



ADVOCACY WORKING GROUP
MARKET STUDIES PROJECT

MARKET STUDIES INFORMATION STORE

JURISDICTION:

Italy - Autorità Garante della Concorrenza e del Mercato

UPDATED: DECEMBER 2015

Information Store

Italy – Autorità Garante della Concorrenza e del Mercato

Sector:	Transport												
Market:	Local public transport	Range of Possible Outcomes											
End Date:	Ongoing	Competition Enforcement Consumer Enforcement Consumer Education Business Education Voluntary Business Compliance Voluntary Business Action Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy Referral to Third Parties No Problems Found	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Duration:	22 months (as of November 2015)												
Source of idea for study:	Crisis of the local public transport sector, partially due to its low competitiveness.												
Outcome (tick relevant columns):													
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	To check whether the current management of local public transport complies with national and European law and to assess the real level of competitiveness in the market.												
Link to report:	http://www.agcm.it/indagini-conoscitive-db/open/C12564CE0049D161/F3E960FB5A191EA2C1257C540054A35C.html												

Sector:	Waste and Waste Management												
Market:	Urban solid waste management	Range of Possible Outcomes											
End Date:	Ongoing	Competition Enforcement Consumer Enforcement Consumer Education Business Education Voluntary Business Compliance Voluntary Business Action Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy Referral to Third Parties No Problems Found	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Duration:	14 months (as of November 2015)												
Source of idea for study:	Critical issues and regulatory fragmentation in the market of urban solid waste management.												
Outcome (tick relevant columns):													
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	To analyse the market of urban solid waste management and to identify the best management model in order to safeguard the public interest and the environment.												
Link to report:	http://www.agcm.it/en/newsroom/press-releases/2189-hearing-of-president-pitruzzella-in-the-environment-commission-of-the-senateqmore-competition-in-the-management-of-municipal-wasteq.html												

Information Store

Sector:	Health	Range of Possible Outcomes											
Market:	Vaccines for human use												
End Date:	Ongoing	Competition Enforcement Consumer Enforcement Consumer Education Business Education Voluntary Business Compliance Voluntary Business Action Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy Referral to Third Parties No Problems Found											
Duration:	5 months (as of November 2015)												
Source of idea for study:	The enduring demand fragmentation in the market.												
Outcome (tick relevant columns):			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	The survey aims at investigating the market dynamics and the competitive concerns related to the market of vaccines for human use and analysing the possible critical issues regarding public tender procedures.												
Link to report:	http://www.agcm.it/en/newsroom/press-releases/2222-ic50-sector-inquiry-on-vaccines-for-human-use.html												

Sector:	Groceries (food and drink)	Range of Possible Outcomes											
Market:	Milk and dairy products												
End Date:	Ongoing	Competition Enforcement Consumer Enforcement Consumer Education Business Education Voluntary Business Compliance Voluntary Business Action Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy Referral to Third Parties No Problems Found											
Duration:	5 months (as of November 2015)												
Source of idea for study:	The end of milk quota regime. Complaints by farmers reporting no correlation between the consumer price of milk and dairy products and the price of raw milk.												
Outcome (tick relevant columns):			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	To analyse how the terms of sale of milk and dairy products are established and to examine the price transmission mechanism along the supply chain and the real level of competitiveness between the companies operating in the milk and dairy product market.												
Link to report:	http://www.agcm.it/en/newsroom/press-releases/2229-ic51-a-survey-by-the-antitrust-on-the-dairy-chain.html												

Information Store

Sector:	Communications											
Market:	Broadband and ultra-wideband networks	Range of Possible Outcomes										
End Date:	November 2014	Competition Enforcement	Consumer Enforcement	Consumer Education	Business Education	Voluntary Business Compliance	Voluntary Business Action	Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law	Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure	Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy	Referral to Third Parties	No Problems Found
Duration:	10 months											
Source of idea for study:	Italy's delay in the development of ultra-wideband networks.											
Outcome (tick relevant columns):												
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	The market study was carried out together with the Italian Communication Authority in order to assess whether and how private sector investments into ultra-wideband network can contribute to a deep renewal of the Italian infrastructure, the competition implications and how the market regulation interacts with technological and market changes.											
Link to report:	http://www.agcm.it/en/newsroom/press-releases/2190-ic48-having-concluded-the-joint-investigation-between-the-antitrust-authority-and-acg-on-broadband.html											

