



Dublin European Institute
Institiúid Eorpach Bhaile Átha Cliath



UCD Sutherland
School of Law



Competition Conversations with Philip Wiaderek from the University of Łódź and a senior specialist at the Polish Competition Authority (UOKiK), alongside his thesis supervisor Professor Łukasz Grezejdzia, presented his research on 'The problem of tacit coordination in EU competition law: Article 101 TFEU', UCD Sutherland School of Law. May 2025

Competition Conversations Network Newsletter

December 2025

Competition Conversation Network (CCN)

The Competition Conversations reading group, founded in 2022 by Professor Imelda Maher and Dr Mina Hosseini, has since evolved into the Competition Conversations Network (CCN), a collaborative initiative affiliated with the Dublin European Institute and the UCD Sutherland School of Law. CCN consists of members of the UCD School of Law and the School of Economics, including established professors, Postdoctoral fellows and PhD students, as well as visiting scholars, academics and practitioners from Europe and beyond.



Competition Conversations with Dr Christopher McMahon to discuss his paper ['Selectivity as discrimination: lessons from the case law on fiscal measures for identifying state aid \(Yearbook of European Law\)](#), UCD Sutherland School of Law, December 2024.

The CCN serves as a platform for regular virtual and in-person meetings, collaborative research projects, and the dissemination of new findings in the field between competition law scholars across Europe and beyond.

Over the past three years, Competition Conversations hosted several sessions featuring esteemed guests, including competition law professors, judges, and practitioners from Ireland, Poland, Spain, the US, the Netherlands, Italy, as well as representatives from the European Commission, Court of Justice of the European Union and Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC).



Competition Conversations with [Dr Edoardo Rossi](#), Associate Professor of International Law at the University of Urbino Carlo Bo, to discuss his paper 'Digital Markets Acts (DMA) in the light of Private International Law', UCD Sutherland School of Law, February 2025.

Recent Publications by the CCN Members Include

Public Health, Markets, and Law Symposium

We are delighted to announce the publication of the [“Public Health, Markets, and Law” symposium in The Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics \(Cambridge University Press, September 2025\)](#). Guest edited by **Dr Mina Hosseini** and **Professor Imelda Maher** from UCD Sutherland School of Law, this fully open-access special issue explores the complex intersections between public health, market dynamics, and legal frameworks. The collection emerged from two [international workshops](#) funded by the EU’s **MSCA COMPHACRISIS project** and **UCD Sutherland School of Law**, which brought together experts across disciplines—public health,

business, sociology, law, and ethics—to examine public health challenges from multiple perspectives.



GUEST EDITORS - SEPTEMBER 2025

SYMPOSIUM

“Public Health, Markets and Law”



Dr Mina Hosseini



Prof Imelda Maher

The symposium features thought-provoking contributions from leading scholars, including Susi Geiger, Mary Guy, Katrina Perehudoff, Pramiti Parwani, Anniek de Ruijter, Carmen de Vivero de Porras, Enrique Sanjuán y Muñoz, Aisling McMahon, Łukasz Grzejdziak, and Mina Hosseini. This symposium was co-funded by the European Union’s Horizon Europe MSCA COMPHACRISIS project and UCD Sutherland School of Law.

CCN Insights for the CCPC Consultation

Some members of the CCN (Dr Ciara Whelan, Dr Łukasz Grzejdziak, Dr Mina Hosseini, Prof Imelda Maher and Dr Nikolaos Pitsos) contributed to national policy by submitting a joint response to the [CCPC’s State of Competition consultation](#). Their contribution highlighted key considerations for assessing competition in Ireland, such as the importance of accounting for Ireland’s small-open-economy status and the dominance of multinational sectors (in the digital and pharmaceutical sectors). It also drew attention to newer developments shaping markets, including digitalisation, the growing role of AI, and sustainability pressures, and it reflected on experiences in other countries, such as the market-mapping work of the Hellenic Competition Authority, as valuable points of comparison.

