

Virtual seminar

Tackling bid rigging in public procurement

 Online

 2-4 March 2021

Seminar objectives

Bid rigging involves groups of firms conspiring to raise prices or lower the quality of the goods or services offered in public tenders. OECD countries spend approximately 12% of their GDP in public procurement. This percentage can be higher in developing countries. Competition authorities may play a key role in preventing and tackling this anti-competitive practice, which costs governments and taxpayers billions of dollars every year. Expert competition officials will illustrate enforcement and advocacy actions conducted in their jurisdictions, also in light of the OECD Guidelines for Fighting Bid Rigging in Public Procurement.

The speakers

Mr Haim Arbiv, Head of Investigation and Intelligence Department, Israel Competition Authority

Ms Kelly Benetatou, Vice-President of the HCC, Greece

Mr Attila Karsay, Legal Counsellor, GVH, Hungary

Ms Olga Nechytailo, State Commissioner, AMCU, Ukraine

Ms Oana Neg, Deputy Project Manager, Big Data Project, Competition Council of Romania

Ms Lefkothea Nteka, Partner, D.K. Avgitidis & Associates, former Commissioner of the HCC, Greece

Ms Despina Pachnou, Competition Expert, OECD

Ms Victoria von Uexküll, Senior Adviser, Swedish Competition Authority

Ms Sabine Zigelski, Senior Competition Expert, OECD

Mr Renato Ferrandi, Senior Competition Expert and Coordinator of OECD-GVH training activities, OECD

Agenda

Tuesday – 2 March 2021

CASE STUDIES

09.30-10.00 (Paris time)	Opening remarks Mr László Bak, Vice President of the GVH, Hungary Mr Renato Ferrandi, Coordinator of OECD-GVH training activities, OECD
10.00-10.45	Bid rigging: a key field for competition enforcement and advocacy Ms Despina Pachnou, OECD Mr Renato Ferrandi, OECD
10.45-12.00	CASE STUDIES Successful examples of bid rigging investigations Ms Kelly Benetatou and Ms Lefkothea Nteka, Greece Mr Haim Arbiv, Israel

Wednesday, 3 March 2021

TIPS FOR EFFECTIVE INVESTIGATIONS

09.30-09.45	Introduction Mr Renato Ferrandi, Coordinator of OECD-GVH training activities, OECD
9.45-11.30	SIMULATION: INSIDE A BID RIGGING INVESTIGATION The key ingredients of an effective investigation: planning, evidence gathering, assessment and fines Ms Kelly Benetatou and Ms Lefkothea Nteka, Greece Mr Haim Arbiv, Israel Despina Pachnou, OECD
11.30-12.00	Comments and experience sharing by competition authorities in Eastern Europe and Central Asia

Thursday – 4 March 2021

COOPERATION WITH PUBLIC PROCUREMENT BODIES

09.30-09.45	Introduction Mr Renato Ferrandi, Coordinator of OECD-GVH training activities, OECD
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09.45-10.30	Fostering bid rigging prevention and detection Ms Despina Pachnou, OECD Mr Renato Ferrandi, OECD
10.30-11.30	Effective cooperation with public procurement bodies and authorities Ms Victoria von Uexküll, Sweden Mr Attila Karsay, Hungary
11.30-12.15	Opportunities for Eastern Europe and Central Asia Ms Oana Neg, Romania Ms Sabine Zigelski, OECD Ms Olga Nechytailo, Ukraine
12.15-12.30	Final remarks Ms Gabriella Szilágyi, Head of the International Section, GVH Hungary Mr Renato Ferrandi, Coordinator of OECD-GVH training activities, OECD