

SELECTED PROPOSALS

Competition Policy and Gender – Developing the Evidence

Following the tremendous success of our call for proposals for original applied research on the topic of gender and competition policy we are pleased to announce that we have selected **7 projects** that we believe will generate new evidence to inform the debate and help us to develop guidance on how to develop a more gender inclusive competition policy. These were presented and discussed during a workshop on 25 February 2021 which can be watched [here](#).

The 7 selected projects

- **Project #1:** Oxera's project will re-examine consumer surveys commissioned in past cases to explore any differences in response by gender. This is intended to identify whether accounting for gender when designing or interpreting such surveys might make a difference to the conclusions drawn from the analysis around for example preferences, switching and market definition.
- **Project #2:** Analysis Group's project will explore how a gender lens may affect market definition analysis in merger reviews and antitrust investigations. Using web-scraped and simulated data, they will examine how gender-factors affect prices and consumer purchasing decisions and explore the potential impact of bringing a gender lens to critical loss analysis and event studies commonly employed in market definition assessments.
- **Project #3:** Alexis Brunelle and Carolina Abate will undertake a project that explores the relationship between board diversity and collusion in cartel cases (with an emphasis on past French practice). The project will also look at diversity amongst those that engage in anticompetitive behaviour, and will review the existing literature in order to understand whether the prevalence of an entrenched "boy's club" dynamic helps to enable coordination and hence preserves cartel stability.
- **Project #4:** Joan-Ramon Borrell, Carmen García, Juan-Luis Jiménez and José Manuel Ordóñez-de-Haro will undertake a project that uses different econometric techniques to explore the link between board diversity and collusion for past Spanish and EU cartel cases. The project will consider whether there are ways to improve cartel enforcement in light of the insights that it provides.
- **Project #5:** Justus Haucap, Christina Heldman and Holger Rau at DICE and University of Goettingen will undertake a project in which they use a laboratory experiment approach to explore whether there are gender differences in propensity to collude, and if so whether that might be driven by different values or norms, different attitudes to risk, insider/outsider dynamics, or different inclinations (or perceptions of others inclination) to whistleblow.
- **Project #6:** Mpumelelo Tshabalala, Betty Mkhathshwa and Sonia Phalatse will undertake a project that looks at the case for extending public interest considerations to include gender inequality. In particular, the project will look at what lessons can be learned from South Africa's experience in using its competition law to address the country's past economic social and racial disparities by assessing effects on Historically Disadvantaged Persons.
- **Project #7:** Bill Kovacic will undertake a project that will review budgeting, resource allocation, and project selection decisions by the US FTC since the late 1960s in order to understand how they prioritise what to focus upon. The project will consider the degree of intersection in the different prioritisation goals, and will suggest approaches, based on this past experience, for taking gender considerations into account as the agency also tries to respond to pressing modern concerns about income inequality generally, racial discrimination, poverty reduction, small business development, innovation, and environmental sustainability.

For more on gender inclusive competition policy please visit
oe.cd/gicp

Competition Policy and Gender Literature

How monopolies make gender inequality worse

by Sally Hubbard
Forbes magazine,
December 2017.

[Read](#)

What's gender got to do with competition policy

by Chris Pike
OECD on the level,
March 2018.

[Read](#)

Effects of market power on women and people of color

by Bill Abernathy
Presentation to
Congressional Antitrust
Caucus,
March 2018.

[Read](#)

Competition Policy and Gender

Background paper by Chris Pike & Estefania Santacreu-Vasut,
September 2018.

[Read](#)

Gender, competition policy and the GUDP (Grossly Undervalued Domestic Product)

Intervention by Sarah Long at the Chillin Competition Conference,
November 2018

[Watch the intervention](#)

Gender and competition

Session 2, 2018 OECD Global Forum on Competition.
December 2018.

[Access the materials](#)

[Watch the webcast](#)

OECD March on Gender 2019 conference

March 2019

[Access the materials](#)

[Watch the webcast](#)

Gender inequality, market distortion and consumer welfare: A call to action for competition authorities

Article by Sarah Long, Journal of European Competition Law & Practice, Volume 10, Issue 5, May 2019, Pages 267–268.

[Read](#)

Competition Policy and Gender

Article by Chris Pike & Estefania Santacreu-Vasut,
Concurrences,
November 2019

[Read \(subscription required\)](#)

Q&A Interview with Lisa Phelan

Global Competition Review. December 2019.

[Read \(subscription required\)](#)