SUMMARY

BCLP’s global antitrust and competition collective guides you through the trends we saw in 2020 and sets out emerging trends in 2021 across four key areas: Cartels & Investigations, M&A, Litigation and Trade.

In this guide, we discuss some of the most important antitrust developments of 2020 and identify challenges and opportunities for 2021 across the core areas of cartels & investigations, M&A, and litigation. We also consider the current state of play for the flow of goods, services and capital as governments strengthen their hands in the quest for national resilience.

The digital space remains the central priority of enforcers, with the pharmaceutical sector not far behind. Hurdles for M&A are increasing with new substantive and procedural challenges including novel theories of harm and increased political intervention to take into account on every deal. Meanwhile, the class actions regime in Europe is taking off, and the effects on cross-border trade of the new UK-EU relationship are materializing.

We want to help navigate you through these uncertain and rapidly changing times. You can protect your business and plan ahead to manage new and longstanding risks, and make the most of the associated opportunities. If you would like to discuss any of the trends in this guide, please do get in touch.

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