



## Agency Effectiveness Working Group



Dear AEWG Members,

The ICN AEWG is pleased to announce its plans for **the next Chief and Senior Economist Workshop**, planned for **spring 2027**. Building on the success of the previous editions in Vancouver (2016), Seoul (2018), Bergen (2023), and Budapest (2025), the 2027 workshop will again bring together senior economists from ICN member agencies for in-depth discussion on cutting-edge economic issues relevant to competition enforcement.

The AEWG envisages a 2.5-day, fully in-person workshop, consisting of four longer half-day sessions and two shorter two-hour sessions. Each session will be introduced by a renowned academic lead, selected jointly by the host agency, the AEWG Economic Subgroup, and the Academic Advisory Committee (Tom Ross, Aviv Nevo, Joe Harrington, and Yannis Katsoulacos).

We now invite ICN member agencies interested in hosting the 2027 workshop to submit an Expression of Interest (EoI). Please send your EoI to Zombor Berezvai from the Hungarian Competition Authority ([Berezvai.Zombor@gvh.hu](mailto:Berezvai.Zombor@gvh.hu)) by 15 March 2026.

### Information for Prospective Hosts

Candidate agencies are encouraged to consider the following indicative parameters:

- **Format:** Fully in-person event with plenary sessions. No breakout session is planned.
- **Participants:** Workshops typically attract around **70 senior economists** from ICN member agencies, plus session leads and speakers.
- **Host Responsibilities:** Venue acquisition and management, AV and technical support, local staff coordination, registration handling, an event webpage,<sup>[1]</sup> catering arrangements (including lunches and one reception), on-site logistics, and coordination with AEWG on agenda and communications.
- **Financial Considerations:** Workshops generally do **not** charge participation fees. Hosts are expected to cover catering costs (coffee breaks, lunches and one evening reception) and are asked to indicate whether they can cover the **travel and accommodation** expenses of the six academic leads (in full or in part).
- **Decision Process and Timeline:** Submissions will be reviewed by the AEWG in March–April 2026, with a selection decision communicated to candidates by **May/June 2026**.

### Content of the Expression of Interest

Please address the following points in your submission:

**Resources and Capacity** – Outline the resources your agency can allocate for hosting and organising the workshop. Indicate the expected level of logistical and staff support, catering

arrangements, and your willingness to cover the travel and accommodation expenses for the academic leads.

**Agency's Participation in the ICN** – Summarise your agency's engagement with the ICN in recent years, including participation in the AEWG and other working groups.

**ICN Hosting Track Record** – List any ICN events your agency has hosted in the past three years or plans to host in 2026–2027.

**Proposed Dates** – The workshop is planned to take place between February and June 2027. Please indicate any periods during this timeframe when you are unavailable to host the workshop (e.g. due to public holidays or other events).

**Workshop Location**

Please, provide a description of the proposed venue and location, including:

- a) geographic location and accessibility;
- b) venue characteristics (rooms, AV capabilities, proximity of hotels);
- c) security conditions and any relevant local requirements.

Regards,  
AEWG Co-Chairs