and FGV School of Law, São Paulo, Brazil.

PANEL 2: GATEKEEPER, MONOPOLIST, OR DOMINANT? UNILATERAL CONDUCT IN A COMPLEX REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

THOMAS DE MEESE

PARTNER, CROWELL & MORING

Thomas De Meese serves as co-managing partner of the firm's Brussels office and has been a member of the Brussels bar since 1993. He focuses on competition and unfair competition law. Thomas' experience includes day-to-day counselling on distribution issues, technology licensing, patent pools, joint bidding, standard setting, dominance issues, the activities of trade associations, etc. He has developed and implemented pan-European antitrust compliance and training programs for multinational companies. He represents parties in competition investigations and merger proceedings with both the Belgian Competition Authority and the EC Commission. Thomas regularly litigates competition cases before EU and national courts.

DAMIEN GERARD

PROSECUTOR GENERAL AT THE BELGIAN COMPETITION AUTHORITY

Damien Gerard joined the Belgian Competition Authority as Prosecutor General on 1st December 2021. Beforehand, he worked as an official in the Directorate-general for Competition of the European Commission (DG COMP) and practiced EU and Belgian competition law for more than ten years in the Brussels office of an international law firm. Damien Gerard teaches EU Competition Law at UCLouvain, where he was also a researcher at the Center for International and European Law (CeDIE) for a number of years, as well as at the College of Europe, where he was the director of the Global Competition Law Center (GCLC) from 2014 to 2019. An honorary member of the Brussels Bar and member of the New York Bar, Damien Gerard is a graduate of UCLouvain (J.D., 2000 and Ph.D, 2014), of New York University School of Law (LL.M, 2003) and of the College of Europe (M.A., 2001). He also attended Harvard Law School as Fulbright-Schuman Visiting Research Scholar (IGLP, 2010) and the European University Institute as Max Weber Fellow (EUI, 2015). Damien Gerard clerked for Judge Koen Lenaerts of the European Court of Justice in 2003-2004.

GENEVIÈVE BORREMANS

SENIOR LEGAL COUNSEL COMPETITION LAW AT EUROCLEAR

Geneviève Borremans is Senior Legal Counsel, Competition Law at Euroclear SA. As part of Euroclear's Legal, Governance & Regulatory Division, she supports business and management teams across the Group with competition law advice on a broad range of matters, including commercial strategy, pricing, product development, strategic partnerships and industry initiatives. Prior to joining Euroclear, Ms. Borremans practiced EU and Belgian competition law in private practice, advising clients across a range of industries on antitrust, merger control and regulatory matters.

LIZA LOVDAHL-GORMSEN

SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW AT THE BRITISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AND COMPARATIVE LAW

Liza is an antitrust lawyer and strategic expert specialising in EU-UK antitrust with 20 years of experience bridging institutional understanding of EU and UK institutions and their policy frameworks. She has been a Senior Advisor to the UK Financial Conduct Authority where she navigated the FCA through the Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent transformation.

Liza is the Director of the Competition Law Forum, which facilitates regular exchanges between regulators and industry leaders. She is also a Senior Research Fellow at the British Institute of International and Comparative Law. In her role, she has designed and delivered comprehensive outreach programs that have significantly enhanced British stakeholders' understanding of EU institutions, policies and values.

Liza has published widely in national and international peer-review journals and regularly addresses audiences at select committees before the House of Commons and House of Lords, the White House and the European Commission. A list of publications is available [here](#). She is a Board Member of the Open Markets Institute and sits on the Advisory Board of the Journal of Antitrust Enforcement (Oxford University Press).

