

Memorandum of Understanding

on Cooperation between the State Commission for the Protection of Economic Competition of the Republic of Armenia and Competition Council of Romania

The State Commission for the Protection of Economic Competition of the Republic of Armenia and the Competition Council of Romania (hereinafter referred to as "the Parties"),

- expressing the wish to promote cooperation in the field of economic competition,
 - aiming to create favorable conditions for developing of bilateral relations,
 - based on the principles of equality and mutual benefits,
 - highlighting the role of implementation of competition protection policy in promoting
- the effective development of market economy,

have signed this Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as "MOU") on the following:

Article 1

Purpose of MOU

The purpose of MOU is to strengthen and improve the cooperation between the Parties in the field of competition law and implementation of economic competition protection policy.

Article 2

The ways of cooperation

Based on the mutual benefits of the Parties, the cooperation in the field of competition will carry out by the following ways:

- a. Mutual support for effective implementation of the competition legislation of the Parties, taking into consideration the experience of the Parties;
- b. The exchange of experience of the Parties in connection with conducting investigations, researches, case studies, monitoring, and proceedings as well as practical support;
- c. The exchange of information on the relations developed by Competition Authorities with other national public authorities (especially with the National Regulatory Agencies);
- d. Mutual support in participation at international activities, namely International Competition Network (ICN), Organization of Economic Cooperation Development (OECD) and World Trade Organization (WTO);
- e. Participation in conferences, seminars and other events, relating to the promotion of the rules of competition.

Article 3

Forms of Interaction

- a. Exchange of documents, studies and publications with non-confidential character regarding the legislative developments, specific cases in the competition field, market studies;
- b. Organization of seminars and study visits for professional training of the experts handling competition cases, in the limit of available funds;
- c. Participation at International Conferences, Seminars and other events organized in Armenia and Romania having as purpose the promotion of competition rules;
- d. Provide the other information and (or) fulfillment of actions established by this MOU, within the framework of legal and organizational ways of cooperation.

Article 4

Request and exchange of information

- a. Each Party has the right to provide the appropriate information to the other Party upon request. The requests and the answers of the Parties will be fulfilled in English in written form (in the case of the Parties' representatives meeting by the hand) and in the case of urgent request, can be used e-mail means by later written confirmation.
- b. The other Party has the right to refuse providing information, if it has already been disposed. A request can also be refused on the basis of confidentiality.
- c. The requesting Party will state the purpose and the basic conditions of its request.
- d. The requested information will be provided not later than sixty days upon receipt of the request.

Article 5

Protection of information

- a. The information constituted within the framework of this MOU may not be disclosed unless the Parties agree otherwise. The Parties ensure the confidentiality protection of the received information according to the legislative requirements of both Parties' countries.
- b. The Parties may refuse to fulfill the provisions of this MOU, according to the national law and taking into account the interests of their countries with regard to safeguard data containing official, commercial and other secrets.

Article 6

The organization of the meetings

The agenda, place, days of the meetings and the other questions carried out within the framework of the actions of this MOU are regulated by mutual agreement of the Parties.

Article 7

Final provisions

- b The fulfillment of the provisions of MOU shall not apply to the rights and obligations, deriving from the other international obligations of the Parties.
- c The specific form of fulfillment of cooperation under the MOU shall be financed by the requesting Party, unless special funds dedicated to it or otherwise agreed by the Parties.
- d The MOU shall enter into force upon signature by the Parties, and shall remain in force unless it is terminated.
- e The MOU can be revised through consultation agreed on by the Parties.
- f Disputes arising in relation of fulfillment and interpretation of the provisions of the MOU shall be settled by negotiations.
- g Each Party has the right to withdraw from this MOU by notifying the other Party in writing of its intention three months prior to the date of withdrawal.
- h The MOU can be terminated by the initiative of one of the Parties at least a month before by giving written notice to the other Party.
- i The present MOU is signed in Yerevan on 6th of October, 2009 in one copy, in English.

**The Chairman of the State
Commission for the Protection
of Republic of Armenia**


A. Shahnazaryan

**The president of the Competition
Council of Romania**


Bogdan Marius Chiritoiu