Other Publications

- Alex Casey, ‘Generative Duty to Deal Dilemma (2025) SSRN Working Paper 5345913 <https://ssrn.com/abstract=5345913> accessed [2025-10-20].
- [Alex Casey, 'Not All Setbacks are Equal: The Impact of the Digital Markets Act upon the Scope of the Essential Facilities Doctrine' \(2025\) 26 Irish Journal of European Law.](#)

- [Carmen de Vivero de Porras and Enrique Sanjuán y Muñoz, 'Abuse of Dominant Position, Effective Judicial Protection and Abuse of Procedure' \(2025\) Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics 379.](#)
- [Carmen de Vivero de Porras, 'Preventive Restructuring and the Deactivation of Protection Mechanisms for the "In Bonis" Contracting Party' \(2025\) 78\(1\) Anuario de Derecho Civil 197.](#)
- Catarina Marvão and Giancarlo Spagnolo, 'CEO Turnover and Shareholder Awareness in Cartel Cases' in Florence Thépot and Aglaia Tzanaki (eds), [Research Handbook on Competition and Corporate Law \(Edward Elgar 2023\) 449.](#)
- [Csongor I Nagy, The Conceptual Structure of EU Competition Law \(Edward Elgar Publishing 2024\).](#)
- [Łukasz Grzejdziaś "Wrestling the Two-Headed Hydra: On the Consequences of the Bifurcated Concept of 'Undertaking' in EU Competition Law" \(2025\) 53 \(3\) Journal of Law, Medicine and Ethics, 415.](#)
- Marek Martyniszyn, 'Competition law and policy in crisis and the rise of the expansive state' (2025) Journal of Antitrust Enforcement, [https://doi.org/10.1093/jaenfo/jnaf020.](https://doi.org/10.1093/jaenfo/jnaf020)
- [Mary Guy and Lee Newcombe, 'NHS Patient Choice Policy in England: What Mapping the Private Healthcare Market for NHS Patients Can Tell Us' \(2025\) Liverpool Law Review 1.](#)
- Mary Guy, 'Of "Glaziers and Window Breakers": On Translating "Promotion of a Comprehensive Health Service" Into Practice' (forthcoming in Edward S Dove (ed), *Research Handbook on Medical Jurisprudence* (Edward Elgar)) SSRN 5461174 <https://ssrn.com/abstract=5461174> accessed 20 October 2025.
- [Mary Guy, 'On the Quiet Power of National Decisions: Hospitals, State Aid, and Services of General Economic Interest' \(2025\) 53 \(3\) Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics 345.](#)
- [Mina Hosseini, 'Competition Law and Ethics of Innovation as Catalysts for Fairness: Reimagining the EU's COVID-19 Vaccine Strategy' \(2025\) 53\(3\) Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics 388.](#)
- [Mina Hosseini, 'The Evolution of EU Competition Law and Policy in the Pharmaceutical Sector: Long Lasting Impacts of a Pandemic' \(2025\) 3\(1\) Journal of Antitrust Enforcement.](#)
- Paul K Gorecki, 'Ireland's Choices in Implementing the Digital Market's Act: Narrow or Wide?' in G Muscolo and A Massolo (eds), *Navigating the DMA: Applications Across National Jurisdictions* (Concurrences 2025) 103.
- Richard Bunworth, 'Competition Copycats: The Brussels Effect and the Diffusion of the EU's Social Values' in Ranjana Andrea Achleitner, Eva Fischer, Lena Hornkohl and Bernadette Zelger (eds) *Questioning the Role of Competition in the 21st Century* (Nomos 2025)



Competition Conversations with Dr [Edward Willis](#), Associate Professor at the University of Otago, New Zealand, about 'A Public Law Theory of Economic Regulation', 17 June 2025

Recent Presentations by the CCN Members

- Carmen de Vivero de Porras, 'Abuse of Law: Challenging Shareholders' Meeting Resolutions', 2nd International Conference on Business Law, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, May, 2025.
- Carmen de Vivero de Porras, 'Resilience is Not Optional: A Strategic Perspective from the DORA Regulation', Spanish National Conference Commercial Law in the Face of Digitalisation and Sustainability, University of Córdoba, September, 2025.
- Edoardo Rossi, 'Conflitti nella digitalizzazione dei rapporti giuridici transnazionali: la direttiva «anti-SLAPPs»', Convegno "La pace: bene supremo del diritto internazionale e dell'Unione europea", XXIX Convegno annuale della Società Italiana di Diritto

Internazionale e di Diritto dell'Unione europea (SIDI, The National Conference of the Italian Society of International Law), Università di Padova, June, 2025.

