Private Antitrust Litigation in Europe

Private antitrust litigation has steadily gained prominence in Europe, whether as follow-on damages claims from governmental enforcement actions, or as stand-alone competition claims pursued in litigation and arbitration among private parties.

Full-Range of Strategic Advice. Jones Day lawyers, present in all major jurisdictions in Europe, offer an excellent track record in representing both plaintiffs and defendants across the full range of these matters, whether in judicial or arbitration proceedings.

On the defense side, we draw upon our extensive experience in criminal/administrative enforcement, as well as the experience of our U.S. antitrust litigation practice, particularly in the case of global disputes. This enables us to advise our clients on optimal strategies in defending against antitrust damages claims, from start to finish, in any forum.

On the claimant's side, our experience similarly allows us to effectively advise clients pursuing follow-on and stand-alone damages and injunctive relief.

Recognizing that a client's interests are often best served by avoiding drawn-out disputes, we also guide our clients in developing the right strategy to successfully negotiate, arbitrate, and settle antitrust damages and injunction claims.

Such broad-based knowledge continues to differentiate Jones Day's offering in private antitrust litigation, even as European antitrust tort law becomes increasingly harmonized under the European Commission, the European Antitrust Damages Directive, and European Court of Justice precedents.

For instance, in the key realm of discovery, the Antitrust Damages Directive introduced uniform rules in the EU Member States for a limited form of discovery. Nevertheless, understanding actual courtroom practices across jurisdictions remains indispensable. Our courtroom experience across jurisdictions enables us to advise on how national courts will vary, in practice, in treating parties seeking information from one another.

This in-depth experience in commercial litigation and arbitration, criminal antitrust, white collar, and public law, combined with Jones Day's “One Firm Worldwide” philosophy, allows our clients to benefit from a distinctive perspective on the legal and practical aspects of private antitrust litigation that few other firms can match.

Proven Capabilities. In complex, high-stakes matters, Jones Day continually demonstrates its winning strategies, as briefly detailed below.

Client Successes

Jones Day lawyers in Europe have represented clients in antitrust damages claims across a wide variety of industries. We routinely evaluate, negotiate, and litigate these claims.

Our current assignments include claims across Europe in relation to payment card interchange and ATM fees, acoustically effective products for the automotive industry, spark plugs, consumer financing, and cables for electricity grids.

We have previously been involved in follow-on litigation in relation to the rubber, candle wax, car glass, sugar, and cement cartels. We also have extensive experience in stand-alone antitrust litigation covering price fixing, abuse of dominance (such as refusal to supply and margin squeeze), and unfair competition claims in sectors such as telecommunications.
Our private antitrust litigation team includes the following Jones Day lawyers. We would be delighted to provide introductions or additional information on their experience and practice focus at any time. Their full biographies are available at [www.jonesday.com](http://www.jonesday.com).

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