Sector:	Energy											
Market:	District heating	Range of Possible Outcomes										
End Date:	March 2014	Competition Enforcement	Consumer Enforcement	Consumer Education	Business Education	Voluntary Business Compliance	Voluntary Business Action	Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law	Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure	Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy	Referral to Third Parties	No Problems Found
Duration:	29 months											
Source of idea for study:	Complaints about prices and transparency in the contract conditions concerning district heating services.											
Outcome (tick relevant columns):												
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	To analyse the district heating service and assess whether its features can raise competitive issues that need an Authority's intervention.											
Link to report:	http://www.agcm.it/indagini-conoscitive-db/download/C12564CE0049D161/763C50A4A6F34653C1257987004D3AA0.html?a=IC46_Chiusura.pdf											

Information Store

Sector:	Groceries (food and drink)											
Market:	Wholesale and retail markets	Range of Possible Outcomes										
End Date:	October 2013	Competition Enforcement	Consumer Enforcement	Consumer Education	Business Education	Voluntary Business Compliance	Voluntary Business Action	Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law	Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure	Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy	Referral to Third Parties	No Problems Found
Duration:	33 months											
Source of idea for study:	Complaints from food suppliers experiencing anti-competitive behaviour by chain retailers.											
Outcome (tick relevant columns):		✓	☐	☐	☐	☐	✓	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	To analyse the recent developments of the grocery trade industry and the vertical relationships between chain retailers and their suppliers.											
Link to report:	http://www.agcm.it/en/newsroom/press-releases/2101-ic43-agri-foodstuffs-according-to-the-antitrust-the-market-power-of-the-organized-mass-distribution-getting-stronger-conflicting-relationships-with-suppliers-and-uncertain-effects-on-consumers.html											

Sector:	Financial Services											
Market:	Current accounts	Range of Possible Outcomes										
End Date:	July 2013	Competition Enforcement	Consumer Enforcement	Consumer Education	Business Education	Voluntary Business Compliance	Voluntary Business Action	Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law	Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure	Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy	Referral to Third Parties	No Problems Found
Duration:	28 months											
Source of idea for study:	High costs of banking services in Italy.											
Outcome (tick relevant columns):		☐	☐	☐	☐	✓	✓	✓	☐	☐	☐	☐
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	A previous market study (2007) had already pointed out some competitive concerns in the sector of current accounts. The objective of this study was to update the previous investigation and to ascertain the enduring of anti-competitive bank policies.											
Link to report:	http://www.agcm.it/en/newsroom/press-releases/2097-ic45-banks-antitrust-there-is-room-to-reduce-the-costs-of-current-accounts-possible-savings-of-up-to-180-but-citizens-need-to-be-better-informed.html											

Information Store

Sector:	Insurance											
Market:	Third-party vehicle insurance	Range of Possible Outcomes										
End Date:	February 2013	Competition Enforcement	Consumer Enforcement	Consumer Education	Business Education	Voluntary Business Compliance	Voluntary Business Action	Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law	Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure	Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy	Referral to Third Parties	No Problems Found
Duration:	33 months											
Source of idea for study:	Complaints received by the Authority and public and private statistics revealing a significant and generalized increase of premiums charged by companies for car insurance contracts.											
Outcome (tick relevant columns):		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	The objective was to investigate the reasons behind premiums and costs oscillations in the third party vehicle insurance market, as well as to identify the potential competitive effects produced by legislation on direct compensation procedure.											
Link to report:	http://www.agcm.it/en/newsroom/press-releases/2045-ic42-third-party-vehicle-insurance-in-order-to-reduce-costs-for-motorists-the-authority-calls-for-reform-of-the-direct-compensation-system-the-introduction-of-new-contractual-models-aimed-at-controlling-costs-in-order-to-reduce-premiums-and-making-sw.html											