- Edoardo Rossi, 'Toward a Clear Legal Framework on the Impact of Digital Technologies in Democratic Processes', The Venice Commission 1990-2025. Taking Stock of 35 Years for Democracy Through Law, Bocconi University, May, 2025.
- Imelda Maher, 'The Limitations of Private Antitrust Enforcement in Ireland', 12th International PhD students Conference, University of Białstok, May, 2025
- Mina Hosseini, A Qualitative Study on the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on EU Competition Law Enforcement, 55th UK Association of Contemporary European Studies (UACES) Conference, University of Liverpool, John Moores University, September, 2025.
- Mary Guy, 'Free Movement Rules and EU Competition Policy' (paper from *Solidarity in European Healthcare: A Law Analysis*, forthcoming, Edward Elgar), presented at the Socio-Legal Studies Association Conference, University of Liverpool, April 2025; the European Lawyers' Assembly, King's College London, May 2025; the UACES 55th Annual Conference, University of Liverpool, September 2025; and by invitation at the Faculty of Law, University of Uppsala, April, 2025.
- Zhiyi Yin, "Justifying Short-Term Harm? Dynamic Efficiency as Defence in EU and China's Merger Control" at the Society of Legal Scholars (SLS) conference, Leeds University September 2025. Richard Bunworth, 'Home Advantage: The Irish Rugby Football Union's Eligibility Restrictions in Light of the Diarra Case' Competition Law in a Sporting Context, The Competition Law Scholars' Forum (CLaSF) ', Universidade do Porto, April, 2025 .

Recent Achievements & Awards



Congratulations to Dr Richard Bunworth!

Congratulations to our member Richard! We are delighted to announce the appointment of Dr Richard Bunworth as Assistant Professor in Intellectual Property Law in Trinity College Dublin. Richard will be lecturing in Intellectual Property Law, Industrial Property, and related subjects, as well as supervising dissertations on intellectual property, technology, and competition law. We wish him the very best in his new role.

Antitrust Writing Awards Finalist



Imelda Maher and Mina Hosseini's article "Cooperation between National Competition Authorities: An overview of EU and national case law", published in Concurrences (2024), was selected as a finalist in the 2025 Antitrust Writing Awards in the "Procedure" subcategory.

Congratulations to Dr Carmen de Vivero de Porras

In July 2025, Carmen de Vivero de Porras passed the public examination and was appointed Associate Professor of Commercial Law at the University of Málaga. She also received an Award for Career Promotion from the Faculty of Marketing and Management at the University of Málaga.

📌 Appointment Announcement

Professor Imelda Maher and Dr Richard Bunworth have been appointed as Non-Governmental Advisers to the Irish Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC).

🎓 Our PhD students

UCD Law School is home to many doctoral researchers working on competition law, whose energy, ideas and scholarship enrich our network.

🎓 Congratulations to Abdullah Alhamami on Successfully Defending His PhD Viva!



Abdullah's thesis, supervised by Professor Imelda Maher, was about 'Critical Analysis of Public Enforcement of Competition Laws in Saudi Arabia with Reference to Egypt and the European Union'. In this photo, Professor Imelda Maher, Professor Eyad Maher Dabbah from Queen's University Belfast, Associate Professor Mary Catherine Lucey and Professor Cathryn Costello from UCD Sutherland School of Law.

