

News

BCLP CONTRIBUTES TO INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION NETWORK AT TWENTY BOOK

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SUMMARY

In celebration of 20 years of the [International Competition Network \(ICN\)](#) a collection of essays focusing on the ICN's second decade has been brought together into one publication, *The International Competition Network at Twenty*, launched this week at the ICN Annual Conference in Berlin hosted by the German Federal Cartel Office (FCO) in Berlin. Brussels-based Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner (BCLP) Partner Dave Anderson and Senior Associate Paul Culliford played leading roles in the overall project including co-editing the book and contributing an essay analyzing the ICN's important work in the field of international merger control.

The ICN is the world's primary forum for the advancement of competition law and policy comprising a network of over 140 competition enforcement agencies from around the world and their private sector non-governmental advisers (NGAs) who are appointed by their home agencies to advise on the ICN's work. This public-private collaboration aims to build consensus and convergence around internationally recognized best practices to promote sound competition law and policy globally. Dave Anderson has been an NGA for the European Commission since the earliest days of the ICN and Paul Culliford has served on many ICN projects.

The essays included in this book provide insights from a wide range of enforcers and private sector authors covering the origins of the ICN, the activities of network during the past decade, its accomplishments and the future directions that the organization will embark upon in a challenging but exciting time in competition law.

Dave and Paul's essay is entitled "*Surveying the surveys: The drive for implementation of the ICN's recommended practices for merger notifications and review procedures*". It reviews the implementation of the Guiding Principles for Merger Notification and Review Procedure and the Recommended Practices for Merger Notification and Review Procedures (the N&P RPs) including referencing three surveys that have been conducted since they were first adopted. BCLP was also involved in and led on the latest and most comprehensive survey to continue the ICN's push toward

global convergence in merger control. The article concludes by recommending a number of concrete steps that could be taken within the ICN in order to continue to facilitate enhanced implementation of the N&P RPs worldwide, which has numerous benefits for both the private and public sector. Brussels-based Associate Thomas Wright also contributed significantly to the article.

Dave and fellow NGA Paul Lugard at Baker Botts initiated the book project, curated the content and served as primary co-editors. Paul Lugard edited the first ICN at Ten book in 2011 and Dave contributed an essay on the private sector's important role in the ICN's formation in 2001.

Dave said: "*The ICN at Twenty* book is the result of the collective efforts of many talented authors, commenting substantively on many important ICN topics looking back over our second decade and forward to the ICN's third. It was a privilege to work with this great group of leaders in our field to produce this piece of ICN history."

Dave is also facilitating a panel discussion at the [Berlin Annual Conference](#) at the invitation of the FCO and the US Department of Justice on fairness and transparency in competition proceedings.

Copies of the [publication](#) can be purchased/obtained here.

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