Information Store

Sector:	Fuel											
Market:	Fuel distribution	Range of Possible Outcomes										
End Date:	December 2012	Competition Enforcement	Consumer Enforcement	Consumer Education	Business Education	Voluntary Business Compliance	Voluntary Business Action	Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law	Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure	Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy	Referral to Third Parties	No Problems Found
Duration:	21 months											
Source of idea for study:	The price level of automotive fuel in Italy was considered unfavourable to consumers, compared to the European average.											
Outcome (tick relevant columns):												
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	The objective was to assess whether the high price level of automotive fuel was due to critical factors in the fuel distribution market, in the form of tacit or explicit collusion by traditional operators (vertically integrated oil companies).											
Link to report:	http://www.agcm.it/en/newsroom/press-releases/2023-ic44-fuel-distribution-antitrust-a-push-for-price-reductions-and-a-new-competitive-balance-from-more-than-2000-white-pumps-and-82-omd-sales-points.html											

Sector:	Media											
Market:	Newspapers distribution	Range of Possible Outcomes										
End Date:	September 2009	Competition Enforcement	Consumer Enforcement	Consumer Education	Business Education	Voluntary Business Compliance	Voluntary Business Action	Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law	Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure	Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy	Referral to Third Parties	No Problems Found
Duration:	31 months											
Source of idea for study:	Complaints from retailers experiencing difficulties in the access to the market											
Outcome (tick relevant columns):												
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	A previous market study (2004) had already pointed out restrictions in regulation on access to newspapers retailing. The objective of this study was to update the previous investigation.											
Link to report:	http://www.agcm.it/en/newsroom/press-releases/1320-conclusion-of-investigation-into-editorial-distribution.html											

Information Store

Sector:	Energy											
Market:	Natural gas	Range of Possible Outcomes										
End Date:	May 2009	Competition Enforcement Consumer Enforcement Consumer Education Business Education Voluntary Business Compliance Voluntary Business Action Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy Referral to Third Parties No Problems Found	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Duration:	30 months											
Source of idea for study:	Existence of “critical factors” in the liberalized gas market with particular reference to storage facilities											
Outcome (tick relevant columns):												
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	The object of the investigation was to assess the impact of the legal and regulatory context on competitive dynamics within the industry, in particular the role of access to storage facilities competition in the liberalized natural gas market.											
Link to report:	http://www.agcm.it/en/newsroom/press-releases/1365-investigation-concluded-into-storage-of-natural-gas.html											

Sector:	Communications											
Market:	SMS, MMS and mobile data services	Range of Possible Outcomes										
End Date:	May 2009	Competition Enforcement Consumer Enforcement Consumer Education Business Education Voluntary Business Compliance Voluntary Business Action Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy Referral to Third Parties No Problems Found	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Duration:	10 months											
Source of idea for study:	Italian Competition Authority and the Italian and Telecommunications Authority											
Outcome (tick relevant columns):												
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	High costs of the services and lack of transparency. To investigate the structure of the market and its competitive dynamics.											
Link to report:	http://www.agcm.it/en/newsroom/press-releases/1524-sms-mms-and-mobile-data-services.html											

Information Store

Sector:	Financial Services											
Market:	Prepaid cards	Range of Possible Outcomes										
End Date:	March 2009	Competition Enforcement	Consumer Enforcement	Consumer Education	Business Education	Voluntary Business Compliance	Voluntary Business Action	Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law	Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure	Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy	Referral to Third Parties	No Problems Found
Duration:	21 months											
Source of idea for study:	Problems experienced by consumers in the use of prepaid cards											
Outcome (tick relevant columns):												
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	To investigate whether the high costs of prepaid cards and other problems experienced by consumers in their use might originate from regulatory restrictions.											
Link to report:	http://www.agcm.it/en/newsroom/press-releases/1262-conclusion-of-investigation-into-prepaid-cards.html											

