



Digital Clearinghouse

The Digital Clearinghouse met for the fifth time today.

It was attended by over 25 authorities responsible for enforcement of competition, data protection, consumer law from the EU and across the globe.

On the basis of a draft academic background note prepared by the Universities of Namur and Tilburg, regulators working in the digital area discussed challenges of regulating non-monetary price services in the morning session. Jens-Uwe Franck (University of Mannheim) and Paul de Bijl (Radicand Economics, Utrecht University, Tilburg University) were invited to comment on the background note that will be finalised over the summer taking into account the discussion during the roundtable.

In the afternoon, the February 2019 Facebook decision of the German Bundeskartellamt was discussed as well as the joint consumer action against Facebook that was concluded in April 2019. In addition, participants were informed by the EDPS on the investigation concerning the use of Microsoft products and services by EU institutions with a view to explore potential implications for consumer protection and competition enforcement. Finally, participants reflected on best practices for inter-agency collaboration in the context of the ICDPPC (International Conference of Data Protection and Privacy Commissioners) Digital Citizen and Consumer Working Group.

It was agreed to define rules of procedure for the network and to explore whether and how to involve other stakeholders.

The next meeting of the Digital Clearinghouse will be organised for autumn 2019.

Brussels, 5 June 2019