Anna Louise Hinds

Anna-Louise has been a Lecturer in Competition Law at the National University of Ireland, Galway, since 2001 and is currently a PhD candidate at the Sutherland School of Law, UCD, under the supervision of Professor Imelda Maher. Her thesis argues that the effectiveness of the European Commission's competition law enforcement regime must be understood

through a dual theoretical lens - rule of law theory and regulatory enforcement theory - moving beyond the prevailing discourse on due process, procedural reform, and better regulation principles. By reframing enforcement within a broader effectiveness paradigm, it contends that the legitimacy and impact of the Commission's enforcement regime depend not only on procedural fairness but also on its ability to meet meaningful competition goals in a changing enforcement landscape.

Zhiyi Yin

Zhiyi Yin is a PhD candidate at the UCD Sutherland School of Law, supervised by Professor Imelda Maher. He holds an LLM in International Corporate Law from the University of Leeds, where he graduated with Distinction. His thesis undertakes a comparative study of EU and Chinese competition law, with a particular focus on merger control and the role of dynamic efficiency as a guiding economic rationale in assessing innovation and market evolution. Adopting qualitative and context-sensitive methods, the thesis explores how each legal system navigates the interaction between state and market in shaping competition policy and enforcement outcomes.

Xinqi Zhu

Xinqi Zhu is a PhD candidate at the UCD Sutherland School of Law, supervised by Professor Imelda Maher. Her thesis examines how to address data-driven abusive practices by online platforms in digital markets, aiming to bridge a key gap in the literature on regulating such conduct in China. Using a comparative analysis of legal provisions, regulations, case law, and regulatory frameworks in the EU and China, the thesis investigates both the rationales behind the differing regulatory approaches and the consequences of these measures.

Alex Casey

Alex Casey, who just graduated from Harvard Law School with a Master's in Law (LLM), commenced his PhD research in September 2025 at UCD Sutherland School of Law under the supervision of Professor Imelda Maher, after being awarded the School of Law's Doctoral Scholarship. His research will focus on assessing the refusal-to-deal doctrine in EU competition law. Alex was nominated as a finalist in two categories at the Irish Law Awards 2025: "Law Student of the Year" and "Legal Educator of the Year."

Teaching Competition Law

Several members of the CCN are actively involved in teaching reflecting the Network's strong pedagogical foundation. **Professor Imelda Maher**, **Dr Mary Catherine Lucey** and **Dr Mina Hosseini** (UCD Sutherland School of Law) teaching Competition Law related modules. **Dr Łukasz Grzejdziak** (University of Łódź, University of Strathclyde and UCD Sutherland School of Law), **Dr Carmen de Vivero de Porras** (University of Málaga), **Professor Marek Martyniszyn** (Queen's University Belfast), **Professor Enrique Sanjuán y Muñoz** (University of Málaga), **Dr Nikolaos Pistos** (International University of Greece) and **Dr Peter O'Loughlin**, **Csongor István**

Nagy and **Anna-Louise Hinds** (University of Galway), contribute to teaching competition law and policy, commercial law, and related subjects. In addition, CCN benefits from contributions of economists teaching in competition-related fields, including **Dr Catarina Marvão** (UCD College of Business), who teaches Antitrust Economics, and **Dr Ciara Whelan** (UCD School of Economics), who teaches the Economics of Competition Policy.

Future Events:

- **EU HealthGov Webinar: Tuesday, 24 February 2026, 3:00–4:30 pm**
Webinar on the *Public Health, Markets and Law* symposium, featuring contributions from the authors and editors, held as part of the EUHealthGov webinar series.
- **Competition Conversations with Professor Vinícius Klein: Tuesday, 3 March 2026, 1:00 pm (in person and online):** A session with **Professor Vinícius Klein** from the Federal University of Paraná, Brazil, discussing contemporary issues in competition law and regulation.
- **The 2nd CRIEI Workshop on Competition and Regulation Economics** will be held at UCD on June 2nd, 2026. For more information, see [here](#).

If you are a **PhD student, postdoctoral researcher, academic, or practitioner** based in **Ireland, Europe, or beyond**, and would like to **become a member** and **join our upcoming hybrid events**, please contact: Mina.hosseini1@ucd.ie