Sector:	Professions											
Market:	Professional services	Range of Possible Outcomes										
End Date:	January 2009	Competition Enforcement	Consumer Enforcement	Consumer Education	Business Education	Voluntary Business Compliance	Voluntary Business Action	Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law	Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure	Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy	Referral to Third Parties	No Problems Found
Duration:	24 months											
Source of idea for study:	Liberalization of professional services introduced with Law n. 248/06											
Outcome (tick relevant columns):												
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	The liberalization of professional services (Fees and advertising), introduced with Law n. 248/06, required professional bodies to update their codes of conduct introducing the changes. The purpose of the study was to assess whether all restrictions on competition had been eliminated by the codes of conduct.											
Link to report:	http://www.agcm.it/en/newsroom/press-releases/1690-fact-finding-investigation-of-professional-orders.html											

Information Store

Sector:	Waste And Waste Management											
Market:	Recyclable Packaging Waste	Range of Possible Outcomes										
End Date:	June 2008	Competition Enforcement	Consumer Enforcement	Consumer Education	Business Education	Voluntary Business Compliance	Voluntary Business Action	Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law	Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure	Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy	Referral to Third Parties	No Problems Found
Duration:	39 months											
Source of idea for study:												
Outcome (tick relevant columns):												
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	<p>The imminent expiry of the Convention that governs relations between ANCI, the Associazione Nazionale Comuni Italiani (National Association of Italian Municipalities) and CONAI, the Consorzio Nazionale Imballaggi (National Packaging Consortium), and the Authority's awareness that waste packaging materials are an economic resource that Italian municipalities are unable to exploit and that could instead, with proper involvement of the market, guarantee public benefits through a better collection service and lower charges.</p> <p>To ascertain if the operation of a system of consortia (with significant areas "reserved") reduces the degree of competition in the industry.</p>											
Link to report:	http://www.agcm.it/en/newsroom/press-releases/1706-fact-finding-investigation-of-packaging-waste-concluded.html											

Information Store

Sector:	Groceries (Food And Drink)										
Market:	Agri Food	Range of Possible Outcomes									
End Date:	June 2007	Competition Enforcement Consumer Enforcement Consumer Education Business Education Voluntary Business Compliance Voluntary Business Action Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy Referral to Third Parties No Problems Found	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Duration:	24 months										
Source of idea for study:	High costs of distribution services and numerous rises in the prices of agri-foodstuffs										
Outcome (tick relevant columns):		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	The objective of the investigation into food distribution was to analyse the operation of the distribution chain in fruits and vegetables. The aim of the inquiry was to verify whether the organisation and structure of the industry might be inefficient, resulting in higher prices for consumers. Another factor triggering the investigation was a widespread perception that fruit and vegetable prices had increased at the time of the lira-euro changeover.										
Link to report:	http://www.agcm.it/en/newsroom/press-releases/1647-distribution-of-food-and-agricultural-products.html										

Sector:	Media										
Market:	Football	Range of Possible Outcomes									
End Date:	December 2006	Competition Enforcement Consumer Enforcement Consumer Education Business Education Voluntary Business Compliance Voluntary Business Action Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy Referral to Third Parties No Problems Found	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Duration:	21 months										
Source of idea for study:	Existence of a number of anomalies in the functioning of the market										
Outcome (tick relevant columns):		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	To enhance knowledge of the sector, to assess the state of competition and to ascertain eventual problems also as preparation for intervention in the legislative process.										
No link to report											

Information Store

Sector:	Communications											
Market:	Mobile	Range of Possible Outcomes										
End Date:	November 2006	Competition Enforcement	Consumer Enforcement	Consumer Education	Business Education	Voluntary Business Compliance	Voluntary Business Action	Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law	Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure	Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy	Referral to Third Parties	No Problems Found
Duration:	5 months											
Source of idea for study:	Italian Competition Authority and the Italian and Telecommunications Authority											
Outcome (tick relevant columns):	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>											
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	<p>Complaints from consumer bodies and individual consumers.</p> <p>To investigate, through the analysis of the role played by the recharge fee, the economic conditions of the service, the reasons on the basis of the recharge fee, the impact of this contribution on consumers and on competitive dynamics on the sector.</p>											
No link to report												