



## Digital Clearinghouse

The Digital Clearinghouse met for the seventh time today. Due to the circumstances, a virtual roundtable was organised.

The roundtable was attended by over 35 participants representing authorities responsible for enforcement of competition, data protection, consumer law from Europe and across the globe.

The theme of the roundtable was ‘Regulating Market Power in the Digital Era’.

On the basis of an academic background note prepared by Tilburg University on the role of market power and special responsibility in EU competition, data protection and consumer law, participants discussed the need for and desirability of asymmetric regulation based on the extent to which the three regimes integrate considerations of market power into their analysis. Both substantive and institutional insights were covered.

Afterwards, the monitoring system for digital platforms as jointly developed by the Austrian Regulatory Authority for Broadcasting and Telecommunications and the Austrian Federal Competition Authority was discussed based on a presentation by Justin Thanhäuser (Austrian Federal Competition Authority). His presentation also included insights about the competition investigation that the Austrian Federal Competition Authority concluded in 2019 into Amazon’s terms and conditions for sellers.

In the afternoon, Winnie van Heesch (Netherlands Authority for Consumers and Markets) discussed the guidelines on the protection of online consumers that the Netherlands Authority for Consumers and Markets published in February 2020.

Lastly, Brent Homan (Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada) informed participants about the work of the Digital Citizen and Consumer Working Group looking into complements and tensions between the fields of privacy and competition.

The next meeting of the Digital Clearinghouse will be organised for autumn 2020.

Tilburg, 10 June 2020