ANDY GAVIL

SENIOR OF COUNSEL, CROWELL & MORING

PROFESSOR OF LAW, HOWARD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

Andy is Senior Of Counsel in Crowell & Moring's Washington, D.C., office, and an active member of the firm's Antitrust and Competition Group. A well-known academic authority on antitrust law, he brings decades of experience to the group. Since 1989, Andy has been a member of the faculty at Howard University School of Law, where he teaches courses on antitrust law and procedure. Andy has written, lectured, and commented extensively on antitrust law, jurisdiction, and procedure in the United States and abroad, and he is a frequent participant at antitrust conferences. With Professors Kovacic and Baker he is a co-author of Antitrust Law in Perspective, a leading U.S. antitrust law casebook. The fifth edition will be published this summer.

PANEL 3: THE DEALMAKER'S DILEMMA: NAVIGATING A NEW ERA OF MERGER SCRUTINY

MARIEKE VAN NIEUWENBORGH

PARTNER, CROWELL & MORING

With over a decade of experience in EU and Belgian competition law, Marieke Van Nieuwenborgh focuses her practice on antitrust damages recovery. She assists clients in proceedings relating to actions for damages for competition law infringements. Marieke has represented national and international companies before the Belgian Competition Authority and the European Commission in both merger control proceedings and cartel investigations. In addition, she regularly litigates competition cases before the Belgian and European courts.

Marieke is a partner in Crowell & Moring's Brussels office and a member of the firm's Antitrust and Competition Group. Her experience includes counseling clients on cooperation, exclusivity, and distribution agreements across various industries, including the transport and telecom sectors and entertainment. She also assists clients in the e-commerce sector with matters relating to online sales and presence.

PETER BROADHURST

PARTNER, CROWELL & MORING

Peter Broadhurst is a partner based in Crowell & Moring's London office and is a member of the Antitrust and Competition Group. His practice focuses on advising companies on U.K. and EU competition law covering a range of sectors, including TMT, financial services, energy and infrastructure, industrial, and consumer goods. He advises on matters in front of the European Commission, the U.K. Competition and Markets Authority and the U.K. sectoral regulators, as well as managing processes in front of competition regulators in other jurisdictions.

He is an experienced counsellor, assisting clients with all aspects of competition and antitrust law and has particular experience in the issues arising from mergers, acquisitions, structural joint ventures, and cooperation agreements, obtaining merger approval decisions where necessary. He also advises clients on cartel investigations, abuse of dominance (acting both for the allegedly dominant and for those claiming abuse), and distribution arrangements; and, more generally, counsels clients on how to manage competition law and antitrust risk and operate their businesses successfully and profitably whilst remaining in compliance with the rules and avoiding cartel liability.

Peter has advised on numerous U.K. market studies and market investigation references, as well as EU sector enquiries.

He also navigates clients through the growing number of foreign direct investment rules in Europe and the U.K.

REBECCA VALENTINE

PARTNER, CROWELL & MORING

FORMERLY: TRIAL ATTORNEY IN THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, ANTITRUST DIVISION

Becky Valentine serves as a trusted advisor to companies navigating their most consequential antitrust transactions, investigations, and regulatory challenges. A partner in Crowell & Moring's Antitrust and Competition Group and a former trial attorney in the Antitrust Division of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Becky brings rare frontline insight into how regulators assess and challenge anticompetitive conduct and complex mergers, particularly in the defense, aerospace, industrial, health care, and consumer products sectors. Having helped lead government review of some of the nation's most significant deals and conduct investigations, she now advises boards, C-suite executives, and in-house legal teams with the strategic judgment, credibility, and practical precision needed to manage risk, secure approvals, and execute with confidence.

MARTA JANEK-JECKER

CASE HANDLER, DG COMPETITION, UNIT C5, EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Marta Janek-Jecker is a Case Handler in Unit C5 at the European Commission where she focuses on merger control within the digital, media and telecommunications sectors. Prior to joining the European Commission, she practiced as a competition lawyer in international law firms.

JOOST VANDENBOSSCHE

PRINCIPAL AT RBB ECONOMICS

Joost is a Principal in RBB's Brussels office. He has extensive experience in competition matters before the European Commission and the French and Belgian competition authorities. A Belgian national, he is fluent in Dutch, English and French.

Since joining RBB in 2014, Joost has worked extensively on competition matters before the European Commission, as well various national competition authorities. His experience spans a wide range of matters, including mergers involving both horizontal and vertical issues, alleged information exchanges and private litigation cases.

Joost holds a PhD in Economics from Ghent University, Belgium, and studied Economics at Ghent University and Université Catholique de Louvain-la-Neuve. He also has extensive experience working as a Data Scientist in various fields, including transport and mobility, marketing and online search.

PANEL 4: FIRESIDE CHAT: FROM RULES TO REALITY: WHAT COMES NEXT FOR DIGITAL MARKETS?

PROFESSOR WILLIAM E. KOVACIC

**PROFESSOR OF GLOBAL COMPETITION LAW AND POLICY, GEORGE WASHINGTON LAW SCHOOL
PROFESSOR OF LAW, KING'S COLLEGE LONDON**

William E. Kovacic is the Global Competition Professor of Law and Policy at George Washington University Law School and Director of its Competition Law Center. He is also a Visiting Professor at King's College London. From August 2013 through March 2022, he served as a non-executive director with the United Kingdom's Competition & Markets Authority. With Ariel Ezrachi, he edits the *Journal of Antitrust Enforcement*. From January 2006 to October 2011, he was a member of the Federal Trade Commission and chaired the agency from March 2008 until March 2009. He was the FTC's General Counsel from 2001 through 2004.

ANDY GAVIL

**SENIOR OF COUNSEL, CROWELL & MORING
PROFESSOR OF LAW, HOWARD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW**

Andy is Senior Of Counsel in Crowell & Moring's Washington, D.C., office, and an active member of the firm's Antitrust and Competition Group. A well-known academic authority on antitrust law, he brings decades of experience to the group. Since 1989, Andy has been a member of the faculty at Howard University School of Law, where he teaches courses on antitrust law and procedure. Andy has written, lectured, and commented extensively on antitrust law, jurisdiction, and procedure in the United States and abroad, and he is a frequent participant at antitrust conferences. With Professors Kovacic and Baker he is a co-author of *Antitrust Law in Perspective*, a leading U.S. antitrust law casebook. The fifth edition will be published this summer.

LUCIA BONOVA

HEAD OF UNIT, DG COMPETITION, EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Lucia Bonova heads a unit at the European Commission responsible for the implementation of Digital Markets Act and antitrust enforcement in the area of digital platforms. She holds a law degree from Université Panthéon-Assas in Paris and an LLM in International Business law from McGill University in Montreal. Lucia spent her entire professional career devoted to competition law enforcement, in particular merger control, and to a lesser extent, antitrust.

Previously, she served in the private office of the Executive Vice-president of the European Commission for Competition and Europe fit for Digital Age, Margrethe Vestager. In addition to her experience at the European Commission, in 2009 Lucia spent three months at the Federal Trade Commission as an exchange official. Lucia was featured amongst 26 women at the forefront of global antitrust in *GCR Women in Antitrust 2016: Enforcers* and in *30 in their 30s Notable Women Competition Professionals in Enforcement* in 2017.

MIKE WALKER

PROFESSOR IN PRACTICE AT DURHAM UNIVERSITY BUSINESS SCHOOL

Dr. Mike Walker is a leading expert on the economic aspects of competition policy, with more than thirty years of experience in private practice, in-house and within the UK's competition authority. He is currently a Senior Advisor at Frontier Economics, a Professor in Practice at Durham University Business School, a Visiting Professor at the College of Europe in Bruges and an Affiliate Researcher at the Bennett School of Public Policy in Cambridge.

Between October 2013 and December 2025 Mike was the Chief Economic Adviser at the Competition and Markets Authority, where he ran a team of 160 economists across five offices. He set up the CMA's Data Science team in 2018 and its Microeconomics Research Unit in 2021.

